



CHARITY IN

Action

October 2022



CSS staff, supporters, and clients recently gathered for the third annual Mercy Hospice Recovery Walk sponsored by Catholic Social Services to celebrate National Recovery Month which takes place each September.

IN THIS ISSUE

[News • 3](#)

[At A Glance • 4](#)

[Upcoming Events • 7](#)

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.

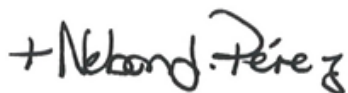
CHS is comprised of various agencies that administer a broad range of human services programs throughout the five-county Philadelphia area as an expression of the charitable works of our local Church and daily touch the lives of immigrants, those experiencing homelessness, women in crisis, at-risk youth,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



[Agency walks with women to recovery, joy, and hope](#)

By CatholicPhilly.com

Catholic Social Services sponsored its third annual “Recovery Walk” through downtown Philadelphia, drawing more than 50 clients, staff and friends of Mercy Hospice, Women of Hope and McAuley House.



[Demand up for food assistance, says archdiocesan agency](#)

By CatholicPhilly.com

Staff at Nutritional Development Services are seeing a surge in requests for aid -- and they're counting on donors more than ever to help meet it.



[New crisis pregnancy guide 'more important than ever,' says agency director](#)

By CatholicPhilly.com

An archdiocesan office has released a free, comprehensive guide to area pregnancy resources, as part of a mission that's “more important than ever,” said the project's manager.



[Speaking of Hope with Archbishop Pérez : Back to school, with Christ](#)

By CatholicPhilly.com

As a new academic year begins, Archbishop Nelson Pérez offers words of encouragement to students, parents and teachers, reminding them “God walks with us,” and we can “trust in the presence of Christ.”

Residents of St. Philomena Cottage enjoy fun filled trip to Hershey Park

By: St. Edmond's Home for Children

In early September, House Manager, Paulette Wright, and the eager staff and residents from St. Philomena Cottage went on a two day visit to Hershey Park.

Each day was packed with fun activities such as riding the monorail and the carousel. Residents Zoe, Kenya, and Nikki enjoyed visiting the Butterfly Garden and seeing all types of beautiful butterflies with many different colors. The ladies also visited Hershey Gardens, Hershey Zoo, and Hershey Water Park.

At the Hershey Amusement Park, Zoe had the most fun on the spinning teacups ride. Individual bubble machines were purchased for each young lady resulting in much laughter as hundreds of bubbles rained around them. Of course, who could resist the aroma from Hershey's Chocolate World where everyone went off to enjoy some more fun...and chocolate.

Upon returning home to St. Philomena Cottage, Paulette shared that every night everybody went back to their rooms very happy and exhausted!

Located in Newtown Square, St. Philomena Cottage was blessed and dedicated by Bishop John J. McIntyre in October 2020. With the generous support of the Women's Auxiliary, the home was established in response to a need for young adults who were ageing out of St. Edmond's Home for Children.



Seniors at Nativity B.V.M. Senior Center Mark Senior Center Month



Seniors at CHCS' Nativity B.V.M. Place and Senior Community Center in Port Richmond recently enjoyed an appreciation party in honor of Senior Center Month which took place in September! Highlights of the event included food and refreshments, music, dancing, door prizes, and more. Everyone had a great time!

CSS Mayfair Out-of-School Time Program hosts Welcome Back Bash for Families and Students



CSS' Mayfair Out-of-School Time Program (OST) recently hosted a Welcome Back Bash for families and students to come together and see what OST is all about for the upcoming school year! Highlights included light refreshments, outside games for students and families, music, raffles of school supplies, and more! To show appreciation to the parents, a Target gift card was also raffled off. It was a great event for all!



OST is a supervised program that young people regularly attend when school is not in session including before and after school, and summer camp. OST programs have been proven to help impact student achievement, inspire greater self-confidence, and provide a safe and nurturing environment!

CSS Hosts Community Outreach Event at McPherson Square Park in Kensington

On Saturday, September 24th, CSS hosted a community outreach event at McPherson Square Park in Kensington helping those struggling with addiction and homelessness. Amy Stoner, Director of CSS Community Based and Housing and Homeless Services Division and Renee Hudson-Small, Assistant Director of CSS Homeless Services Division were joined by Bishop Edward Deliman; Saint John's Hospice staff; advisory board members; The Peggie & Paul Shevlin Family Foundation; S.O.N. (Save Our Neighborhoods); CSS board committee members; and many volunteers and supporters. Participants distributed 50 soft pretzels, 250 Chick Fil A meals, and 300 pairs of sneakers along with essential toiletries and socks to those in need. Rosaries were also distributed. Bishop Deliman said a prayer and the CSS prayer bowl was filled with requests. The greatest miracle was a young man who safely entered treatment! It was a powerful event and experience.



CSS Awarded \$18,000 Grant to Enhance Immigration Legal Services Offered to the Community



The New Americans Campaign (NAC) Innovation Fund has awarded an \$18,000 grant to Catholic Social Services Immigration Legal Services for an innovative program that will improve the way naturalization assistance is provided.

Immigration Legal Assistance through Catholic Social Services provides comprehensive, high quality, low-cost Immigration Legal Services to families and individuals in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and within the jurisdiction of the USCIS Philadelphia District Office and the Philadelphia Immigration Court.

NDS Continues To Sponsor Fresh Produce Giveaways For Those In Need

NDS continues to sponsor fresh produce giveaways in areas where accessing this food can be difficult. NDS recently gave additional support at Mother of Mercy House and the Sisters of St. Joseph Welcome Center in Kensington.

In addition, NDS recently distributed produce at Our Lady of Fatima in Bensalem. People who attended the soccer games on the church playing fields had the opportunity to leave with a heavy bag of produce.



Casa del Carmen Preschool Academy Hosts Grand Opening of New Playground



Staff and students at Casa del Carmen Preschool Academy recently celebrated the opening of the school's new playground! Staff cut the ribbon before the children introduced themselves to all the great new slides and climbers.

Casa del Carmen Preschool Academy, a ministry of Catholic Social Services, is a high quality, bilingual, PHLpreK program, located in the Hunting Park neighborhood of Philadelphia.

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!

