

## Dear Friends of Catholic Charities:



Maggie Rogers
Executive Director
Catholic Charities



Most Rev. Gregory L. Parkes Bishop Diocese of St. Petersburg

This past year has been one of great achievements but also of great challenges. Catholic Charities made significant progress toward its Courageously Living the Gospel goal of developing 8 to 10 new locations of affordable housing: St. Teresa and Bella Vista Apartments were acquired and converted to affordable housing. Progress on St. Benedict Housing continues with new plans. Bethany Family Apartments were converted to affordable housing due to HUD funding changes, and we received a \$2.4 million grant from Hillsborough County to construct a 20-unit apartment in Tampa. Also, in October, we closed on a 47-unit building in Tampa.

**The Challenge:** Our work was made more difficult by the coronavirus pandemic. We had to adapt to new protocols such as social distancing and sheltering in place to navigate this new world. Despite these obstacles, we continued to serve our brothers and sisters in need. Many programs (e.g., Foundations of Life Pregnancy Centers and Immigration Services) pre-screened clients and met with them individually by appointment. Volunteer assistance was suspended. Employees rotated between working from home and at the office. To the credit of its staff, Pinellas Hope was the only homeless shelter in Pinellas County to remain open to new clients during the pandemic's peak.

**Highlights:** Due to COVID and fewer natural disasters, we served a lower number of clients but still assisted nearly 11,000. We housed nearly 3,000 people and sheltered 1,600 more. Foundations of Life completed its 3D/4D ultrasound machine initiative. We created food pantries in Dover (San Jose Mission) and Dade City. We served more than 123,000 meals! We helped over 2,100 clients in the area of immigration and citizenship. Our Free Medical Clinics attended to over 1,000 patients and helped save at least two lives.

**Hillsborough Hope:** God often provides the means of salvation alongside the disaster. Such was the case with COVID-19. To keep the homeless safe during the pandemic, in partnership with the City of Tampa, we opened our first-ever homeless shelter in Hillsborough County. During its two-month operation, we served over 200 homeless men and women with 76 being placed in permanent housing. Because of its success, we are partnering with the City of Tampa to create a permanent shelter. We plan on embarking on a capital campaign to make this dream a reality!

None of this work would be possible without your support, both through your prayers and your financial contributions. Please prayerfully consider a donation to Catholic Charities as we continue to Courageously Live the Gospel in 2021 and beyond.

### About Us

Catholic Charities was created in 1945 by Bishop Joseph P Hurley as the Tampa Office for Charity. It was operated under the auspices of the Diocese of St. Augustine as one of three regional offices, collectively known as Diocesan Catholic Charities, under the charter of the Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc. It was created to relieve the burden on Catholic parishes which were struggling to meet the needs of the poor in their communities at the end of World War II. The present Catholic Charities was created as a nonprofit corporation in June 1968 when the Diocese of St. Petersburg was established.

Our mission is driven by the Gospel mandate to serve those most in need by fulfilling Christ's Corporal Works of Mercy. Catholic Charities continues to provide the highest quality social services designed to preserve families and promote self-sufficiency and social justice while operating under three Ministries of Mercy: *Foundations of Life*, *Friends in Need*, and *Shelters of Hope*.

### Our Mission

Catholic Charities serves with charity and compassion to promote the sanctity and dignity of all people with God. As a member of the Church, Catholic Charities offers hope by helping those in need and unites with others in service.

## Our Values

Catholic Charities makes a Commitment to Serve all people with Respect, Compassion and Cooperation in the spirit of a unifying God.

### **Board of Trustees**

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Thank you for your service!

## Pinellas Hope Success Story: Charles Taylor



Charles Taylor came to Pinellas Hope a broken man. Homeless for months on the streets of St. Petersburg, his diabetes necessitated the amputation of a leg. After leaving St. Anthony's Hospital, he was admitted to the BayCare's Medical Respite program at Pinellas Hope to receive post-operative care while recuperating at the homeless shelter.

Charles recovered. With the help of case managers, he received social security disability and moved to an efficiency apartment located on the Pinellas Hope campus. The apartments offer the residents – former homeless individuals – subsidized housing while receiving limited assistance from Pinellas Hope case managers Charles has lived there four years and says "I don't plan on going nowhere."

Of the staff, Charles says "They're all great people." They're really good to us." When asked what Catholic Charities has meant to him, Charles unhesitatingly says, "help for life."

## Rapid Rehousing Success Story: Sebastian Valladeres

Sebastian moved to Tampa from Miami to find work during the COVID-19 pandemic after losing his job. He lived with a friend but was soon homeless. He learned about Hillsborough Hope, a temporary shelter formed by Catholic Charities in partnership with the City of Tampa, from a Tampa police officer. Sebastian arrived on Day One and took advantage of the services provided there to find an apartment and a job.

Sebastian, a single father, was soon joined by his two sons, Kris and Alex, from Miami. No longer having to worry about housing, he is planning their future. Regarding how Catholic Charities' Pathways program has helped him, Sebastian said of his case managers, they made him realize that "there is a light at the end of the tunnel; there is a way up from rock bottom."

Sebastian said that Catholic Charities gave him hope and stability.



Hillsborough Hope

COVID-19 closures were particularly hard on the homeless who depend on open businesses and generous hearts to survive. When cases grew in the Tampa Bay area, Catholic Charities and the City of Tampa partnered to open an emergency shelter that would help those on the margins of society stay safe from the coronavirus and receive services leading to permanent housing.

Individuals, businesses and organizations, both local and national, quickly responded to "Hillsborough Hope's" mission, including national food companies like Borden Dairy, local restaurants like Caspers McDonalds and My Little Greek and other local churches and individuals. One family-run company, Yellow Rooster Coffee Imports, even served coffee at 6:00 am every morning for 56 consecutive days! The community came together in compassionate and innovative ways to provide volunteers. food, clothing, financial assistance and more. The City of Tampa and other



groups delivered portable restrooms and wash stations, and Catholic Charities USA sent a laundry trailer and the Salvation Army provided mobile showers.

"We are grateful to all our partners and donors who came to our aid on short notice during our time of need," said Catholic Charities Executive Director. Maggie Rogers. "It contributed greatly to the success of the shelter and the comfort of our clients." Hillsborough Hope served 208 people and placed 76 in permanent housing where they continue to receive case management from Catholic Charities to ensure their successful transition to self-sufficiency.



Donated dinner served by volunteers.



Resident and Staff wait on laundry at Mobile Laundry Trailer.



Residents receive Welcome Kit upon arrival.



Volunteer hands out palm fronds before Palm Sunday.

## Our Services By County













#### Foundations of Life



**Pregnancy Centers** 



Adoption Services





Affordable Housing



Temporary Shelter



### Friends in Need

Immigration Services



Medical Care



Financial Assistance



Disaster Relief & **Emergency Services** 



Housing & Financial Counseling









## Our Impact By The Numbers



123,538
Meals
Served



1,974
Individuals Provided
Pregnancy &
Adoption Services

4,532 Individuals Housed

1,005
Patients Received
Medical &
Respite Care

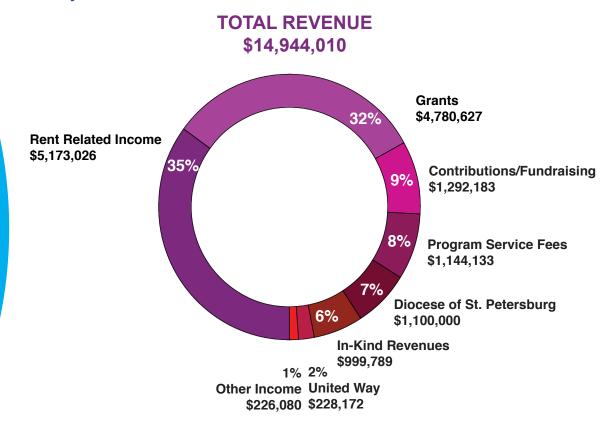
2,125
People Accessed
Immigration
Services



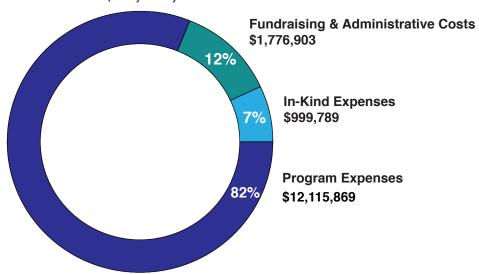
Friends in Need Given
Emergency
& Hurricane
Assistance

114
Clients
Received
Housing & Financial
Counseling

## Financial Information



## **TOTAL EXPENSES** \$14,892,561



100% Financial Transparency Score

Over 88% of all funds directly benefit our clients through our services and programs

from Charity Navigator



**Accreditations** 







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\* Pinellas Hope Meal provider

Because of your generosity, thousands in need have had their lives improved as they are lifted up in dignity. We cannot list all of you, but we thank you all equally. We strive for an error-free list. If we made a mistake, omitted you entirely, or you don't wish to be listed in the future, we aplogize. Please contact us to let us know.

## Angel Awards



Chris and Lauren Schellman – The Schellman's, who with their four children are parishioners of Christ the King Catholic Church, are long-time donors to Catholic Charities.

Their passion for the 'Respect Life' movement has led them to support Foundations of Life Pregnancy Centers for nearly a decade. The Knights Women's Center, providing an alternative to women considering abortion, is able to operate next door to an abortion center solely because they pay the rent. Chris and Lauren also are sponsors of the Foundations of Life Annual Gala. Chris, serves as Board President of the

Catholic Foundation while Lauren, a long-time executive with her families' business, the Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City, is active with numerous philanthropic activities. Recently, they donated a \$30,000 Hope Cottage™ for homeless residents of Pinellas Hope.

Francis & Gertrude Levett Foundation The Levett Foundation has worked to improve communities for more than twenty years. The foundation advances the causes of childhood education, mental research and community well-being. We are grateful they chose to partner with Catholic Charities and Pinellas Hope from among many worthy philanthropic opportunities. The \$30,000 gift has provided many COVID-19 related enhancements, including laptops to allow safe interaction with clients, a new trailer providing much needed space that will also enhance social distancing as well as PPE and wash stations for improved sanitation. Importantly, these enhancements will provide lasting benefits well after the pandemic has ended.

Sophia Rene – Sophia has been an exemplary Pinellas Hope volunteer for several years. She greets and assists all homeless residents at the Welcome Center with a smile as she provides them with toiletries, supplies, meds and other services. She is an incredibly upbeat and caring person who enhances their lives. Her compassion has led her to mobilize others to assist. Her mother-in-law installed a flag pole to honor the Veterans living in the apartments. Her church, Church of the Isles, provides monthly meals and fundraises. Pinellas Hope cannot function without its stakeholders. Sophia is one who has become like family.







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