



Providing Help.

Creating Hope.



Serving All.

OVER  
158,000  
individuals  
SERVED LAST YEAR



Catholic Charities  
of the Diocese of Raleigh

# Dear Friends,

I am excited to share with you the growth Catholic Charities has experienced over the past year. During challenging times like we are currently facing, it can be hard to remain hopeful. However, the opportunity to see our agency expand our core programs and explore new ways of serving our neighbors in response to these challenges is truly inspiring to me.

Coming into this year, we were aware of the growing need for our services, especially our Food Pantry Services, which has required more thought and flexibility in how we respond. As always, our staff and volunteers have risen to the challenge and increased the impact of Catholic Charities on the community. The results can be seen in many underserved communities where we have continued to grow our mobile food pantry services. We are also excited to be part of a new Medicaid program, the Healthy Opportunities Pilot (HOP), which funds services such as home delivery of healthy groceries to eligible Medicaid individuals.

Due to continued support from foundations and our dedicated donors, we have expanded our staff to meet the greater demand for our services. We have hired new case managers and delivery and warehouse associates to respond to the increased volume of individuals reaching out to Catholic Charities for help. It has been moving to see these new faces join our team and jump right into service for others.

I am full of gratitude for the efforts of our tireless staff and volunteers, the generosity of our individual donors and foundations, and the communities we serve. Through this combination of hard work and generosity, we have served more individuals than ever before. As we continue to grow and expand as an agency, I ask for your prayers and support as we continue to assist those most in need throughout the Diocese of Raleigh.

Gratefully,

*Lisa Perkins*  
Chief Executive Officer



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Most Reverend  
Luis Rafael Zarama  
Bishop of Raleigh  
*President*

Mr. Luis Capacetti  
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Dr. Russell Elmayan  
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Mr. Johnny Wilson

Board Term:

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

## Mission Statement

Providing help to our brothers and sisters in need by alleviating the effects of poverty and creating hope by developing solutions to transform lives.

## Vision Statement

Inspired by God's love and compassion, Catholic Charities envisions a more just society transformed by respecting the dignity of all individuals and collaborating to provide help and create hope for the most vulnerable in our community.



# What we Accomplished

A black and white photograph showing several large wicker baskets filled with fresh produce, including long carrots and leafy greens. In the background, there are stacks of boxes, likely containing canned goods or other food supplies.

## Food Pantry Services Provided Help for

134,552

INDIVIDUALS

34,225

FAMILIES

A black and white photograph showing two people working outdoors. One person is standing near a large stack of white panels, possibly drywall or insulation, while the other is working on a wooden structure. In the background, there is a brick building with several windows.

## Disaster Services Created Hope for

606

INDIVIDUALS

300

FAMILIES

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a United States Permanent Resident Card. The card is partially obscured by a blurred American flag in the background.

## Immigration Legal Services Served

824

INDIVIDUALS



Catholic Charities  
of the Diocese of Raleigh

# Our Supporters

Catholic Charities would not be able to serve the community without the support of the Diocese of Raleigh and Catholic parishes, over 4,800 faithful individual donors, federal and state combined campaigns, and the following private and public foundations and organizations.



Bishop's Annual Appeal



*Working to Reduce Poverty in America*

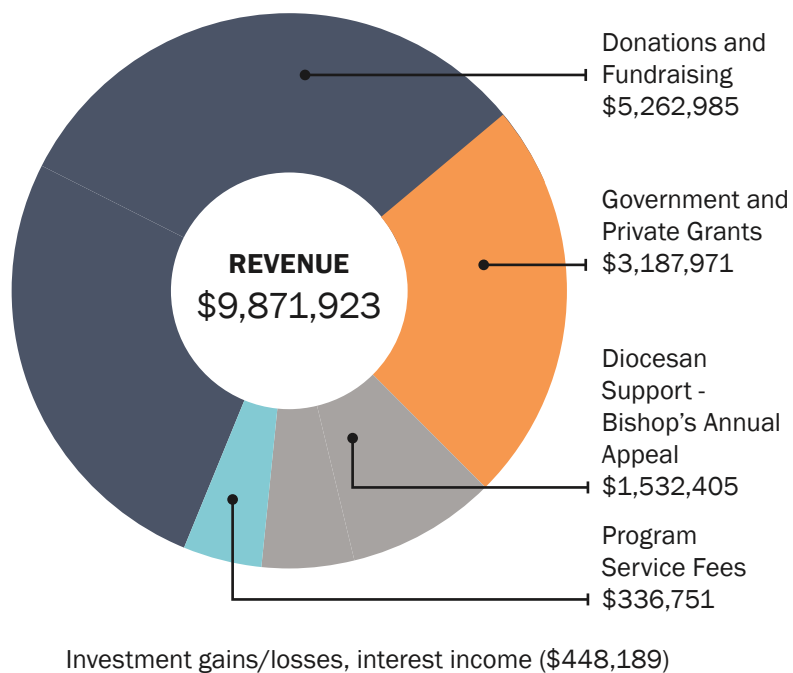
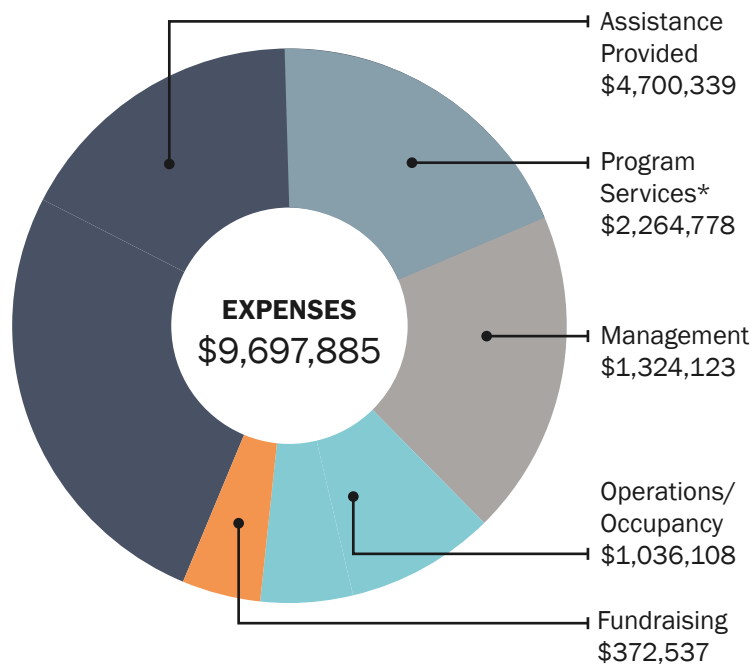




# Financial Report

Year Ended June 30, 2022

\* Includes expenses to provide services to clients such as Disaster Assistance, Food Pantry Services, and Immigration Legal Services





# MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH DISASTER SERVICES



Four years after Hurricane Florence, many are still struggling with housing instability. In Wilmington, Aaron Etheridge lost his home and struggled to find resources that would get him back inside. Damage from the storm caused his roof to collapse and rendered the house unlivable. While he searched for ways to get back into his home, he spent many nights in his car or at a friend's house. It was an uncomfortable situation made worse by the fact that his rebuild was outside the capabilities of nonprofits in the area.

"My house was destroyed, and I had heard about Catholic Charities from my nephew. And he explained to me that I could get help from them," Etheridge said. "And they didn't drop the ball on me."

With the help of Catholic Charities, Mr. Etheridge first applied for RebuildNC, a state funded program that provides assistance to repair, reconstruct, replace, or elevate a client home or reimburse them for completed repairs. Unfortunately, RebuildNC could not commit to replacing the house in a reasonable amount of time and the house would be condemned unless that commitment could be made by May 18th. Becca Ward, Disaster Case Manager at the Cape Fear office, shared "We heard that the county was going to condemn his house, and he's been a county employee for 30 years. So, when we heard about it, we felt that we had to do something."

After this initial setback, Catholic Charities turned to work with the County and the Disaster Recovery Act to get that commitment from the DRA if Mr. Etheridge completed a DRA application.

"We went through the process with him, helped him gather all the documentation, and helped him apply," Becca noted. They completed the application before the May 18th deadline and avoided condemnation of his home. The DRA committed to the rebuild, and Mr. Etheridge withdrew from RebuildNC.

Over 10 months, DRA rebuilt Mr. Etheridge's house. In addition, Catholic Charities, with the help of volunteers, cleared Mr. Etheridge's yard of debris and removed downed trees from the property.

Speaking on the day Mr. Etheridge received his key, Ward stated, "It feels great. I mean, we've spent hours on the phone with him, advocating for him, knowing this day was coming and trying to encourage him. So, it's a really good day to see him here at the end, moving back into his house."

"When I reached out to Catholic Charities, I wanted them to know the devastation I had, and not just me, but other people in Wilmington. I was looking for somebody to have an ear and understand my story. And they had an ear, and they listened to me."



Food insecurity is often accompanied by other issues which exacerbate the challenges individuals are facing. The Healthy Opportunities Pilot, or HOP for short, is a new holistic approach undertaken by the NC Department of Health and Human Services to address shortcomings in housing, food, transportation, and interpersonal safety and toxic stress. This program is designed to help struggling, high-needs Medicaid enrollees by providing non-medical interventions to improve health outcomes.

Many of the enrolled individuals have been referred to the Tar River Regional Office by Access East, the organization responsible for overseeing the HOP program in Eastern North Carolina. The Tar River office has specialized in responding to referrals for HOP food box deliveries. Once the Tar River office receives a referral, they will continue to deliver HOP food boxes to the individual's home for the duration of their enrollment, which typically lasts 3-6 months. In the past year, participation in the HOP program has helped the Tar River Office widen its food pantry program and service area, doubling the number of families assisted each month.

Liz McDowell, Regional Director of the Tar River Region, describes the impact of the opportunity on Catholic Charities, "It's given us the push to get into a bigger space because we're moving a lot more food, and because of HOP, we're also in more counties that are in our region." She further elaborates that it has allowed for the acquisition of freezers, which they did not have access to before. "We are putting out produce in more of our food boxes because of the increased refrigeration space. That helps families have access to fruits and vegetables that they might not have before."

The HOP program has also helped the Tar River Regional Office expand their Mobile Food Pantry operation. "Since we're making trips into different counties because of HOP, we started doing mobile pantries in those counties as well. We have two mobile pantry sites in Edgecombe County, one in Tarboro, and one in Rocky Mount. We also have a mobile site in Halifax and Northampton counties." McDowell added that the ability to expand assistance to areas with fewer resources is one of the program's benefits.

# MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH FOOD PANTRY SERVICES





# MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES



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The Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services Program helps individuals improve their immigration status and navigate the complicated network of processes and paperwork. In most cases, these individuals have already made many difficult decisions coming to the United States and feel overwhelmed by the immigration process. In addition, moving to a new country leaves many immigrants isolated and vulnerable.

Dilcia Martinez, a native of Honduras, came to Catholic Charities in March 2006, requesting information about the U-Visa process for victims of serious crimes. Martinez and her children were assaulted at gunpoint and terrorized in their Wilmington apartment. Fortunately, the youngest son was able to find neighbors who called the police to intervene.

Consuelo Kwée, Director of Immigration Legal Services explained, “Dilcia came seeking assistance with a U-Visa application that is granted to people who have been abuse victims and must help the police find the perpetrator.”

Martinez then began gathering information, supporting documents, police records and statements of the crime. After several months of working with Dilcia, the 152-page package of forms, supporting documents, and fees were mailed to the United States Department of Citizenship and Immigration Services for consideration of her U-Visa application.

After several years of waiting, Martinez and her children had their U-Visa approved in August 2018. This meant that after two more years, they could apply to become permanent residents, and ultimately citizens of the United States. In the meantime, they received work permits, allowing Martinez to acquire a better paying job, and her driver’s license.

When the day finally came that Martinez learned her citizenship test had been scheduled, she immediately got emotional, “I went to check the mail and saw that my test had been scheduled. I started to cry! I was so happy I cried. I immediately called Consuelo and then my teacher, Barbara, and they both congratulated me.”

On an early Monday morning, Martinez, Kwée, and Barbara Grubb, a volunteer who assisted Martinez through the citizenship process, met in the parking lot at the US Citizenship and Immigration Services Office in Durham, NC. Martinez was up before 5 a.m. to make the two-hour drive from Wilmington and arrive early for her 8 a.m. appointment.

“Dilcia went through the U-Visa application process, then the legal permanent residency card process, and today has earned her citizenship. Typically, this is a 20-year process, so it is wonderful to see that she made it to the final stage.” shared Kwée on the morning of the appointment that Martinez both passed her test and received her citizenship certificate.

Martinez noted that voting was a big reason behind her quest for citizenship, “In getting my citizenship, my goal was to vote. My oldest daughter has started to vote, and I wanted to see myself doing the same.”

Through this long, arduous process, there have been roadblocks, setbacks, and most importantly paperwork. But through the combined efforts of Martinez and Catholic Charities staff and volunteers, Martinez has achieved her goal.

“Every time we come into the office, they are kind and attentive. And they always have the answers to your questions. I would recommend Catholic Charities to anyone looking for help, because their support is unconditional.”





# EVENTS

## 10th Annual CATHOLIC CHARITIES *Gala*



The 10th Annual Catholic Charities Gala was a resounding success. Hosted at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley on Saturday, April 30, 2022 there were 275 guests in attendance, with others joining the festivities online. Over \$260,000 was raised to celebrate over a decade of Catholic Charities Galas. This was the first in-person event since 2019 and it proved worth the wait!

Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama explained that it is only through love that giving has meaning, and that Catholic Charities is merely the way we express that love. "The Catholic Church, through Catholic Charities, is the way we reach and serve the people in need."

Lisa Perkins, CEO of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, was awarded the inaugural "Ignite Award" for her work in expanding healthy food accessibility through mobile food pantry distributions across the Diocese of Raleigh.

Speaking on Perkins' work, Trish Healy, who along with her husband, John, created the Ignite Award, said, "Mobile Food Pantries can begin to overcome organizational limitations. We can bring food to our neighbors, and it can serve as an example and give hope." She emphasized that these measures are a step forward in the continuing fight against food insecurity.

The evening's emcee, Ken Smith of WRAL, announced the winners of the premier Silent Auction item, a salmon fishing excursion to Nushagak River Adventures Lodge in Bristol Bay, Alaska. In a late-night twist, the owner of Nushagak River Adventures generously donated two additional fishing trips enabling the top three silent auction winners to travel to Alaska!





## EVENTS



On Monday, August 16, 2021, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh hosted the 4th Annual Drive Out Hunger Golf Outing. Participants were treated to great weather and a day of friendly competition. Rev. Monsignor David D. Brockman, V.G. welcomed all golfers with an opening blessing before sending everyone on their way for the shotgun start.

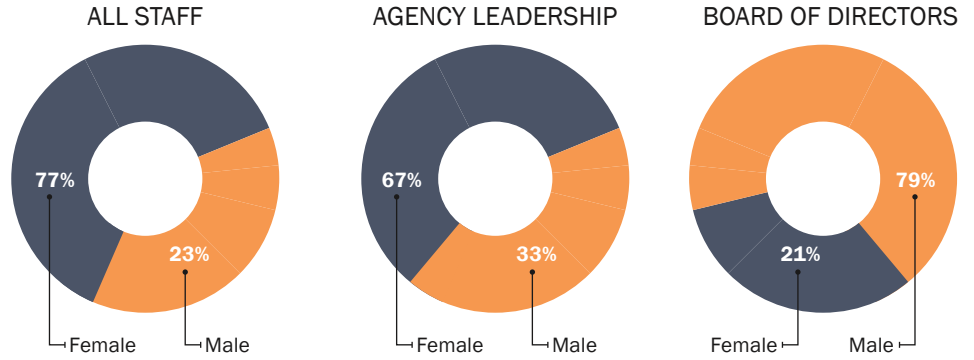
While on the course, groups competed for the overall low score, while each individual competed in on course competitions such as longest drive and closest to the pin. As an added bonus, participants were able to make a donation to Catholic Charities in exchange for long drive pros, Landon

Gentry or Scottie Pearman, teeing off on a par five, helping the group get to the green in two shots, setting up the perfect opportunity for an eagle putt.

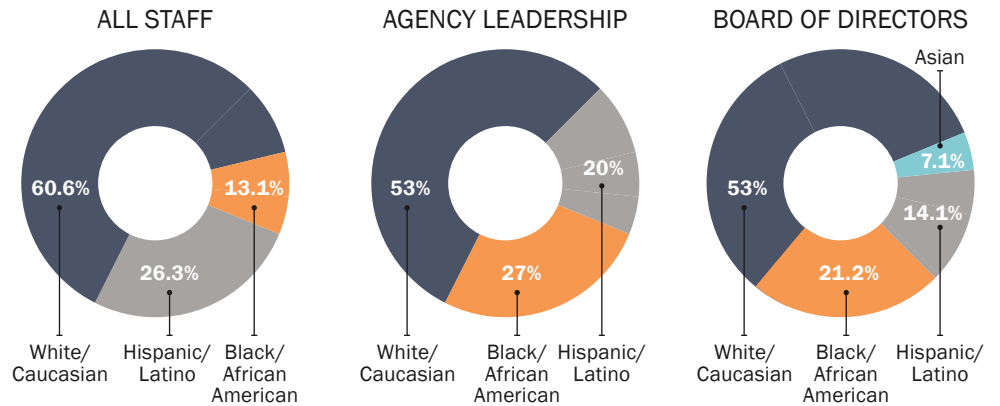
The event saw over 200 golfers come together to play and raise over \$78,000 to support Catholic Charities food pantries. Catholic Charities operates five food pantries across Central and Eastern North Carolina and distributes over 3 million pounds of food each year! Through the generosity of these golfers, Catholic Charities food pantries can continue helping families put nutritious meals on their tables.

# 2022 Diversity Statistics

## GENDER DIVERSITY



## RACIAL DIVERSITY



## OFFICE LOCATIONS\*

**Elizabeth City Office**  
(252) 426-7717  
Holy Family Catholic Church  
1453 North Road St.  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

**Greenville Regional Office**  
(252) 355-5111  
2780 B Dickinson Ave.  
Greenville, NC 27834

**Wilmington Regional Office**  
(910) 251-8130  
Harrelson Center  
20 N. 4th St., Suite 300  
Wilmington, NC 28401

**New Bern Regional Office**  
(252) 638-2188  
502 Middle St.  
New Bern, NC 28563

**Fayetteville Regional Office**  
(910) 424-2020  
726 Ramsey St., Suites 10 & 11  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

**Durham Community Food Pantry & Reverend Joseph G. Vetter Family Enrichment Center**  
(919) 286-1964  
2020 Chapel Hill Rd., Suite 30  
Durham, NC 27707

**Raleigh Regional Office**  
(919) 790-8533  
3000 Highwoods Blvd., Suite 128  
Raleigh, NC 27604

\*Locations as of 6/30/2022.



**Catholic Charities  
of the Diocese of Raleigh**

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