

July Newsletter



Catholic Parish Outreach
Food Pantry

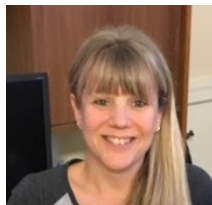
A Program of Catholic Charities

Providing Help – Creating Hope – Serving All

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH FOOD

Note From the Director

Kelly



I recently read an article titled “God’s Jigsaw Puzzle Needs Every Piece” by Paul Caron. He makes some very wise observations. He initially notes that he didn’t have patience for jigsaw puzzles because they have so many “non essential” background pieces that had no specific purpose or interest. He approached his life like this and then he had an epiphany: Life is a jigsaw puzzle, and he was looking at its pieces all wrong. Not just any puzzle either: one God loved so much he sent His only Son to redeem it — His creation. He notes that God sees the whole picture created from all the pieces even though we cannot. Paul realized that such great love suggests that there are no disposable pieces (persons) in the jigsaw puzzle that is His creation. He notes “for a gap anywhere destroys the integrity everywhere”. Overall, we must humbly accept we are “mere pieces, we lack perspective to see we’re all essential to the whole”.

Jigsaws are all about connection — You might look at a single piece and wonder what it is. It has a strange shape and no clear picture. It only makes sense when it connects to the other pieces. God created us this way: *The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone.” Genesis 2:18*

I believe this wholeheartedly. We are all connected and we need to see the big picture of who we all are — part of God’s creation! Thank you for choosing to be in the CPO portion of the jigsaw puzzle God created! God Bless!

Kelly

CPO FY 2026 Food Numbers In a Snapshot Including Mobile Food Pantries

Fiscal Year for CPO is July 1st—June 30th

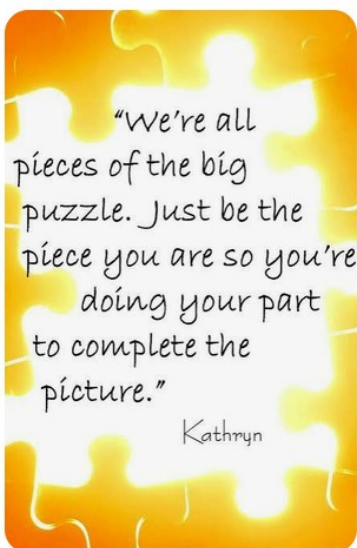
Families Served

FY 2026	35,995
Avg/Mo	3,000

People Served

FY 2026	142,597
Avg/Mo	11,883

Average size family served — 4 people



Kelly Rappl

Program Director

E-mail: Kelly.Rappl@ccharitiesdor.org

919-873-0245 x2300

Deanna McCulloch

Assistant Program Director

E-mail: Deanna.McCulloch@ccharitiesdor.org

919-873-0245 x2310

Susan Hicks

Health Education Specialist

E-mail: Susan.Hicks@ccharitiesdor.org

919-873-0245 X2350

Myra Bradley

Family Care Coordinator

E-mail: Myra.Bradley@ccharitiesdor.org

919-873-0245 x2320

Darcy Hull

Volunteer Coordinator

E-mail: CPOvol.Coordinator@ccharitiesdor.org

Phone and Text: 919-847-1466

2013 Raleigh Blvd, Raleigh NC 27604
919-873-0245

Hours of Operation:

Mon/Wed/Thurs/Friday & Saturday
9 am—12pm 2nd and 3rd Saturday
only



Tax ID # 56-0529943 (Catholic Charities—CPO)

VOLUNTEERING AT CPO

Looking to volunteer:

We are now using Point software for people to volunteer at CPO.

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator Darcy Hull (call or text) 919-847-1466 or email CPOvol.Coordinator@ccharitiesdor.org and she will work with you to sign up to



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BEYOND THE NUMBERS

We recently served an elderly client that was living in a long stay hotel in Cary with her autistic brother. They don't have any other family but each other. Her brother was never treated for his autism; therefore, he is not sociable at all. In the last year, both have been through hardship and have had and continue to have medical problems. Her car broke down so she has been without transportation for almost a year now; consequently, she is unable to go to any food pantry and doesn't have anybody to bring food to her. Because of both being sick lately, buying medicine and taking Uber for hospital trips has left her with practically no money for food. A volunteer learned of the situation and stepped in to provide her and her brother with food from CPO. Below is her response.

We both want to thank you again for the help with food and you coming that distance with the very crazy traffic out there. Last night I took the long bread cut it in half. Than sliced it in half. Put Contina Pizza sauce on top of bread. Layered it with sauteed onions, peppers and mozzarella cheese. Put it in oven. Finished it off with a salad and for dessert fresh pineapple chunks. 😊 Yum, Yum. He had his frosted Coke Cola. Puts it in freezer to froze it up. Thank you.

What can I say .wonderful selection. He was out of his mind for the coke cola. Thank you and Cathloic Charities. I truly wonder if, you guys really know the impact you have. It's awesome.



***We need your
plastic & paper
grocery bags***

Please consider recycling your plastic & paper grocery bags at CPO. Our reserve is very low, and we need them for our clients groceries.



***We need canvas bags
and backpacks to
pack groceries***

Please remember to save your canvas grocery bags and backpacks for CPO. We need them for our clients who are walking or riding the bus.

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FOOD DISTRIBUTION

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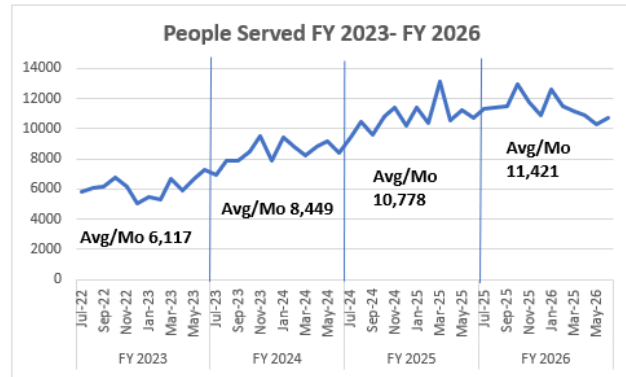
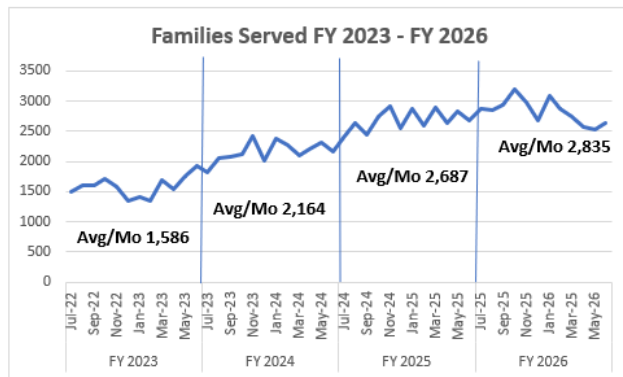
	Jun-25	Jun-26	% Inc
Families	2,684	2,636	-2%
People	10,739	10,684	-1%

	FY25	FY26	% Inc
Families	32,240	34,021	6%
People	129,338	137,053	6%

	4th Qtr FY25	4th Qtr FY26	% Inc
Families	8,160	7,757	-5%
People	32,530	31,880	-2%

	FY 25 AVG	FY 26 AVG	% Inc
Families	2,687	2,835	6%
People	10,778	11,421	6%

For the first time in 4 years, CPO showed a MODEST decrease in demand in the 4th Qtr FY 2026.



CLOTHING & DIAPERS

Diaper numbers also include Adult Briefs

	May-25		May-26		Clothing	Diapers
	Clothing	Diapers	Clothing	Diapers	% Dec	% Inc
Families	694	768	600	780	-0.16	2%
People	998	974	829	992	-0.2	2%

- We are still seeing a drop in clothing donations) which is driving the numbers served down due to low stock (especially sizes 5T and 6T).
- We are still seeing an increase in demand for diapers.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY (MFP)—WAKE CO.

	Jun-26	
	MFP 1	Feb 25 - Jun 26
Families	101	1,629
People	453	7,397

	Jun-26	
	MFP 2	Oct 25 - Jun 26
Families	100	826
People	152	1,075

MFP1 = Kingsborough Estate Raleigh NC Distribution -- mobile home park

MFP2 = King's Ridge CASA location -- new apartments with 100 units including veterans/families (some with single mothers), senior citizens