

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ~ ENSURING EVERY PERSON HAS THEIR BASIC NEEDS MET

In 1943, Abraham Maslow proposed the idea that all humans want to reach self-actualization, or in other words, they want to be all they can be. In order to achieve that goal, Maslow proposed there is a pyramid of needs. In order to move up on the pyramid you have to meet each level of need. At the bottom of the pyramid is our most basic needs including food, breathing, and shelter. Basic needs are the first things that have to be met in order for people to move up on the pyramid and towards other life goals such as education and employment.

Ensuring that all individuals in our local communities have their basic needs met is core to Catholic Charities mission of serving the poor and vulnerable. We believe that everyone deserves adequate food, warmth and shelter. Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego and Schoharie Counties offers programs to meet these basic needs. Our Caring Connections Program, our school break food boxes, the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program, our Food Pantry, the Summer Food Service Program, and our Rapid Re-Housing Program, all helped to meet the needs of over 4,000 individuals in 2019.

Our largest program Caring Connections which operates in all three of the counties we serve assisted a total of 2,081 individuals with \$122,795 in financial assistance to help shelter, feed, and keep warm seniors, children, families, and single adults in 2019. The Caring Connections Program acts as a clearing house that educates individuals about available resources and information on how to navigate an often confusing system. When identified basic needs cannot be met by existing services, the Program acts as the safety net providing material goods or financial assistance. Once removed from the financial crisis, the Caring Connections Program assists people in achieving financial stability by empowering them through education and referrals to existing services providing budgeting assistance.

Catholic Charities sponsors four programs that address food insecurity. We manage a client choice food pantry out of our Cobleskill office where we provide emergency food for families and individuals. Our agency also sponsors the Summer Food Service Program held in Oneonta's Neahwa Park. This program provides a free lunch to children and adults in July and August. We also provided 131 food boxes to the three Oneonta City School District's Elementary Schools during the December and February school breaks. Lastly, we offer the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program whose purpose is to eliminate food insecurity or hunger by educating people about area food resources, pantries and free meals. Most importantly, this program also assists individuals and families access SNAP, formerly food stamps. Our Coordinator can meet people in their homes or in their local communities and help them fill out SNAP applications to ensure they receive benefits.

New in 2019, our agency offers a Rapid Re-Housing Program in Schoharie County. This program works with homeless families and individuals by providing a case manager who assists them to find housing, as well as to address the contributing issues to their homelessness. Once housed, case managers work with them on barriers they have to maintain housing.

We understand that in order for families and individuals to address the barriers they face to education, employment, etc. they have to be out of crisis and have all of their basic needs met. Catholic Charities is proud of the work we do to ensure our local community members are not hungry, cold, homeless, or without transportation to essential appointments.



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Catholic Charities is proud to say that we are able to help the surrounding communities in multiple areas of focus. We offer a variety of programs and services that meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

As an agency we appreciate the commitment and support of our volunteers.

- 11 volunteers donated 628 hours to the Caring Connections Program.
 - 1 volunteer donated 120 hours to the Food Pantry.
- 25 volunteer mediators donated 468 hours to the Dispute Resolution Center.
 - 20 volunteers donated 1,998 hours to the Thrift Shop.
 - 3 volunteers donated 198 hours to the Domestic Violence Program.
- 30 volunteers donated 875 hours preparing and serving lunches to children in the Summer Food Service Program.
 - 18 volunteer mentors donated 689 hours to the Mentoring Program.
 - 17 Board Members donated approximately 800 hours.



In 2019 Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties was able to serve approximately 7,430 individuals in various programs that we offer:

- 179 individuals participated in the Alternatives to Incarceration Program (ATI).
- 69 children were served through the Child At Risk Response Team.
- 185 individuals attended a Victims Impact Panel (VIP) presentation.
- 344 individuals were served through the Domestic Violence Program, including 48 individuals who were housed in our 9-bed residential safe house.
- 1,146 individuals received an emergency supply of food from our Food Pantry in Cobleskill.
- 23 Legally Exempt Child Care Providers enrolled.
- 9,249 completed transactions in our Thrift Shop in Cobleskill.
- 331 mediations, conciliations and facilitations were conducted by the Dispute Resolution Center in areas such as custody/visitation, divorce, special education, small claims, and agricultural mediation. The Dispute Resolution Center served 1,028 individuals.
- 154 individuals were provided with counseling and mental health services through the Clinical Support Services Program.
- 2,081 adults, children and seniors were helped through our Caring Connections Program.
 - \$122,795 in financial assistance was given to families and/or individuals seeking assistance with basic needs.
 - Caring Connections assisted 786 individuals with their transportation needs; 430 individuals with their utility needs; 391 individuals with their housing needs; 214 with food and 683 with other basic needs.
- 105 individuals served through the Family Support Services Program.
- 1,840 lunches were served to children and adults through the Summer Food Service Program.
- 18 day care providers participated in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, receiving \$104,304 in reimbursement for 71,832 nutritious meals served to children in care.
- 366 individuals were served through the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program.
- 129 school holiday food bags were provided to families in the Oneonta School District, serving 428 individuals.
- 120 backpacks were given out to students in the Sidney School District through the Backpack Program.
- 54 at-risk youth served through the Mentoring Program.
- 11 Individuals were served through our Rapid Re-Housing Program.
- 17 men attended 34 group sessions for the Domestic Violence Program for Men.
- 9 Individuals were served through the Delaware County Transitional Youth Program.



Catholic Charities partnered with the Oneonta School District to supply 131 bags full of food for 428 individuals for the December and February school breaks. These bags were given to families whose children receive free or reduced lunches at school and during the vacation weeks would not be receiving these free meals.



The Mentoring program hosted a group event at Clark Sports Center on February 29th. Mentors and Mentees enjoyed lunch together followed by an afternoon of swimming, rock climbing, and other sports!



Catholic Charities Oneonta office once again held the Keeping Our Community Warm One Brick at a Time fundraiser. \$3,100 was raised for heating assistance. Catholic Charities would like to thank our major sponsors including New York Central Mutual, Ed Leone, Jo-Ann Lamonica, and Fidelis.



Thank you to the Huntington Memorial Library in Oneonta! The Library donated a generous collection of books for the families we serve over the holiday season.



In September, Catholic Charities participated in "Sock Day" thanks to Bombas, which donated 1,500 pairs of socks to be given to the individuals we serve!



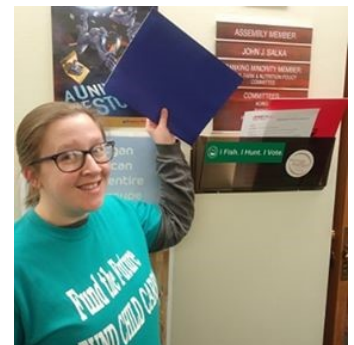
Staff from the Domestic Violence Program, CARRT and Safe Harbor were at SUNY Cobleskill for the "SUNY's Got Your Back" Day. Students helped fill backpacks of personal care items for survivors of physical and sexual assault.



Bassett Regional Hospital contacted Catholic Charities regarding a large amount of material they were generating that was not recyclable. We reached out to community members and volunteers to make reusable bags which we are giving to not only individuals who may come in for assistance, but to whomever would like one.



Our Schoharie County Domestic Violence Program held their Proclamation Ceremony on October 4th. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



One of our Child Care Specialists, along with hundreds of family child care providers, early educators, program directors, and advocates, were out in force in February at Early Childhood Advocacy Day in Albany.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
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**NOW MORE THAN EVER -
WE MUST COME TOGETHER AND TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER.**

Covid-19 is rapidly -affecting those living one paycheck away from hunger or homelessness, the elderly, the uninsured, the poor and the vulnerable.

At Catholic Charities we are committed to helping our neighbors facing uncertainty and hardships. We anticipate a growing number of people facing job loss, hunger, trouble paying utility bills, loss of childcare, and increased medical needs.

The increased needs of our neighbors in the coming weeks and months will be a new reality. Please consider donating today to help - making our community healthier and stronger.

We are so grateful to our community of supporters. You are so important to us. Helping our neighbors during this unprecedented time of crisis can only be accomplished through people like you who help make our work possible.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES' OFFICES REMAIN OPEN TO SERVE THOSE IN NEED
VIA PHONE.
ALL PROGRAMS ARE OPERATING.**

