



# Matthew 25

*Alive Today!*

Catholic  Charities  
Diocese of Camden

2011-2012 Annual Report



# A message from **Our Executive Director**



## Bringing Matthew 25 to Life

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Camden has a motto. Mottos are shorthand for mission statements. Our motto is *Providing Help, Creating Hope*.

Our real motto though, indeed our compass pointing us to our essence and history, is the Gospel of Matthew Chapter 25. Those verses explain why Catholic Charities exists. There in Matthew 25 is why the Catholic Church has created Catholic Charities. We are the manifestation of the Catholic Church's commitment to manifest to all, and particularly the least among us, that in the words of Pope Benedict, Deus Caritas Est, God is Love. It is why we entitled this report Matthew 25: Alive Today.

All of the programs which we report on in this annual report are manifestations of the goodness of God. The support which we receive from private and public funders manifests the goodness and love of God. That is what animates this wonderful and unique organization. All of what we do is our effort to bring Matthew 25 alive in the 21st Century, here in the Diocese of Camden

Bishop Dennis Sullivan recently told Catholic Charities' staff to be the eyes and ears and touch and voice of Christ for those we serve. It is at once a humbling and challenging assignment. We approach it always with a sense of honor that we are allowed to become a part of the lives of the people we serve. And always with great joy.

On behalf of all of the people we serve I thank you, our friends, supporters, donors, and funders for helping us feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to those who are thirsty, and visit the sick and those in prison.

*Kevin H Hickey*  
*Executive Director*

On the Cover: Volunteers load trucks of food to provide to victims of Hurricane Sandy.





For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’ And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’

*~ Matthew 25: 35-40*



Our Board of  
Trustees

**Most Rev Dennis  
Sullivan, D.D.**  
Bishop of Camden

**Rev Robert E  
Hughes**  
Board Member

**Kevin Walsh,  
Esquire**  
Board Member

**Sister Helen Cole,  
SSJ**  
Board Member

**Rev Thomas  
Newton**  
President



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Family and Community Centers run by  
Catholic Charities; Atlantic City,  
Camden, Penns Grove, Rio Grande,  
Vineland, and Westville

53.6%

Percent of children living in the City of  
Camden who live in poverty

3,758

People served by our Welfare to Work  
programs

136,000

Pounds of material goods that were dis-  
tributed by our Hurricane Sandy distri-  
bution sites in Northfield and Wildwood

\$4,700,100

Total value of assets purchased through  
matched-savings programs



# \$193,446

Dollars donated by generous people like you, who support the good works of  
Catholic Charities

# 1,086

Seniors served by Catholic Charities in all our programs

# 17,880

People who received services in one of our Family and Community Centers

# 599

Veterans and their family members who were homeless and who are now living in a safe and stable home

# 236

Children who received counseling services in their schools



“So then: make yourselves heard; take care of the two ends of the population: the elderly and the young; do not allow yourselves to be excluded and do not allow the elderly to be excluded.

Secondly: do not “water down” your faith in Jesus Christ. The Beatitudes: What must we do, Father? Look, read the Beatitudes: that will do you good. If you want to know what you actually have to do, read Matthew Chapter 25, which is the standard by which we will be

judged. *With these two things you have the action plan: the Beatitudes and Matthew 25. You do not need to read anything else. I ask you this with all my heart.*”

~ His Holiness

Pope Francis



# Our Services



## Disaster Case Management

In the days immediately following Hurricane Sandy, the poor in economically challenged communities, were affected particularly hard. Many lost their food and clothing, during the storm. Through collaborations with the parishes of St Gianna Beretta Molla and Notre Dame de la Mer, and many volunteers, we provided food, household items and clothing to over 4000 people.



Lou Ginsburg in Rio Grande provides food to Paul, an unemployed commercial fisherman.

## Family and Community Services Centers

We have one center in each of the six counties of the diocese, where every day we see people who often have to make the choice between paying a utility bill and purchasing groceries for their families. Our staff often advocate with landlords and utility companies on behalf of these families so they are not forced to make these difficult choices. They may provide bags of food from our food pantries or give out grocery store gift cards to ensure that children do not go hungry.

Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you?

## Asset Development

You know the old adage "...teach a man to fish and he eats for a lifetime"? Sometimes the key to getting out of poverty is not to do **for** others, but to **teach** people to be able to save and manage their own financial resources. These programs have helped people open bank accounts, start small businesses, purchase homes, and obtain the education that will ultimately help people to buy their own food.

## Ready, Vet, Go!

Veterans continue to make up a significant percentage of homeless individuals. Our case managers go to the places where the homeless live and congregate and help them apply for veterans' benefits and address their long-term housing needs.

When did we see you in prison and visit you?

## Prison Ministry

Among society's most forgotten are its incarcerated, many of whom are lonely, angry, fearful, and discouraged. Most admit that they have made some poor choices that have changed their lives, possibly, forever. Within the Camden Diocese, there are nine penal institutions, and there are numerous caring men and women volunteers who respond with great sensitivity to the people within these buildings. With them we celebrate liturgy, provide Communion Services, and conduct Bible study groups, to help bring these individuals closer to God.

## School Based Services

Dangerous communities and unstable homes, can feel like a prison to young children. Without the words to be able to express their fears and concerns, they are especially vulnerable. Our specially trained counselors use play, art, and talk to help the children work through their concerns so they can be focused on their school work.



# Immigration and Refugee Services

During the 2011-12 fiscal year we helped to resettle over 70 refugees; most of them from Burma, Iraq, and Cuba. After getting them settled in safe housing, we will help these folks to learn English, find employment, enroll their children in school, and eventually to become American citizens.



World Refugee Day  
Burmese girls perform  
traditional dances.



Students attend English as a  
Second Language classes at  
Catholic Charities.

When did we  
see you a  
stranger and  
welcome you?

## Welfare to Work Services

The many people who rely on public assistance programs often live on the fringes of society. They live in communities with few employment opportunities, and violence in their neighborhoods may keep them hidden in their homes. Our welfare to work programs encourage the poor to participate more fully in all the aspects of society especially in the area of employment.



## Counseling Services

Depression, anxiety, and trauma are just a few of the mental health issues that impact the poor and vulnerable. Our staff of licensed therapists provided over 700 hours of counseling services to people with limited financial resources.

When did  
we see  
you ill?

## Public Health Services

Diabetes, heart disease, and poor nutrition are prevalent among the poor, and can easily become a fast-track to falling into poverty. We have provided education and access to needed health resources to help people manage their health needs more effectively, and we've facilitated access to nutritional programs that prevent food instability and improve health outcomes.

DEAR MR. TAYLOR, I HAVEN'T HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING OR EVEN SPEAKING TO YOU BUT I AM SENDING YOU THIS CARD WITH MY SINCERE APPRECIATION. IF NOT FOR SARAH IN ATLANTIC CITY I WOULD SURELY HAVE LOST MY HOME. I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING. TO BE ABLE TO WAKE UP IN THE MORNING AND NOT HAVE FEAR COVER ME LIKE A BLANKET AS SOON AS MY EYES OPEN. YOU HAVE ONE SPECIAL ADY WORKING WITH YOU. SHE KNOWS HER JOB WELL AND WAS TRULY HAPPY TO HELP ME. THANK YOU BOTH SO VERY MUCH AND GOD BLESS



# Our Volunteers



## VOLUNTEERS

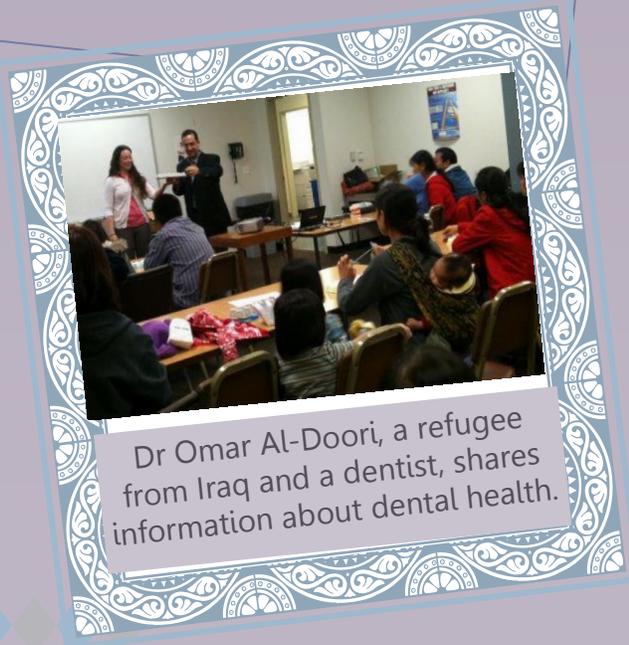
This year 418 people volunteered over 6500 hours of their time and their skills at Catholic Charities. These dedicated people did things like pick up furniture, answer the phones, distribute food and clothing to victims of Hurricane Sandy, visit those in prison, data entry and other office .



Cheryl Burdett, Intern, School Based Family Support Program



"I am so happy to be part of Catholic Charities and the School Based Family Support Program. The staff have been so welcoming to me as an individual. They were able to see me for who I am and look past the fact that I have received public assistance. I appreciate being afforded the opportunity to see who I am minus labels. Catholic Charities sees people first; and not just their circumstances. They live up to their mission."



Dr Omar Al-Doori, a refugee from Iraq and a dentist, shares information about dental health.

# Our Staff



Sarah Garrod,  
Ready, Vet, Go!  
Case Manager

“I love my job, I love what I do. There is nothing like walking into a house with a family for the first time and seeing their eyes light up when they realize this is their new home and that their children will have a place to sleep tonight. It’s amazing what I can do every day.”



Long-time employee, Cecilia Medina retires after more than 20 years of service.



Mark Taylor in Washington DC for a panel discussion where Chris Wallace was one of the panelists.



Truc Tang,  
Immigration  
Services

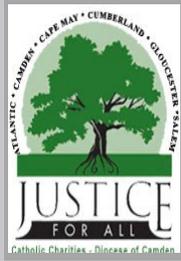


The more I work here, the more I am convinced it is the right place for me to work. Catholic Charities is very reliable. Clients say they feel comfortable and confident about working with us. I am busy all the time, but I love it.”

Papal Honors were conferred upon our Executive Director, Kevin Hickey, Assistant Director, Jennifer Dyer, and John Desparrois, Administrator of our Family Services and Community Centers, for service to the Church and the Pope.



# Justice for ALL



Every April for the last ten years our staff, and supporters have gathered for our annual Justice for ALL dinner. Over 450 people gathered at the Adelphia Restaurant in Deptford for this year's dinner where Bishop Joseph Galante, the recently retired Bishop of Camden, was honored for his efforts to achieve Justice for All. John Allen, Vatican Correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter, regaled our guests with his inside stories about the election of Pope Francis, and he provided his unique perspective on Catholicism in the world today. Also at this year's dinner, we got to meet Bishop Dennis Sullivan, the newly installed Bishop of Camden.

# Our Clients

"I'm a single dad. My kids are 18 and 16 and I've been raising them alone for 12 years. I had a job in the dietary department of a nursing home, but I was laid off and needed to apply for welfare. They told me I needed to go to Catholic Charities for case management. Silvia is my case manager. She's been compassionate and kind to me, and helped me stay on track and not get discouraged. I would get down, but she would tell me to keep my head up. She went out of her way to make me become a better person. I decided to enroll in school and will be graduating with my Bachelor's degree soon. I should be starting my new job right after I graduate."



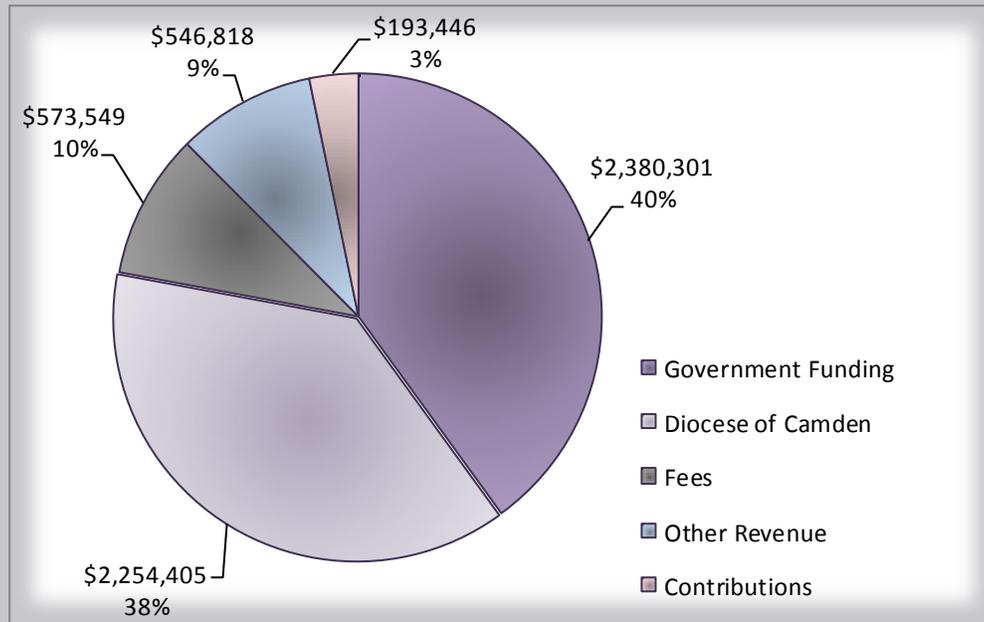
Darryl

"I needed help dealing with the aftermath of a divorce. My kids were really acting up, and I didn't feel good about myself. I went to another organization, but I didn't like having to explain my Catholic beliefs all the time, so I called Catholic Charities. I've been very happy and well taken care of here. I've been able to gain my self respect, and my kids realize there is an adult available to take care of them again. I like being a mother again."



Amy and her family meet with Radha Patel for family counseling

## Our Revenue



## Number of Unduplicated Clients Served

Family Services and Community Centers		Other Services	
Atlantic County	1122	Asset Development	42
Cape May County	565	Welfare to Work	3758
Camden County	8597	Counseling Services	100
Cumberland County	1139	School Based Services	236
Gloucester County	2103	Veteran's Services	599
Salem County	4354	Public Health	80
		Immigration Services	148
		Refugee Resettlement	467
		Disaster Relief	4080



