



Catholic Charities
of the Diocese of Raleigh

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



OVER
195,000 individuals
SERVED LAST YEAR



Providing Help.
Creating Hope.
Serving All.



Dear Friends,

As we continue to move forward in our mission, it is important to critically examine our practices and evaluate how we deliver services. That is why I am proud to say that this past year saw Catholic Charities grow in two exciting ways, bringing services and solutions to our neighbors in need.

As the scope of our programming continues to expand, the need for more warehouse space is an issue we are proactive in solving. This past year saw grand openings for warehouses in our Cape Fear and Tar River regions. This increased warehouse space provided the opportunity to store and distribute food to over 134,000 individuals, a record for Catholic Charities. This was made possible by the addition of new equipment such as forklifts and pallet jacks and many new volunteers joining our team.

Our home repair program, NC Catholics Volunteer (NCCV), also saw tremendous growth this year. As part of the Healthy Opportunities Pilot, the NCCV program has expanded beyond its original focus of repairing homes damaged by Hurricane Florence and is helping low-income families make home safety and accessibility repairs. Through this program, families have gained safer access to their homes with the installation of wheelchair ramps and had roofs repaired, preventing water damage and mold growth. In a time when affordable housing is such a challenge, this has been a vital program to help families stay in their homes.

I am proud of the work we are accomplishing and know we are creating hope for a better future. The effort of our staff and volunteers, supplemented by the generosity of individual donors and foundations, are an important lifeline to many in our communities. With the continuation of our combined efforts, we will continue to have a profound impact and provide critical support to our neighbors in need.

Gratefully,



Lisa Perkins
Chief Executive Officer



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Most Reverend
Luis Rafael Zarama
Bishop of Raleigh
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Mr. Luis Capacetti
Secretary

Dr. Russell Elmayan
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Dr. Henry Zaytoun, Jr.

Board Term:

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

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



Food Pantry Services PROVIDED HELP FOR

181,257 individuals | **47,675** families



Immigration Legal Services SERVED

808 individuals



Disaster Services CREATED HOPE FOR

997 individuals | **438** households



Catholic Charities
of the Diocese of Raleigh

Our Supporters



Bishop's Annual Appeal



Catholic Charities USA®

Working to Reduce Poverty in America



DukeHealth



The Harold H. Bate Foundation



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



for Catholic Activities

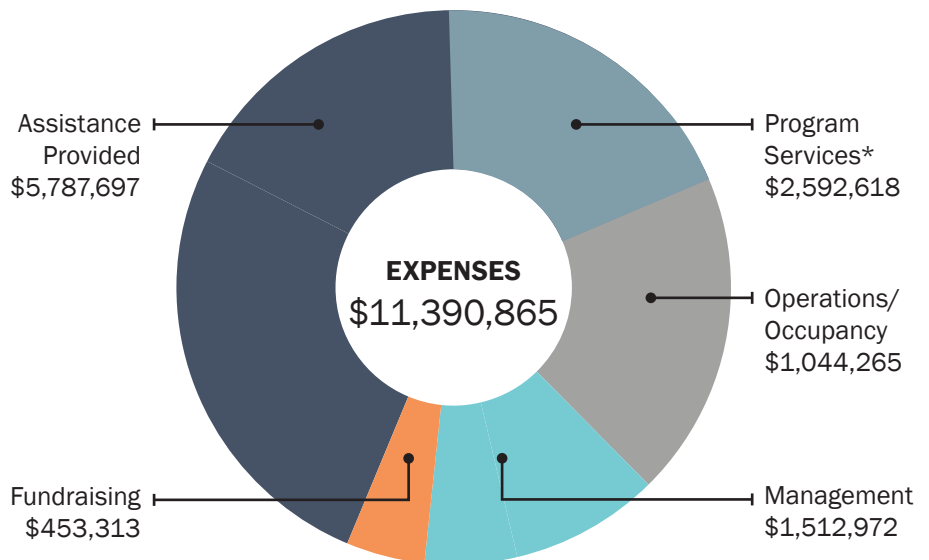
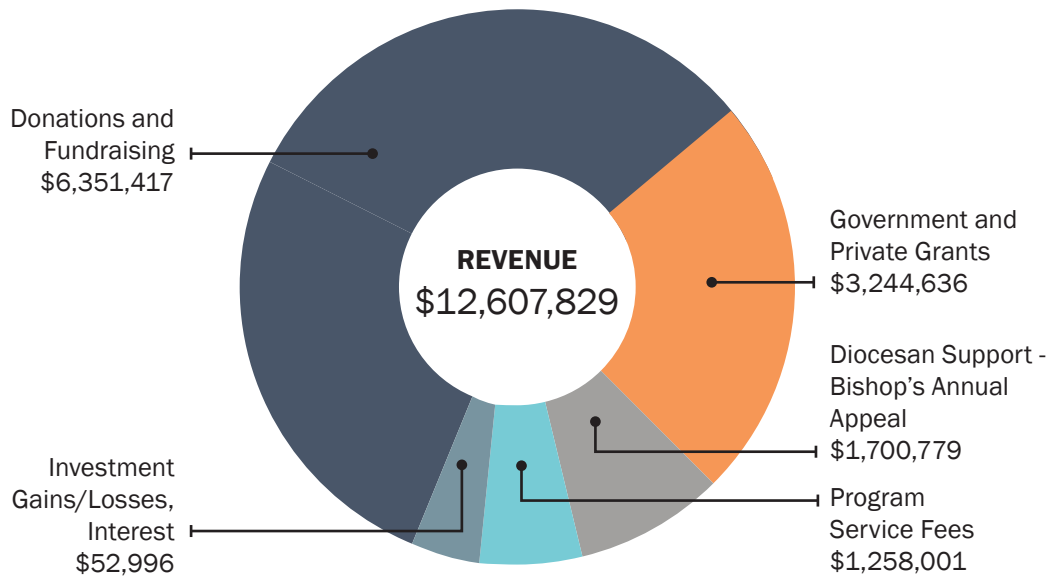


a partner in the Smart Start network

Catholic Charities would not be able to serve the community without the support of the Diocese of Raleigh and Catholic parishes, over 4,400 faithful individual donors, federal and state combined campaigns, and the following private and public foundations and organizations.

Financial Report

Year Ended June 30, 2023



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



Catholic Charities
of the Diocese of Raleigh



MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH Disaster Services

In the wake of Hurricane Florence's devastating aftermath, Ms. Yuny found herself embarking on a five-year journey, grappling with the overwhelming task of rebuilding her life. The hurricane had lifted the roof of the single wide mobile home from its structured walls, allowing rainwater to pour inside and damage the kitchen, bathroom, bedrooms, and much of rest of the home.

Following the storm, Catholic Charities responded by providing disaster case management services and financial assistance. Ms. Yuny was able to oversee the completion of the home repairs, she only needed help purchasing the construction materials.

However, just when progress was being made, unexpected setbacks struck. Construction materials meant for the restoration were stolen and personal challenges arose, casting doubt over Yuny's dream of rebuilding. It was a heartbreaking moment, but it was then that Catholic Charities showed their resolve to help her.

Undeterred by adversity, Catholic Charities remained by Yuny's side,

prepared to support her whenever she was ready to begin the rebuilding process again. Brian King, Construction Manager at the Cape Fear Regional office, shared, "At times, you see people get stuck, and can't make that next step, and we come in and help them keep moving forward."

In 2023, five years after Hurricane Florence, Catholic Charities called upon the assistance of a remarkable group of young AmeriCorps members to support the Catholic Charities NC Catholics Volunteer program, which strives to repair, rebuild, and make homes safe for families following disasters. This dedicated team of individuals from across the US arrived in Wallace, NC, brimming with enthusiasm and a shared purpose to rebuild Yuny's home.

With determination in their hearts, they began the arduous work of replacing flooring, kitchen cabinets, doors, windows, and damaged drywall. During the finishing touches of preparing the home, Alexa, the Team Leader for the AmeriCorps NCCC team said, "It looks like a whole new space; it's fresh,

it's clean, and even some donations of furniture have come in!"

Emilie Hart, Cape Fear Regional Director, warmly shared, "In just the few months that the Catholic Charities staff and volunteers were on site at this home, we could see Ms. Yuny beginning to feel hope and grow empowered."

The day finally arrived when Yuny, with her daughter by her side, moved back into their lovingly restored home. The trailer that had once been a symbol of devastation was now a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of community support. Yuny beamed with gratefulness as she looked at her renewed home, filled with a sense of peace and comfort which she thought she had lost forever.

Yuny shared, "It means a lot to me. I have been here almost all my life. My daughter was born here, and I want her to grow up here." She was able to directly convey her gratitude to the team that rebuilt her home, saying, "Thank you for coming, it was a pleasure to have you in my house. Thank you and may God bless you always."

In the historic town of Robbins, North Carolina, the local Catholic Mission provides a place for finding food for the soul and the body. Throughout various times of the year, Catholic Charities staff make the hour and a half trek from the Fayetteville Regional Office to Moore County, prepared to deliver pre-assembled bags of groceries through a mobile food pantry distribution.

Staff park the truck at the San Juan Diego Mission, and set up their outdoor pantry, ready to greet parishioners at the end of morning masses. The grateful smiles of the families convey the importance that these groceries, often consisting of pasta, canned goods, proteins and cereals, mean to their household budget.



MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH

Food Pantry Services



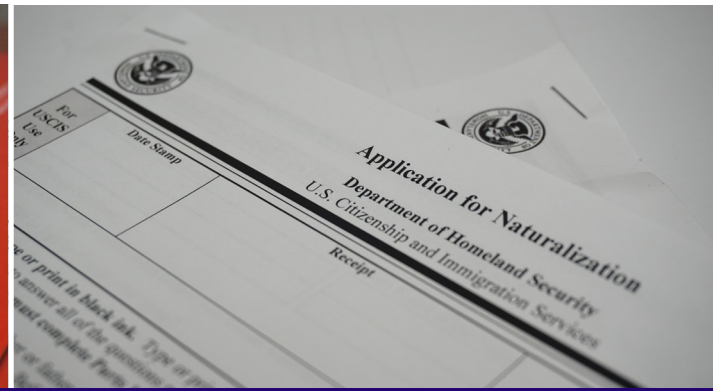
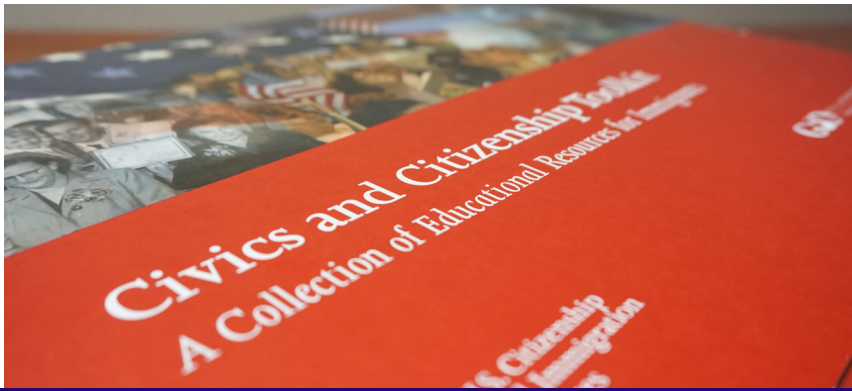
There are a variety of reasons why an individual or family would need a helping hand from the mobile food pantry. For some, it may be low wages or no wages; for others, it may be the rising cost to feed themselves nutritional meals.

Vicky Jiménez, Fayetteville Regional Director, shared, “Some of the groceries are given to families that work in the agricultural sector, supplying the country with nutritional foods, yet they themselves struggle to afford the very foods they help put onto the nation’s tables.” Jiménez continued, “Catholic Charities is stepping up to address this need. We are grateful to our donors who make it possible for us to alleviate some of the hardship a family may be experiencing during lean financial times.”

There is another extra special component to the mobile food pantry distribution at San Juan Diego, a mission of Pinehurst’s Sacred Heart Parish. Through word of mouth, locals from other denominations, or in some cases, no denomination, arrive at the church to receive a week’s worth of nourishment.

Jiménez shared, “It is a blessing to us to see the church grounds welcoming our neighbors in the community who may be struggling financially, and these individuals and families are able to find comfort and help here from the charitable arm within the Diocese, Catholic Charities.”





MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH

Immigration Legal Services

Maria's journey with Catholic Charities began in 1999, a moment when hope seemed distant, and dreams felt out of reach. Remembering those times, Maria shares, "When I met Consuelo with Catholic Charities, I was in a terrible situation with my three children, lonely without my family, and needing the basics for my children. Catholic Charities helped me with food, children's clothes, school supplies, and books."

Over the years, Catholic Charities became her steadfast support, guiding her through the complexities of immigration law, and life in general. In 2013, Catholic Charities helped Maria navigate the intricate process of opening an immigration case application, a pivotal moment that brought her closer to her American dream by obtaining her Permanent Resident Card.

Years went by as Maria built her life in the US, always remaining hopeful that she'd find a way to feel ready to pass her naturalization exam. However, there was a daunting hurdle: the written and oral civics examination. Maria felt uncertain about her ability to pass this crucial test having only received a third grade education. This uncertainty discouraged

Maria from even attempting to take the test.

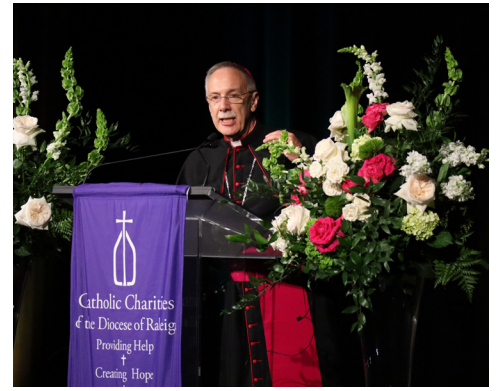
In 2022, she reached out to Consuelo Kwee, the Director of Immigration Legal Services, to express her determination to pursue the final steps in her journey to obtain U.S. naturalization. She proudly informed Consuelo that she had been diligently listening to practice tapes for the naturalization exam and had been working tirelessly to improve her English writing and reading skills.

With unwavering dedication, and a strong support system, Maria embarked on the path to her dream. In 2023, she finally took her naturalization exam and, to her great joy, successfully passed. Consuelo was there to congratulate her on this significant achievement, acknowledging the perseverance and resilience Maria had shown throughout her journey. Reflecting on her personal goal, Maria said, "they helped me to fulfill my dream to become a U.S. naturalized citizen."

Kwee shared, "Helping Maria through all these years has been rewarding. She raised her three children the best she could and now they are DACA recipients

and working." Kwee continued, "There are so many immigrants who come from different backgrounds and countries, escaping poverty, abuse, and violence who dream of giving their children a better life. Catholic Charities provides them help and creates hope to make those dreams a reality."





Catholic Charities celebrated its 11th Annual Gala on Saturday, April 29, 2023. The Gala was held at the beautifully decorated Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, and guests arrived in black-tie attire ready for a night of celebration and fundraising. The record-breaking 350 attendees was also the greatest increase in new attendees in event history, and culminated in nearly \$270,000 raised to support the work of Catholic Charities.

The event kicked off with a cocktail reception, where attendees

the faith of Jesus is love, and it is charity. You see the great thing that all of you are doing is serving the church. Faith in action. Thank you for your great generosity through your wonderful hearts. And thank you for making this evening joyful.”

Chief Executive Officer, Lisa Perkins shared, “We are intentional as we serve with the love and kindness that our Bishop exemplifies. We are the charitable outreach arm,

EVENTS

11th Annual Gala

mixed and mingled while sipping on delicious drinks and nibbling on delectable hors d'oeuvres.

Following the cocktail reception, guests were treated to a gourmet dinner. As the evening progressed, Board Member and WRAL anchor, Ken Smith, served as Master of Ceremonies, introducing a series of speeches and video presentations that highlighted the important work of Catholic Charities throughout Central and Eastern North Carolina.

Sue Ann Glower, Chair of the Board of Directors, shared the impact that volunteering at the Durham Community Food Pantry has had on her. “At its core, it is one small step I can take to help put a smile on someone’s face.” She continued, “I also appreciate the warm, welcoming environment that is fostered at the Durham Community Food Pantry, as well as at the four other Catholic Charities food pantries. It really does feel like a second family I get to see each week.”

Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama asked guests to, “Think about the great gift that you are giving by being here. Through you, the people are able to discover and to see the face of Jesus. Because

and smile, of the Diocese. Our ministry’s work is being recognized throughout central and eastern North Carolina and across the United States.” She continued, “Sometimes you have to show people that what they deem impossible can be achieved.”

Following dinner, guests danced and enjoyed each other’s company. Outside the ballroom, attendees tried their hand at the popular wine ring toss or took time to capture a printed memento in the photo booth.

The evening was one to remember, filled with special moments, fun activities, and inspiring speeches. But most importantly, it was a testament to the commitment and dedication of everyone involved. The funds raised at the Gala will go a long way in supporting the work of Catholic Charities to provide help, create hope, and serve all.





EVENTS

Drive Out Hunger Golf Outing

Teeing off to fight hunger in central and eastern North Carolina, over 200 golfers gathered on Monday, August 15th at Prestonwood Country Club in Cary for the 5th Annual Catholic Charities Drive Out Hunger Golf Outing. The event raised over \$70,000 to support the five Catholic Charities food pantries spread across the Diocese of Raleigh.

“We were excited to make it to the 5-year mark today,” shared Katey Fithian, development director for Catholic Charities. “We were really encouraged with the initial success of this event back in 2018 and grateful for what it has grown into.”

This was the second year that the event sold out. “We had to close registration in mid-July this year, which is the earliest that has ever happened. We are thankful that so many members of the community want to participate and support this event.” shared Fithian.

Golfers were uncertain as a brief shower passed through as instructions were shared for the Captain’s Choice style tournament. However, by the time participants began play, the rain ended, allowing golfers to enjoy comfortable weather, ensuring a good time for all.

“We’ve been playing in this golf tournament now for four years, and it has been fabulous. Every year has been better than the last,” shared Angela Padgette. “It is a great cause and we love doing it. This is wonderful.”

A fan favorite of the event were the long drive professionals, Landon Gentry and Colton Castro. Each foursome had the opportunity for these professionals to tee off for them on the longest par 5 of each course, offering teams their best chance to eagle the hole.

“Families are struggling with food and feeding their families. We’ve all been to grocery stores and seen how prices have

changed,” shared Lisa Perkins, chief executive officer for Catholic Charities. “Just to have an event like this where people come out and support our efforts to feed families in the community has been a wonderful thing.”

The success of the Drive Out Hunger Golf Outing will help the Catholic Charities food pantries continue to distribute approximately 3 million pounds of food each year, making Catholic Charities the largest provider of food in eastern North Carolina.



The Durham Bulls and the Fayetteville Woodpeckers demonstrated their commitment to their communities by partnering with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh this past year. In a generous initiative, both teams pledged to donate a portion of every ticket sold through a dedicated Catholic Charities link to the organization's Durham Community Food Pantry (DCFP) and Fayetteville Regional Office.

On Friday, June 23, 2023, the Durham Bulls prepared to face off against the Syracuse Mets in a highly anticipated match. However, Mother Nature had different plans for the event, as a passing thunderstorm and accompanying drenching downpour delayed the game by more than an hour. Despite the initial setback, the dark clouds eventually gave way to a brilliant sky, creating the perfect backdrop for a fun-filled evening.

Sue Williams, Program Director for the Durham Community Food Pantry shared, "This collaboration helped raise funds for DCFP, which at its core, translates into putting meals on the table for families in need. The partnership with the Bulls also brought together Catholic Charities volunteers, staff, and supporters to enjoy an exciting baseball game at the magnificent Durham Bulls Athletic Park."

Despite the Syracuse Mets prevailing over the Bulls with a final score of 5-3, the true winner of the evening was the DCFP. Jeremy Ireland, Piedmont Regional Director stated, "At the



EVENTS

Pitch in for Charity

Durham Community Food Pantry, we emphasize *community*. The pantry would not exist without strong local support, and Durham does not disappoint. This was our fifth year partnering with the Durham Bulls to raise funds to provide a week's worth of groceries to those in need. We are grateful to everyone who came out in support of Catholic Charities."

In Fayetteville, the event took place on Thursday, June 15 at Segra Stadium, where a closely contested match unfolded. The Woodpeckers emerged victorious with a final score of 4-3 over the Columbia Fireflies. The charitable initiative served as a remarkable example of how sports and philanthropy can come together to make a positive impact on the local community.

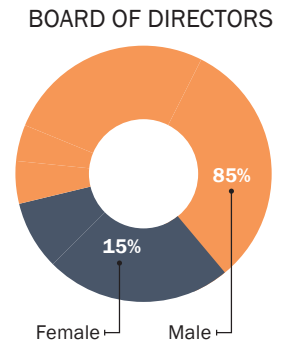
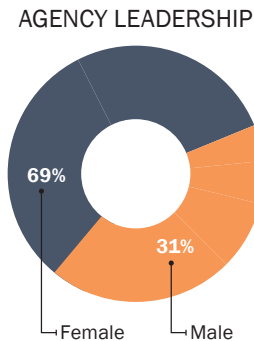
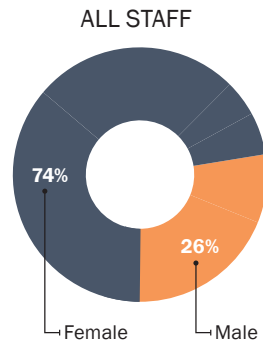
Catholic Charities Fayetteville Program Director, Vicky

Jiménez shared, "We had a great opportunity to join forces with the Fayetteville Woodpeckers, and we had a fun night of baseball as we raised funds for our community. Funds raised will go towards our food pantry to help alleviate the effects of poverty and fight food insecurity. This event also gave us the opportunity to be out in the community, bring awareness of our organization and mission, and have a great time supporting our local baseball team."

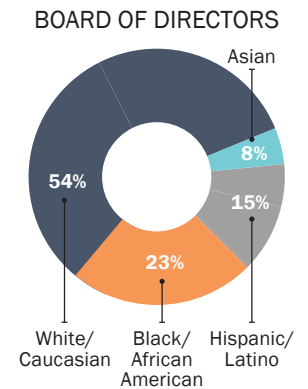
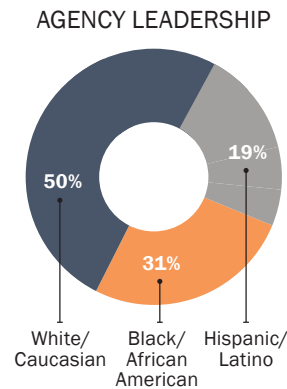
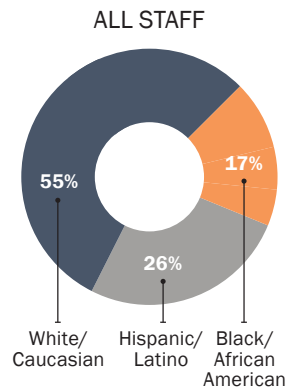
Jiménez exclaimed, "This night ended on two great notes, we had community members come out and support by purchasing tickets for our fundraiser, and the Woodpeckers won!"

2023 Diversity Statistics

Gender Diversity



Racial Diversity



Office Locations



Catholic Charities
of the Diocese of Raleigh

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

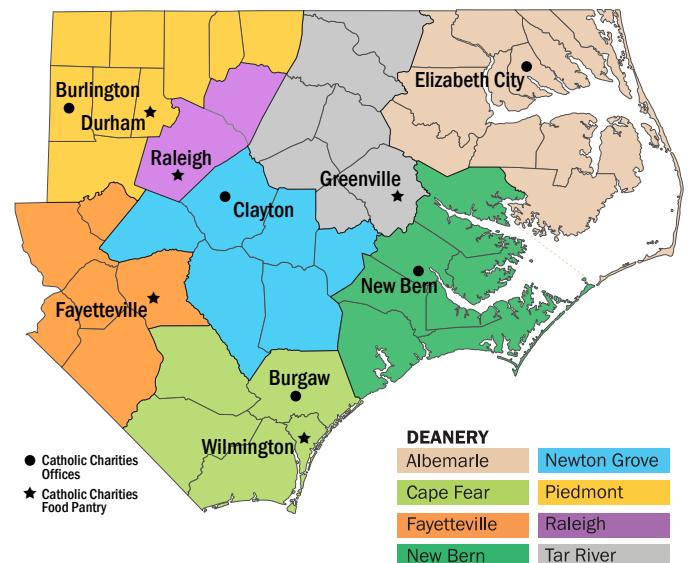
Wilmington Regional Office
(910) 251-8130
Harrelson Center
20 N. 4th St., Suite 300
Wilmington, NC 28401

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.