



**Catholic  
Charities**  
Diocese of Covington

# Partners

## Newsletter

**Spring 2012**

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*Catholic Charities staff pictured with Fr. Larry Snyder, President and CEO of CCUSA attended Catholics at the Capital in Frankfort*



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*This newsletter is published three times a year in spring, summer and winter for friends of Catholic Charities (CC). CC provides adoption services, housing support, therapeutic counseling, neighborhood and community organizing, parenting services, pregnancy counseling, substance abuse treatment, jail ministry and prisoner reentry services, youth development services, intake and referral and volunteer support.*



## Dear Friends,



*Helping those in need is a duty of justice even prior to being an act of charity. We are not owners but rather administrators of the goods we possess. These goods are a means through which the Lord calls us to act as a steward of His gifts for our neighbor. As for Christian charity, this is not philanthropy, but a virtue that demands interior conversion focusing on the gift of self, rather than the gift of things. (Benedict XVI, January 29, 2008)*

From our childhood, we have been taught that the practice of almsgiving, together with prayer and fasting, characterizes the season of Lent. These practices focus each of us on interior renewal. Almsgiving "represents a specific way to assist those in need and, at the same time, provides an exercise in self-denial to free us from attachment to worldly goods", which the Pope calls a "constant temptation."

At the deeper level of our faith, however, we have come to understand that "giving alms" is not the totality of charity, no matter what the amount. If we do not have as our goal our own inner conversion and the well-being of our brothers and sisters, we most likely act outside the deeper vision of Lenten observance. If we are looking for a "return on investment" in the *book of life*, or simply for applause, we imitate those who give up not only to "follow the rules" but also lose a few pounds in the bargain.

The practice of almsgiving, accompanied by prayer and fasting, becomes a means to deepen our Christian journey. In offering ourselves in a sacrificial way, we bear some small contemporary witness to the passion and ultimate sacrifice of Jesus. Love for others, as Jesus loved us, gives our practice its value and inspires a wide variety of giving, which arises from the circumstances unique to each of us.

A concrete example of charity in this sense is offered in the Gospels through the story of the widow's mite and her giving of the only money she had left. Her tiny coins become an eloquent symbol. This widow gives to God not out of her abundance, not so much what she has, but what she is; her entire self.

Here at Catholic Charities we have been given the privilege to partner with you so that together we might freely give God's love to those in need. It is our commission and our commitment to not only act as good stewards in administering the generous financial gifts made on behalf of vulnerable people, but also to nurture the sacrifices of those who give their time and talent in directly serving those in need

In this Lenten season, perhaps people of good will could consider the needs of formerly homeless and disabled families for help in areas like financial literacy and become a "budget buddy" or a job coach. People returning to the community from prison are in desperate need of caring mentors who can offer guidance and advice which will lower the risk that they will reoffend. We have an active prayer ministry to which many people respond on our website. We would love for you to join us in praying for needs expressed by our clients and members of the community in situations where it seems that prayer may be the only answer.

***To learn about opportunities to assist our clients through your volunteer efforts in some of the ways listed here or to customize a volunteer opportunity, contact Lauren Young, Circles of Support Coordinator by email at [lyoung@covingtoncharities.org](mailto:lyoung@covingtoncharities.org) or by telephone at (859) 581-8974.***

I am greatly gratified by, and extremely appreciative of, the outpouring of gifts provided by our community, whether in kind donations, volunteer services or direct financial gifts. In considering your Lenten observance, please make a place for those among of us who have least in terms of material, emotional and spiritual resources. May God bless you richly during this season and may He make you a blessing to others.

Your partner in service,

William R. (Bill) Jones, ACSW, MDiv.  
Executive Director



## *Catholics at the Capitol*

On February 6 and 7, two hundred people, including staff of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, joined legislators for the biannual gathering Catholics @the Capitol. These gatherings provide attendees and legislators with an understanding of Catholic Social Teaching as these teachings relate to issues facing the Kentucky General Assembly.



The day began with an address by Fr. Larry Snyder to 60 staff and board members of Catholic Charities' offices in the four dioceses of Kentucky. Fr. Snyder is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA), the largest nongovernmental provider of human services in America. His comments offered a long term look at the human service sector, focusing on trends which will make the services of CCUSA affiliate agencies more critical than ever.

Fr. Pat Delahanty, Executive Director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, sponsor of the event, welcomed the attendees to Frankfort and highlighted the areas around which the Conference would be speaking with legislators. These include

- assuring that women who are considering abortion, as with any other medical procedure, are afforded a face-to-face opportunity to speak with a health care professional about the specific procedures they will undergo, the risks involved, the possible length of recuperation and the medically reasonable alternatives with their risks and benefits;
- precluding the use of the death penalty for individuals who were actively suffering from severe mental illness at the time of their crime;
- capping interest on payday loans, which now reach interest and fees of up to 400% per year, and, supporting a tax credit for businesses which contributes to private and public education, the benefit of which would be shared by public and private schools.

Fr. Delahanty's presentation was followed by a Eucharistic Liturgy, celebrated by Bishop Ronald Gainer of Lexington and concelebrated by Bishop William Medley, and priests in attendance. Bishop Gainer spoke in his homily about the importance of lay participation in the political process, particularly today, when religious liberty, and the role of the Church in human services, are being compromised.

Following dinner, Fr Snyder addressed conference attendees and legislators present offering perspectives on the reduction of poverty in America. He outlined three basic concepts,

- Changing the fundamentals of the human service delivery "system" through eliminating silos that limit services for multiple problem families, developing individual opportunity plans, and overcoming the "one size fits all" mentality,
- Using business models which create savings rather than monetary deficits; and,
- Employing service approaches that measure outcomes, rather than just numbers of people served, and assuring that those outcomes include economic betterment, and, when possible, self-sufficiency.

Fr. Snyder announced two ten million dollar awards from Catholic Charities and the University Notre Dame School of Economics to pilot projects that demonstrate poverty reduction and which could be replicated throughout the country. He commended Catholics @the Capitol for bringing people of good will together to speak for justice, and thanked those in attendance for their willingness to put their faith into action.

On Tuesday morning, attendees traveled to the Capitol to speak with their Representatives and Senators about the priorities established by the Conference, and to ask for their support in bringing them to reality. Next year separate events will be held in each diocese.







## Positive Changes at Capitol Ave. Make for Stronger Community



With the help of volunteers under the guidance of Laura Jackson, skilled case manager, the last year has been one of continued improvement for our Capitol Avenue residents. When Catholic Charities first took over the property, there were constant complaints about the foot, bike and sometime even motorbike traffic through the parking lot and breezeways. This was annoying and unsafe, and there were indications that neighborhood drug dealers were using the parking lot. This all came to an end thanks to CC board member and volunteer Tim Burks, who installed a tall and sturdy fence at the rear of the property. This single act has done a very great deal to bring peace and safety to our little community of residents.

In addition, the St Vincent De Paul Society of Blessed Sacrament parish, under the leadership of Casey Guilfoyle and Sue Kathman, has undertaken a project to provide each child in the apartments with a birthday celebration, including a cake, a balloon and simple age-appropriate gifts. One mom told the case manager that this was the best birthday her child had ever had. In addition, the case manager has matched tenants with volunteer job coaches and “budget buddies,” people with skills in money management who are working with tenants to increase their ability to manage their small incomes and to start to save a little for a rainy day. Agency staff are involved in providing a variety of other services, including counseling and parenting education.

At Christmas, our Circles of Support Coordinator, Lauren Young, rounded up a large group of volunteers to help the agency host a Christmas party for the Capitol families. Santa Claus made an appearance, and Lauren arranged for photographer Amanda Greenwell, to take family pictures. The families were thrilled as most of them do not have the money for a trip to the photographer’s. These framed pictures now have place of pride in each apartment. Craft activities, toys for the children and toiletries, and household items for the adults completed a very successful event.

Plans for 2012 include further community building activities including monthly classes on topics of general interest, a tenants’ committee, and a gardening club. However, the most exciting development for this year is the award of a grant from the Saint Timothy Parish Outreach Committee for play equipment, a picnic table and a barbecue grill for the large back yard.



We are grateful for the involvement of our Catholic community in this ministry, which is truly helping to change people’s lives.

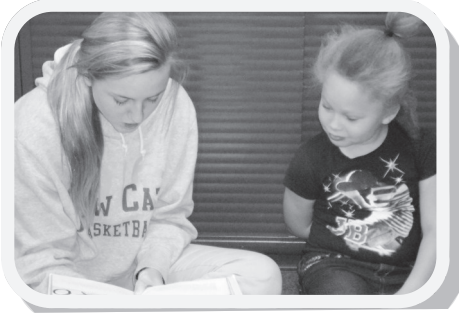
Below are pictures from Capitol Avenue’s wonderful Christmas Party.





## Insights Program a Huge Success

The High School Insights Retreat is designed to partner a local Catholic high school with an inner city elementary school. The focus of the program is to help the high school students to learn more about their partner school and to give them a chance to enter into service based relationships with the students at the school.



Last fall, the sophomores at Newport Central Catholic entered into a pen pal relationship with the second graders from Newport Primary School. On January 11, 2012, the high schoolers spent the morning with the younger children from Newport Primary School. The religion teacher from NCC, Ms. Therese Blank, worked with the Newport Primary School Family Resource Coordinator, Molly Chevalier, to develop an agenda for the morning that was fun for all of the students and also helped the younger children with their classwork.

After the January meeting the pen pal relationship will continue for the rest of the school year. We hope that some of the students from NCC will choose to participate in service opportunities (such as after school tutoring programs) at Newport Primary School. The students have also been encouraged to organize a class service project in conjunction with the Primary School.

The response to this program was overwhelmingly positive. The children from both schools clearly enjoyed spending time together. The teachers were visibly moved by the excitement and positive energy that the young children displayed when meeting their pen pals. The administrators from both schools were hopeful that this experience will be the start of a meaningful and lasting service oriented relationship between the two schools.



High School students from Newport Central Catholic and Newport Primary School working on projects together



## Volunteer of Spring



Linda Goetz came to Catholic Charities as a volunteer in August, 2009. She was familiar with the agency because she is Amy Littleton's mother and Cindy Dixon's sister – both staff members. Linda was interested in the receptionist position and after a brief training she became the Friday morning receptionist. Linda had years of business experience in Human Resources at Huntington Bank and brought those gifts to the position as she answered the phones and greeted clients in a professional manner.

After serving as a receptionist Linda agreed to take on another position in Pre-Service where she takes payments from clients and enters data into the agency computer system. This job requires accounting and computer skills and Linda is a "master of details". She has been working in that area for more than a year and now trains the new volunteers.





## Volunteers Make A Difference

*At Catholic Charities, we have over 125 active volunteers. This article features the many groups that have provided us with much needed help directly impacting the lives of our clients. If you would like to become involved with Catholic Charities contact Lauren Young at [lyoung@covingtoncharities.org](mailto:lyoung@covingtoncharities.org)*



Dorning Supply Company, Florence sells carbide and diamond cutting tools to the automotive, aerospace, medical and agricultural industries. They adopted a homeless family who had just found housing and provided Christmas gifts and many needed household items.



CCH Students and Community Volunteers took a Saturday to help at our Capitol Ave. Apartment Christmas party.



VonLehman, Ft. Mitchell, is a CPA and advising firm. Their staff provided household items for over 80 Christmas Families.

### **Additional Volunteer Businesses, Churches or Schools**

*Latonia Business Association  
Cinergy  
Barnes Denning  
Boone Co. Board of Ed.  
American Legion-Alexandria  
St. Barbara Church  
St. Catherine Church  
Blessed Sacrament Church  
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St. Elizabeth Audiology & Speech Pathology  
NKY Area Planning Commission  
Corporate Archives Department at P&G*



Starfire, an organization which enables individuals with disabilities to become active and vital members of the community, provided Christmas gifts for our Christmas family program. Groups shopped, wrapped and delivered gifts.



Cecelia Baker, teacher at St. Pius X school organized a penny war in which over \$2,000 was raised for our Christmas family program. Pictured is the winning 4th grade.



Bishop Brossart students participated in a day of service by helping at Catholic Charities.



## A Gift for the Future. . .

If you would like to help ensure the long-term financial security of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Covington, but consider yourself unable to make a significant gift at this time, we have a suggestion. A charitable bequest through your will or revocable trust allows you to maintain your lifestyle and commitments today, while permitting you a deeply meaningful way to support the Agency tomorrow.

Donors choose a bequest for the following reasons:

It is easy to establish through a simple provision or amendment at the time you make or update your will or trust.

It is not payable until death, so it will not impact your assets or cash flow during your lifetime.

It is revocable. Therefore, you can modify the terms of your will or trust at any time.

It is private. Your will is not filed until your death and as a result, not made public until that time.

A bequest is one of the simplest ways to support the vital mission of Catholic Charities in Northern Kentucky. These thoughtful gifts ensure critical services for future generations that bring healing and hope to the most vulnerable of our community.

It is important to note that these gifts can be made in memory or in honor of your loved ones. A charitable bequest is a meaningful way to pay tribute to someone you hold dear.

If you would like to create a charitable bequest in your will, and would like more information, please contact Beth Ruehlmann, Assistant Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations for the Diocese of Covington at [bruehlmann@covingtondiocese.org](mailto:bruehlmann@covingtondiocese.org) or 859-392-1544. Beth will be pleased to assist you and your advisors as you contemplate the charitable aspect of your estate plans.

Please inform us if you have already made these arrangements and have chosen to leave a bequest to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Covington.

### Focused on Stewardship

This listing of our partners is a tribute to each of you, a host of individuals, groups and businesses who have generously participated in our mission of *help and hope*. This sharing is a testimony to the generosity of the Northern Kentucky community and its care and concern for those served by Catholic Charities. Our donors, grantors, volunteers and others who wish to remain anonymous, assisted us in serving persons in need this past year, and this acknowledgement is a celebration of the amazing things that people of good will can accomplish when they gather their gifts of time, talent and treasure in the service of humankind. Each of you have shared your gifts because you are confident that we will extend a helping hand to a neglected child, a struggling family, or a distressed community; just as you would do yourselves had you the time or the specific expertise. *Thank you for trusting that Catholic Charities will use your gifts to provide the very best care and service to those most in need. May God continue to bless our partners for their generous responses to those in need. (If there is an omission or mistake in the listing of a name, please call Vicky Bauerle at 859-581-8974.)*

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## *Honors and Memorials cont*

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#### ***With Gratitude***

Ms. Nancy Rowles

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*Donors who made a gift of \$1,000 or more.*

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Edition #68  
Spring 2012

**Bishop of Covington**  
Most Reverend Roger J. Foys

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