



CHARITY IN *Action*

September 2022



On August 26th, CSS' Southwest Family Service Center hosted a community baby shower for new and expecting mothers in the community. Highlights included food and refreshments, games, raffles, and more.

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OUR WORK

The Secretariat for Catholic Human Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia (CHS) is the largest faith-based human services provider in Southeastern Pennsylvania and benefits more than 300,000 individuals of all faiths annually.

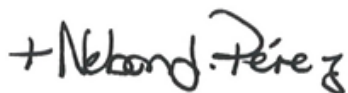
CHS is comprised of various agencies that administer a broad range of human services programs throughout the five-county Philadelphia area as an expression of the charitable works of our local Church and daily touch the lives of immigrants, those experiencing homelessness, women in crisis, at-risk youth, senior citizens, the intellectually disabled, those facing hunger, and more.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Through its many good works, The Secretariat for Catholic Human Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia builds on the legacy of Jesus Christ by lifting up the poor, proclaiming liberty to captives, restoring sight to the blind, and freeing the oppressed.

As you read about the transformative impact we have in our local communities, please know we count on your continued prayers for God's blessings on our unceasing efforts to make the love of Christ evident through the charitable works of our Church.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Revered Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.
Archbishop of Philadelphia



Dear Friends,

I am a lifelong Philadelphia Catholic whose faith continues to be fulfilled through my social work career having been involved with the charitable works of our local Church.

I am proud to work day in and day out with the Catholic Human Services staff you see featured here and those they so well serve.

May you be inspired in reading about the positive impact we are having in our local communities and please keep all of us in your prayers as we continue serving those most in need.

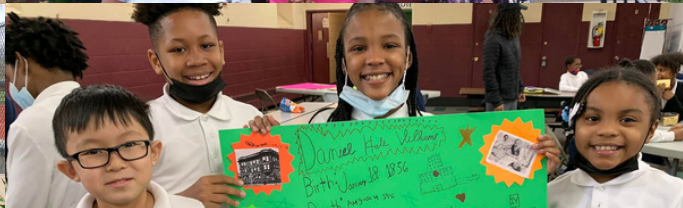
Sincerely,



James T. Amato, MSW
Secretary for Catholic Human Services
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

To read a news story, please click the title.

IN THE News



Area faithful donate thousands of rosaries to Catholic Social Services

By Gina Christian • CatholicPhilly.com

Last month, Amy Stoner, director of CSS Community-Based and Housing and Homeless Services, sought donations of rosaries ahead of an annual gathering at Malvern Retreat House for residents of Women of Hope and Mercy Hospice programs, both of which support women experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental health challenges.



New look, new life for Catholic Social Services outreach in Chester

By Gina Christian • CatholicPhilly.com

Catholic Social Services Delaware County Family Service Center is expanding its mission in the impoverished city, thanks to the Catholic Charities Appeal, Vagabond Missions, St. Katharine Drexel Parish and other local partners.



Archdiocesan foster care worker knows need for parents firsthand

By Gina Christian • CatholicPhilly.com

Since 2019, Catholic Social Services has been partnering with the U.S. bishops' Committee on Migration and Refugee Services to provide transitional foster care for unaccompanied minors who have been vetted by immigration officials.



Archdiocesan summer camp gives kids 'a bit of heaven on earth'

By Gina Christian • CatholicPhilly.com

Now in its third decade, Camp Rainbow offers what staffers have called "eight weeks of organized chaos" to residents of St. Edmond's Home for Children.

CSS Rededicates Delaware County Family Service Center and Highlights Upgrades to Benefit the Community



On Friday, September 9th, Bishop McIntyre rededicated Catholic Social Services' Delaware County Family Service Center in Chester City.

In Chester City, approximately 30% of residents live below the federal poverty line. The ceremony marked a significant investment of \$200,000 in capital upgrades over the past year which will positively enhance the site and benefit those in the community who receive vital services from CSS.



The ceremony also officially welcomed Vagabond Missions to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, an initiative of young people set out to invite inner-city at-risk youth into a relationship with God through outreach and mentorship. Missionaries will utilize the Delaware County Family Service Center for its weekly outreach youth activities.

St. Edmond Senior Center hosts "Staycation Cruise" for dozens of senior center members



Catholic Housing and Community Services' St. Edmond Senior Community Center recently hosted a Hawaiian "Staycation Cruise" for center members. A few dozen seniors at the South Philadelphia site were treated to free raffles, games, and live entertainment. Seniors also enjoyed lunch and Hawaiian themed decorations. There were 117 prizes won by those who played the various games! St. Edmond Senior Center is located in the West Passyunk neighborhood of South Philadelphia.

NDS Marks Hunger Action Month with Annual PB&J Drive



Nutritional Development Services is hosting its annual PB&J Drive in conjunction with Archdiocese of Philadelphia Schools and Parish Religious Education Programs throughout the five-county Philadelphia region. All goods donated will help stock the shelves of NDS' network of food cupboards throughout the Philadelphia region for the fall and winter months. NDS is also hosting an online donation drive. Those interested in supporting the NDS Community Food Program can purchase items online at yougivegoods.com/ndscfp2022.

Seniors at Norris Square Senior Center Enjoy Latin Dance Project



Seniors at Catholic Housing and Community Services' Norris Square Senior Community Center recently participated in a Paper Flower Workshop followed by a Latin Dance Project. CHCS' Senior Centers offer daily opportunities for socialization, recreation, physical exercise, education, and nutritional support with a focus on overall health, wellness and independence.



CSS' Out-of-School Time Program Marks the End of Summer Camp Programming For Over 400 Children and Youth

This year, CSS' Out-of-School Time summer camp program served over 400 children and youth throughout Philadelphia! CSS' summer camps provide enriching activities for children and youth to fight the summer learning gap while also providing a safe and caring environment. OST directors and assistant directors recently got together to celebrate the end of their successful summer programming.



Catholic Social Services Chester City Coffee Club Hosts Fish Fry for Those In Need In The Community

The Coffee Club at Catholic Social Service's Delaware County Family Service Center in Chester City recently hosted a fish fry for those in the community who benefit from services offered at the site. Over 75 individuals received a hot meal.

The Chester City Coffee Club program is available to those experiencing homelessness and in need. Four days a week, the center offers food, fellowship, and assistance to those in need. This includes access to showers, laundry, mail, and other services at no cost.



Catholic Community Services Hosts Successful Community Event in Northeast Philadelphia

By: Ginger Smith, Community Liaison, Catholic Community Services

Catholic Community Services' hosted its Community Fest 2022 on Saturday, July 16th at our Grant Avenue location and it was a wonderful success! We experienced an amazing community turnout representative of the ethnically diverse populations and families we serve in the Greater Northeast area.

Participants enjoyed engaging with an array of resource vendors including: PECO, SPIN, American Heritage Credit Union, Caregivers of America and the Safe Sleep Philly Crib Program. Our robust free market offered many essential items including clothing, toiletries, housewares, toys, and diapers to attendees who were able to take as much as they liked. The Underdog Catering Company of Pottstown provided free hot dogs, chips, hoagies, and lemonade. Staff also served up refreshing water ice for all to enjoy.

➡ *Continued below on page 6*



▲ *Catholic Community Services Community Umbrella Agency (CUA #4) is a community-based organization that manages child welfare cases formerly maintained by The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS).*

As part of Catholic Social Services, Catholic Community Services provides services to families and children while operating within the framework of a Catholic organization.

St. Francis & St. Vincent Homes staff participate in Mental Health Screening Day



Ms. Bonnie Kane and Sister Marcelina Mikulska, CSFN, both therapists in the Saint Francis & Saint Vincent Outpatient Mental Health Program, provided face painting and mental health screenings as part of the Voice Community Day and Block Party.

NDS distributes 16,000 servings of fresh strawberries to children



Nutritional Development Services recently celebrated Pennsylvania's Harvest of the Month by distributing 16,000 servings of fresh strawberries to children and youth receiving lunches through NDS' Summer Meals Program. The children expressed their delight at this surprise of fresh and delicious produce. Strawberries are packed with vitamins, fiber, high levels of antioxidants. It was a welcome, tasty treat on a hot summer day!

Continued from page 5 **Catholic Community Services Hosts Successful Community Event**

In keeping with our P.U.R.E. theme (Peace, Understanding, Respect & Equality) some of our decorations included world flags -for which many participants both recognized and greatly appreciated. The children were invited to place their painted hand print on a banner-symbolic of their commitment to being thoughtful, kind and respectful of others who may look or talk differently from themselves. As a reinforcing gesture, members of the Prevention Team added their adult sized prints as well and the banner will eventually be displayed within our building.



In addition to a lively, upbeat world music playlist everyone was thoroughly entertained by our spirited magician Derek Lee of D. Richardson Productions who definitely knows how to command an audience! Overall, our team was elated to host Community Fest in acknowledgement and celebration of the rich diversity present within our community through providing authentic engagement, resources and fun!

SAVE THE DATE

THIRD ANNUAL MERCY HOSPICE RECOVERY WALK

We are excited to celebrate recovery at the **Third Annual Mercy Hospice Recovery Walk!**

We will gather at Mercy Hospice (334 S. 13th St.) at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, September 21st. We will walk the streets of Washington Square West and end at Women of Hope Lombard (1210 Lombard St.) for dinner.

Current and former Mercy residents along with family and friends are invited to participate in observance of National Recovery Month. Let's show our neighbors that we are working together to support those in recovery!

RSVP to Amy Stoner at astoner@chs-adphila.org

Visit our website for more information mercyhospicephilly.org



WE ARE RECRUITING

Foster Parents

JOIN US FOR AN INFO SESSION

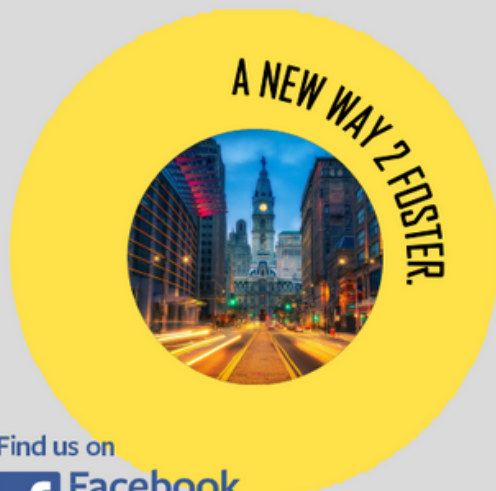
Topic: Unaccompanied Minors

Date: Wed. Sept. 21, 2022

Time: 6:00PM

Location: 7340 Jackson St

Philadelphia, PA 19136



Find us on



RSVP

✉ tfcinfo@chs-adphila.org

☎ (267) 691-5249

SAINT **John's**
HOSPICE

Presents...

Boot Up Philly!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

When: Saturday, October 22nd from 10:00am–12:00pm

Where: Parking lot at 222 N. 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

We need you! ***Boot Up Philly*** is an initiative that supplies new winter clothing items, toiletries, and food to 1,000 men, women, and children experiencing homelessness here in the city.

Day of Volunteers: We are looking for volunteers on **Saturday, October 22nd** to help distribute these items, along with the set up and break down of the distribution areas, and directing and communicating with the participants. Additional volunteer opportunities for groups can be arranged by contacting Liz Small.

Volunteers will arrive at **8:30am** and be expected to stay until **12:30pm**.

Donations: Any personal care items, socks, hats, gloves, and underwear (for men, women, and children) can be dropped off at 222 N. 17th Street (attention: Amy Stoner) by **Friday October 14th**.

Please RSVP to esmall@chs-adphila.org by October 14th.

Contact Liz Small at esmall@chs-adphila.org or 215-563-7763 to learn more.



PROVIDING HELP,

Creating Hope!

Nutritional Development
Services
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

