

# **Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc.**

## **Annual Report 2005-2006**

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#### **New Bern**

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#### **Newton Grove Deanery**

served by existing offices

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***Programs and Services  
of Catholic Charities  
available to all regardless of religion***

**Disaster Response**

**Family Support Services**

**Counseling**

**Emergency Assistance**

**Peace and Justice**

**Parish Social Ministry**

**Hispanic/Latino Services**

**Immigration Assistance**

**Adoption Services**

*Providing Help.  
Creating Hope.*

## *Servants of Charity and Justice*

### Message from the Executive Director

We've changed our name but not our Mission! With the decision of our Board of Directors and our Bishop Emeritus, F. Joseph Gossman, we adopted the name Catholic Charities even as we continue the mission in this diocese which has been ours since 1899. We remain committed to charity and justice. As our mission statement indicates, following Jesus' invitation, we respond first to the urgent needs of the poor, vulnerable and voiceless among us.



As good stewards of the gifts we are given, we take to heart what Pope John Paul II taught us "The poor...are your brothers and sisters in Christ. You must never be content to leave them just the crumbs from the feast. You must take of your substance, and not just of your abundance, in order to help them. And you must treat them like guests at your family table." (Homily at Yankee Stadium, NYC, 1979)

In presenting this 2006 annual report we are pleased to provide you with a cross-section of Catholic Charities: the programs, the finances, the results---most of all, the stories. We want to share with you the miracles surrounding us when people of good will come together in support of the essential mission of Catholic Charities. In doing so, we are humbled in appreciation for the thousands of hours of volunteer time, the hundreds of thousands of dollars in donor treasure and the qualifications of a dedicated staff, all of which have improved the daily realities for families and communities.

Our staff and volunteers see more than 30,000 people often starting with helping them put food on their tables or clothe their children. From there we learn more about the family and offer supports to empower them to help themselves. Our staff strives to address the needs of the whole person, whether through enrollment in English language class, writing a resume, networking with a parish employment support group, or participating in counseling. In active partnership with parishes and community groups, we work for social justice. In the past year, we have collaborated on Respect Life issues; comprehensive Immigration Reform; Parish Social Ministry; and development of local community responses to identified needs.

Many of the miracles will go unheralded except by the families who have experienced them. But we know because we have heard the anguish and the resolve, seen the faces, participated in the changes and the accomplishment of goals. It is our hope that you will read the brief testaments in this report and reflect and imagine them multiplied by the 10,000 families whom God has blessed us to serve, with your assistance, throughout this past year.

May you be blessed with miracles in your own lives each day!



Kathleen Walsh, ACSW  
Executive Director

## Catholic Charities



*Providing Help  
Creating Hope*

### Current Board of Directors

#### President

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

#### Secretary/Treasurer

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George Quigley, Vice-Chair, Fayetteville

Christopher Brown, Piedmont

Mary Burgess, Fayetteville

Judy Cordeiro, Newton Grove

Edward Grace, Cape Fear

Rebecca Guijarro, Newton Grove

Mercedes Hernandez-Pelletier, Raleigh

Robert Hudson, New Bern

Dorothy Irvin, Albemarle

John Keller, Raleigh

John McLaughlin, Albemarle

Patricia O'Connell, Newton Grove

Anne Stahel, Raleigh

Mary Reca Todd, Raleigh

Charles Townsend, Piedmont

Irene Vauter, Newton Grove

Johnnie Winters, Fayetteville

Don Witosky, Albemarle

## Family Support Services



With the goal of strengthening and keeping families together, Catholic Charities Family Support Services include: parenting and budgeting classes, employment counseling, domestic violence support, case management and more.

### *A Family Reunited*

A desperate mother sought our help. The children's father had signed them out of school on a Friday afternoon without making his intention known to her. When the children did not get off the school bus, Mom began searching for them on her own. Later that afternoon the mother received a call from her former partner; he stated, "The children will be living with me and my American wife from now on." He also told her if she made a fuss, he would make sure she went to jail and then she would be deported. The mother was very concerned about her children's health and welfare because of their father's substance abuse, and the youngest child requires daily medication.

Catholic Charities worked collaboratively with Legal Aid and the YWCA to empower this loving parent. Our collaborative efforts equipped

her with knowledge of her rights and responsibilities, and skills to effectively access needed resources.

This mother not only has her two children living with her, but she has temporary legal custody (sole custody has been filed pending court date/review). She also receives child support through the North Carolina Child Support Enforcement office. This family is together, safe and grateful for the support from Catholic Charities.



## Counseling Services

In this era of mental health reforms, Catholic Charities is one of the few remaining agencies providing counseling services on a subsidized fee basis when needed. No one is denied help because of lack of money or insurance.

Some clients seek counseling services because they are experiencing adjustment difficulties in daily activities while others have identified a need for personal growth. Services are provided from a holistic perspective which recognizes the emotional, behavioral, cognitive, spiritual and physical aspects of individuals and within family systems. All counselors are licensed mental health practitioners, or supervised Masters degree interns, whose techniques vary. Whether providing individual therapeutic sessions or marital counseling, Catholic Charities is committed to helping all live to their fullest potential.

### *Moving Beyond Grief*

A middle-aged widow was referred by her adult daughter because of depression. The client had lost her job because of performance issues, and she was experiencing trouble sleeping. Although she had been a widow for a number of years, she had never fully worked through her feelings over the loss of her husband. Through her efforts in counseling on a regular basis, she gradually gained the motivation to seek another job, to increase her assertiveness with others, and to learn the skills needed to effectively manage her depression. She was also helped by taking an anti-depressant medication. At the time services ended, she acknowledged the significant improvements in her life situation and satisfaction with herself. Catholic Charities' chief priority of helping the individual self-actualize was accomplished.

***I encourage you to seek Christ in the homeless, the hungry child, the frail elderly, the migrant worker, the young couple wishing to adopt, and the neighbor facing a loss ...***



The Most Reverend Bishop Michael F. Burbidge,  
Catholic Charities Sunday Letter, October 2006

## Emergency Assistance - Disaster Response

As our mission states, in addition to advocating for social and economic justice, Catholic Charities addresses immediate needs with emergency resources or direct services. Emergency circumstances can result from temporary job loss, disability, separation or illness. Often, families need food, children's clothing, assistance with utility bills or other necessities of life. It is at this point of entry into our agency that skilled volunteers and staff work with the individual or family to determine if they might benefit from any of our other services in order to empower them to be independent.



All of our offices are equipped to provide Disaster Response. This was clearly demonstrated by the direct service and collaboration with parishes, members of various faith congregations and community agencies during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Working with

Support Circles from parishes and other faith congregations, nearly 200 families have been settled in the Raleigh area. From the strength of Catholic Charities' work and leadership in the community addressing Katrina evacuees' needs, Catholic Charities was invited to participate in the Raleigh/Wake Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

### *A Boost Over Life's Hurdles*

Catholic Charities assisted a woman with two children who fled an abusive husband, driving her kids halfway across the country to get away from their violent father. She described her need: "My job doesn't start for another week. I can support my family after receiving the first paycheck, but the apartment rent is one week past due, the other agencies have assisted all they can, and my landlord will start eviction if rent is not paid within five days, no exceptions." Between the support and collaboration of several parish social ministries and Catholic Charities, we were able to garner the funds needed to maintain this family in their apartment. Food from the emergency pantry was also provided to help them through this temporary situation. The woman repeatedly expressed her appreciation for our help, and wanted to assure us she is regaining self-sufficiency and they are safe and happy now.

## Immigration Services

"Immigration is a moral concern impacting the human dignity and human rights of every person. We and our brother bishops of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops support an approach to immigration reform which includes policies to address the economic root causes of migration in the sending countries; reform of our legal immigration system, including a viable and workable path to citizenship; a temporary worker program which protects the rights of all workers; family-based immigration reform which reduces waiting times for family reunification; and the restoration of due process protections for immigrants"...from a letter to Congress signed by five bishops including Bishop Michael F. Burbidge. It is in keeping with this mandate that Catholic Charities provides assistance with obtaining visas, citizenship, and other family-related immigration matters. In the past year, Catholic Charities worked with 285 families seeking help in immigration matters.



### *Bringing Families Together*

José came to the United States from Mexico in the early 1980's as a migrant farm worker. For many years, he lived in migrant farm camps sending home whatever money he made to his wife and 5 children. He also provided financial support to his aging parents in Mexico. After being away from his wife and children for years at a time, he would go back to Mexico and attempt to find enough work to support his family, but was never able to get enough work to do so. Therefore, he kept returning to the United States.

In the early 1990's he earned his permanent residence card, enabling him to move out of migrant farm work and into the local construction industry. He came to Catholic Charities for help in applying to bring his wife and children into the country legally. Catholic Charities worked with him to find a sponsor, and to complete the necessary applications to the U.S. Immigration services to allow his children to come to the United States.

Finally, when his 3 youngest children were in their mid-teens they were able to come to live with their father, along with their mother because of the immigration applications that Catholic Charities completed on behalf of this family.

## Catholic Charities ~ Financial Report Year Ended June 30, 2006

### Support and Revenue

Government and Private Grants	\$	443,486
Program Service Fees		222,438
Diocesan Support		1,025,000
Community Gifts/Events		636,405
United Way		142,945
Investment/Other Income		171,299
 <b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	 \$	 <b><u>2,641,573</u></b>

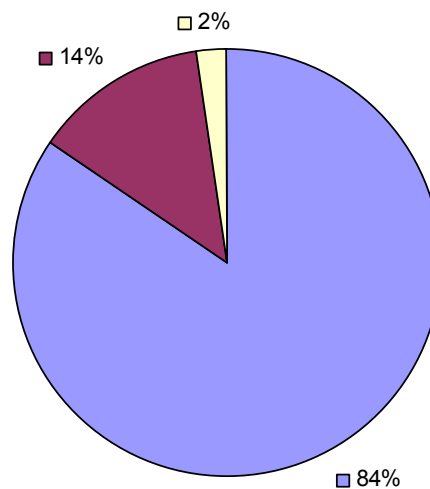
### Expenditures

Personnel	\$	1,551,928
Assistance to Individuals/Families		340,424
Program Support		265,226
Occupancy/Operating		523,314
 <b>Total Expenditures</b>	 \$	 <b><u>2,680,892</u></b>

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc. was audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by the independent certified public accounting firm of Williams, Pierce, Overman, L.L.P. for the 2005-06 fiscal year. A copy of the full audit report is available upon request. Please call Patricia Reid, Development Director or (919) 821-8146.

### Expense Ratio Key

\$2,260,882 Program Services	■	
\$361,793 Management/General	■	
\$58,217 Fundraising	■	



## Catholic Charities Annual Report Data FY 2005/06

<b>Services</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Individuals</b>
Specialized Adoption Services	69	238
Total Counseling	716	943
Individual Counseling at Catholic Schools	177	177
Individual Counseling from Regional Sites	539	766
Emergency Assistance	8,698	29,630
Family Support Services	1,696	6,887
Other Direct Services	467	1,238
Immigration Services	298	330
<b>Total (Unduplicated)</b>	<b>10,261</b>	<b>32,662</b>
<b>Individuals served with Information and Referral who remained anonymous</b>		<b>2,408</b>

<u>Volunteer Data</u>	
Total number of Catholic Charities Volunteers	969
Total number of Volunteer Hours donated to Catholic Charities programs	27,206

### Sources of Financial Support

In addition to major funding from the Bishop's Annual Appeal of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, Catholic Charities receives support from parishes, United Way, private and public foundations, and individual donors.



## Adoption Services

International adoptions have been a part of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh since the fall of 1985. We provide home studies and post-placement supervision for families seeking to adopt children from other countries. Nationally, the increase in international adoptions has been staggering. Visas for international children coming to the United States for adoption have skyrocketed from 7,093 in 1990 to 22,728 in 2005. At Catholic Charities, there are hundreds and hundreds of success stories over the past twenty years but the following adoption story has some interesting twists.



### *Welcoming Another Child*

Joe and Claire always planned to have a family. Claire had a life-long dream of adopting a child from Korea. Not certain of exactly why, Claire remembers feeling an attraction to the Korean culture from a very early age. Her specific interest in adoption came from her positive placement as a toddler with adoptive parents.

In the early years of their marriage, Claire gave birth to twin boys. When the twins were five years old, Joe and Claire began their adoption search. They were drawn to a six month old Korean boy, Jong, who had been placed on a “waiting child” list due to a congenital heart defect. Contact with the agency revealed that the birth defect had been surgically corrected but finding adoptive parents remained difficult. The agency explained that future problems from the heart defect and surgery were unlikely. So, Joe and Claire quickly began the adoption process.

They contacted Catholic Charities to conduct their home-study and assist with immigration applications. They attended Catholic Charities educational seminars, and gathered documents needed in Korea – all over a course of three to four months.

Unlike most families adopting internationally, Joe and Claire had identified a child before completing their home study. However, like all families adopting internationally, the wait for Jong to immigrate to this country was filled with anxiety and longing for Jong to arrive. Finally, after months of waiting, Jong was cleared to immigrate and issued a visa. The couple’s hearts melted as Jong was placed in their waiting arms.

## Peace and Justice - Parish Social Ministry

The Office of Peace and Justice, a program of Catholic Charities, works to promote and integrate the social mission of the Church throughout the Diocese of Raleigh. It does this by promoting Catholic Social Teachings, an articulation of the social mission of the Church. In their pastoral statement on the social mission of the Church, *Communities of Salt and Light, Reflections on the Social Mission of the Church*, the US Catholic Bishops reminded us that...“ the parish is where the Church lives.” The Office of Peace and Justice works with parishes providing educational resource materials and offering assistance in the formation of parish social action committees as well as other groups throughout the diocese.

It is often said that the Church’s social teaching is the best kept secret. This past year, however, this secret was uncovered in several ways. Our office presented the social teachings of the Church to a variety of groups. Here are some of the highlights:

- “The Spirituality of Justice” class to the deacon candidates of the diocese.
- St. Raphael Parish in Raleigh asked for guidance in setting goals for their social outreach. We assisted them in identifying three goals for the parish: health care access, homelessness and immigration concerns.
- A presentation on faith and social justice to 75 women at the African-Ancestry Conference in Greenville.
- Other presentations throughout the year included a talk to the students at Newman Catholic Student Center, Chapel Hill, several parish RCIA groups and the faculty at St. Mary’s School, Wilmington.
- A major conference on non-violence, “Rooted in Christ, We Build a Non-Violent World” was held in February at Immaculate Conception Church, Durham.



The office continues providing social teaching for the children of the diocese by way of creative topical resources. Regular “Justice Jottings” are sent to parishes for bulletins. The office continues to proclaim the dignity of all life, from the sacredness of life in the womb until natural death. Any oppression of the person is a justice issue, whether it is working to abolish the death penalty or working for the rights and dignity of workers.

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of the Diocese of Raleigh  
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Raleigh, NC 27606

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<http://catholiccharities.dioceseofraleigh.org>



## Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc. **Mission Statement**

The Mission of Catholic Charities is to assist the parishes, communities and Diocese of Raleigh in accomplishing the social mission of the Church. In its roles of servant, advocate, facilitator and convener, Catholic Charities acts in the parish and community-at-large to heighten awareness of issues and, when appropriate, provides services to fulfill unmet needs. Catholic Charities serves people in need through advocating for social and economic justice as well as addressing immediate needs with emergency resources or direct services.