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Catholic Charities
of the Archdiocese of Chicago



SPIRIT

**2024 Annual
Impact Report**



“We seek a compassion that can stand in awe at what the poor have to carry rather than in judgment at how they carry it.”

Father Gregory Boyle, SJ

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Spirit Magazine—November 2024

Spirit, a triennial publication of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago, features examples of our witness, designed to inspire our readers and offer a message of mercy and hope to a world in need.

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Holy Trinity Polish Mission (Kościół
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2024 Annual Impact Report

Year in Review

Catholic Charities served 374,000 individuals over millions of helping interactions



3 Letter from our President and CEO
If we understand that awe is an encounter with God, then we can see it all around us, especially at Catholic Charities, where it abounds



4 Recognizing the full magnitude of our calling
Fiscal Year 2024 involved tough decisions to assure our vitality for generations to come

6 Immediate Access and Basic Needs
Cornerstone programs that welcome with open arms

8 Children, Youth, and Families
Holistic and transformational services that promote lifelong growth, healing, safety, and wellbeing



10 Seniors and Housing
Residential, in-home, and community-based programs that help people live with dignity

Your Incredible Partnership



12 A beloved Christmas tradition
The Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball has become the unofficial kick-off of the holiday season

13 A record-breaking year
The Catholic Charities community raised \$42.7 million and shared more than 45,000 hours of service to support our neighbors

Financial Statements

14 Operating Results and Balance Sheet
For fiscal years ending June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024

Join us in our mission of mercy and hope



16 About our funding
100 percent of your donations goes directly to support our programs and mission

Living out the mission to serve at every level

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

—Mark 10:45

Every person is called to serve, and to serve in community—a calling celebrated on Sunday, October 20 at Holy Family Catholic Community in Inverness, which hosted Catholic Charities’ annual Mass & Mission celebration.

“We take that [calling] very seriously here at Holy Family,” said Holy Family Pastor Father Terry Keehan. “And in fact, so does the Catholic Church all over the world. That is a story we need to tell more.”

Every day at the local, regional, and national levels—and throughout the world—people are feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, welcoming the stranger, serving their neighbors. They

are living into the calling through a mission that extends beyond the walls of Holy Family, and of any parish. Father Keehan acknowledged how Catholic Charities further extends that mission into Cook and Lake counties through its commitment to serve anyone, regardless of faith, gender, race, or ethnicity.

Catholic Charities President and CEO Sally Blount recognized the work that parish partners like Holy Family do at the local level. “We need structures on every level to answer Christ’s call to serve,” Blount said. “We need local parishes that are deeply embedded in serving people, giving out food, and caring for people.

And then we need organizations like Catholic Charities that exist in each diocese, because we are the ones building the systems across the parishes, and we can do charitable works at a level that a parish alone can’t do.”

After Mass, Holy Family parishioners joined Catholic Charities partners and program leaders to learn more about the mission of Catholic Charities and how it is changing lives throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago thanks to the partnership of hundreds of thousands of people who have heard the call to serve and are answering it, with generosity and love.



Pictured: After celebrating Mass, attendees gathered outside in the beautiful fall weather to enjoy refreshments, meet with Catholic Charities leadership and program staff, and partake in a service activity.

Awe abounds at Catholic Charities

Dear Friends,

Awe is an emotion that I have experienced so many times since joining Catholic Charities—in so many forms, textures, and contexts.

University of California, Berkeley psychologist Dacher Keltner defines awe as “an emotional response” that arises when we encounter “something vast and beyond our current understanding.” He breaks this response into two components: First, the experience of “vastness” when we encounter something so magnificent and profound that it interrupts our typical, day-to-day feelings and thoughts. Second, the “need for accommodation” as we consciously take in, with wonder, the extraordinariness of what we are seeing.

We know awe is triggered by natural beauty and magnificent art and architecture. But awe is also triggered by extraordinary human accomplishment—be it a great athlete, an amazing inventor, or a person overcoming seemingly insurmountable difficulties.

Research finds that awe fosters optimism and increases our experience of connectedness and our willingness to volunteer and share. In this sense, awe is arguably one of God’s most beautiful, emotional gifts for humankind and critical to building community.

Thankfully, awe abounds at Catholic Charities. It abounds in the welcome our staff and volunteers extend to our neighbors in need, the compassion and presence we share, and in the solidarity we forge with our guests and each other.

Awe abounds even more as we behold the burdens that our neighbors carry—working against such great odds to find the care and sustenance they need for their families and themselves. Awe abounds in the grace and resilience these precious people show each day.

And awe abounds in the **incredible generosity of our donors**. In Fiscal Year 2024, we received over \$42 million to vitalize our mission. **It was another record-breaking year for us.**

We cannot thank you enough. This report on your impact provides but a small window into the vastness of your generosity.

In gratitude and awe,



Sally Blount
President and CEO



Sally Blount with Pastor Terry Keehan and Sue Geegan of Holy Family Catholic Community at Catholic Charities’ annual Mass and Mission gathering.

“Awe is arguably one of God’s most beautiful, emotional gifts for humankind and critical to building community.”

Recognizing the full magnitude of our calling

Sally Blount
President and CEO

Over the course of Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), Catholic Charities served 374,000 people—often 10, 20, or 30 times—adding up to thousands of helping interactions each day and millions annually. The scope of our work is truly awe-inspiring.

Yet, we know from Jesus’s teachings (e.g., Matthew 18) that God’s math is not human math; each life is sacred in God’s eyes. If we focus too much on serving thousands, we may miss the wonder of each person we meet and the potential for healing.

A case in point: I know a retired CEO, an Ivy League graduate who sits on several prestigious boards. He recently shared with me that Catholic Charities changed his life. We provided the start-up housing and financial assistance his parents needed to build a new life for their family in Chicago after fleeing 1960s Cuba.

Speaking of awe, we have no idea the ripple effects that today’s actions will have on tomorrow.

Ensuring a vibrant mission for generations to come

FY24 was a year where our leaders were challenged to think deeply about “tomorrow.” It began in June 2023, when our Vision 2030 strategic plan and FY24 budget were presented to the Board. Vision 2030 was

met with excitement, but the budget projecting a \$12.5 million deficit, after government revenues and fundraising, was met with concern.

Over the last decade, navigating the government services sector has grown more complex. Many contracts no longer cover their direct costs, much less the increasing costs of administering them. **And, while our fundraising is up 40 percent since 2020, even this remarkable increase has not been able to cover the effects of inflation on our \$200 million cost base.**

Board and staff partner to set a renewed trajectory for Vision 2030

In the end, **the Board approved the budget on the condition that, within six months, we identify \$10 million in budget savings to take into FY25.** Many deep-dive analyses and difficult discussions ensued, but by December 2023, we had a plan.

The plan includes \$32 million in spending cuts, coming largely from reducing our government contracts by \$22 million, yielding a net savings of \$10 million. This means stepping away from contracts that no longer cover their costs nor fit closely with our Vision 2030 strategy. Our client reach will contract by 7 to 8 percent (roughly 20,000) and our staff by 300: 280 working across the affected contracts and 20 in administration and regional services.

The light as we look ahead

Since announcing these changes in March 2024, staff has worked tirelessly to minimize disruptions for clients affected by these transitions and to care for our colleagues in need of new jobs. It’s been challenging, painstaking work. We haven’t been perfect, but we’ve sure done our best.

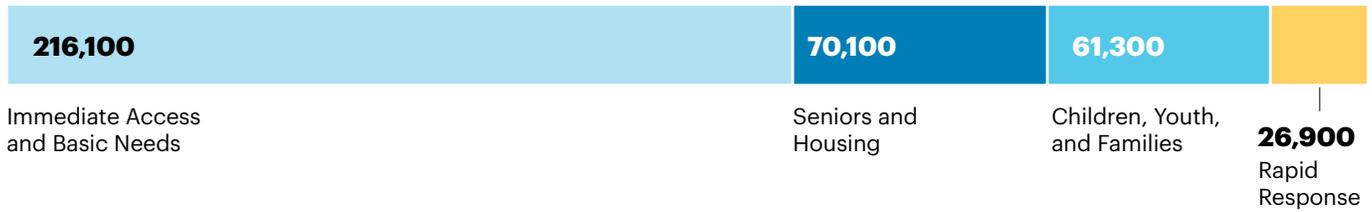
As this report goes to press, the end of the goodbyes is in sight. We are 95 percent complete and beginning to feel the lift of being less financially and administratively stretched. As a long-time leader in Senior Care recently noted, “These transitions were not easy. They tested us, saying goodbye to so many good people. But now, for the first time in years, I have time to think, not just react. I can already tell that we are going to be stronger.”

Yes, FY24 was challenging, but also awe-inspiring. Our Board showed notable courage and wisdom in insisting on a course correction before a crisis could occur. **This is what it means to answer the call to serve for both today and tomorrow—** assuring that Catholic Charities is vital and equipped to serve for generations to come.

Here we are, Lord.

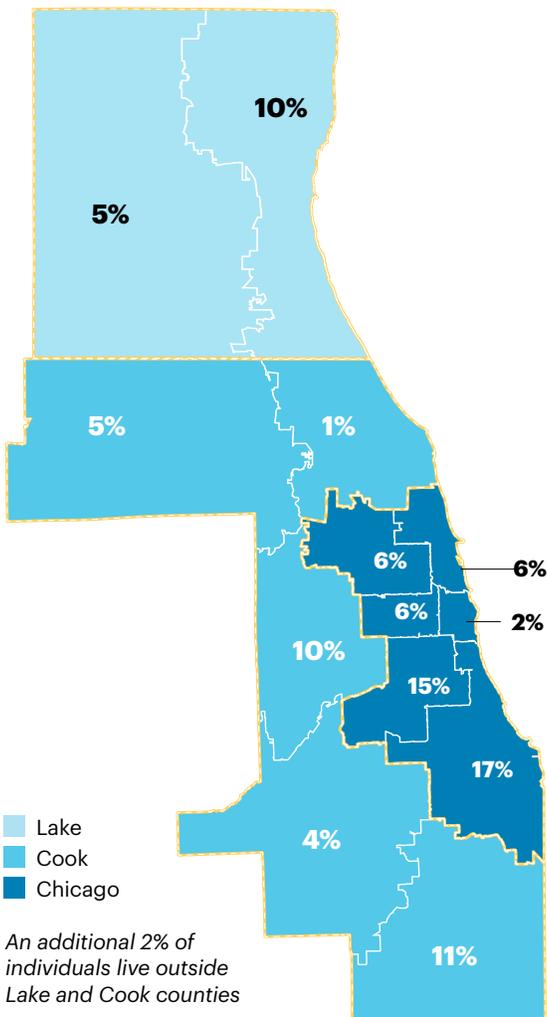
Who, what, where, and how Catholic Charities served in Fiscal Year 2024

Number served by impact area

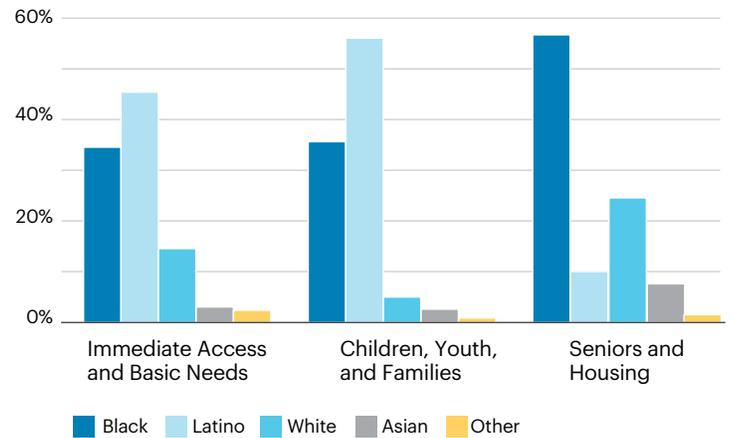


Percentage of individuals served by region

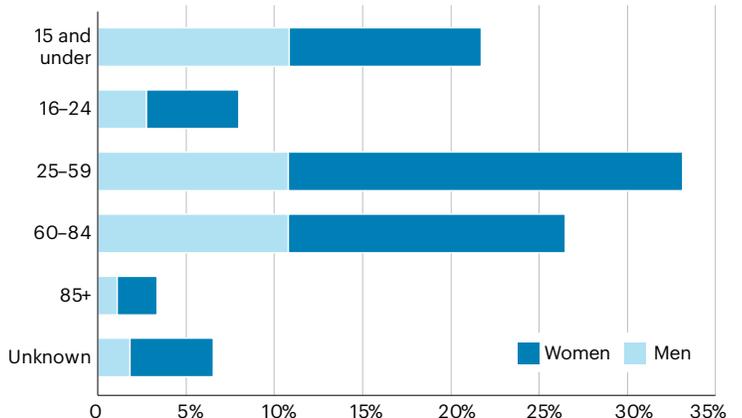
More than half of those served live in west or south suburban Cook, or on the south and west sides of Chicago.



Percentage of individuals served by race and ethnicity



Percentage of individuals served by age and gender





Immediate Access and Basic Needs

Approximately two million people in Cook and Lake counties are struggling to make ends meet in today’s economy—and nearly two-thirds of them are working adults. For those facing the difficult choice between feeding their families or paying bills, Catholic Charities is a trusted resource for help.

For one mom who visited the food pantry at St. Blase, Catholic Charities was a stopgap during a difficult financial period. “If you were to ever see my family walking down the street, you would have no idea how much we are barely getting by,” she says. “Because of the pantry,

In Fiscal Year 2024, more than 216,100 people turned to Immediate Access and Basic Needs programs for help.

I could fill my fridge and cabinets with items to feed my family, which allowed us to breathe a little easier financially. I am forever thankful for the kindness shown to us.”

Immediate Access and Basic Needs programs are the point of entry to Catholic Charities for close to 60 percent of the people it serves. More than 70,000 called

the Charities Hub intake line seeking assistance.

Through investments in staff, training, and technology, Catholic Charities is elevating operations to provide coordinated service that recognizes the dignity of everyone. This includes emergency financial assistance, which continues to be a persistent need.

Catholic Charities is committed to operating a robust, integrated system to ensure that individuals who turn to us in a crisis not only receive the immediate help they need but also are connected to longer-term support.

Immediate and wraparound services for people in crisis, addressing their basic needs and connecting them to longer-term supports

Charities Resource Hub Served 73,600 people in crisis

providing referrals, case management, and more than \$3 million in emergency financial assistance.

Food and Essentials Provided food to 86,100 people

at food pantries and through congregate meals and home meal deliveries for seniors.

Community-based Supports Provided 51,000 adults and children with essential resources

such as diapers, hygiene kits, clothing, holiday gifts, and referrals to other supports.

Homelessness Prevention Helped 5,300 people experiencing housing insecurity

find and maintain stable living situations, a 26% increase from the previous fiscal year.

“What would I be feeling right now if I had to choose between keeping my family warm or feeding them?”

Joseph Candelaria

Senior Care Case Manager
Charities Hub

When someone calls the Charities Hub intake line, a call specialist determines if we can help them. If we can, they are connected with a case manager, like myself, who oversees specific assistance programs.

One client spent two months calling agencies for financial help only to be told she wasn't eligible. When we said we'd get her what she needed, she was in shock. She still calls me from time to time to say hello or that she has me in her prayers.

Our approach is to meet people where they are. I want them to feel comfortable talking to me—like, we are sitting on the bus and talking about their problems and I get to be the passenger who says, “You know what? I can help you with that.”

So our challenge is to ask, “How did you get here?” with empathy, without the person feeling like I'm disrespecting or judging them. They won't say much in the first five minutes, but then they start to open up.

The moment they see my case manager hat on, things change. I especially see this when I ask about a budget plan. They feel shame about their situation. But many times, the reason they're in a hard place is because they bought something for their kids' school or got them a Christmas present. Who am I to judge a mom for wanting to be a mom?

We want to make sure my clients are not in the same situation in six months. So, when we do their budget plan, I'll say, “You might feel like the problem is too big, but we can do some corrective action here that will make a difference.”

With seniors, some have children to help—bless those who do—but a big number have no one. They don't know how to do email, or forgot their password, or can't send a screenshot. I say to them, “Don't you worry. Nobody was born with this knowledge. I will be here with you step by step. We'll get through this.”

They are so humble and they ask for so little. Sometimes they won't take all the assistance they are eligible for because they want to be able to call later in the year to be able to have a holiday meal. That breaks my heart.

Once I connect with my clients, I give them my direct line. I tell them, “Don't call the intake line again. Call me direct. I am your case manager now.”

Case Manager Joseph Candelaria speaking virtually with a client in Catholic Charities' offices in Waukegan.



Children, Youth, and Families

Meeting the needs of mothers, especially single mothers, is a pillar of Catholic Charities' Vision 2030 strategic plan. **Across the region, one out of three families led by a single mother is living below the poverty line.**

Catholic Charities' programs for mothers and families focus on empowerment, mental wellbeing, and achieving long-term financial stability. They provide comprehensive services that have the potential to shift the trajectory of a family for generations to come.

More than 61,300 parents and children were served by Children, Youth, and Families programs in Fiscal Year 2024.

With a system of support that spans every stage of motherhood, Catholic Charities accompanies women as they advocate for themselves during their pregnancies through navigating the challenges of being a new parent. They provide parents and caregivers access to nutritious food

that promotes healthy brain and body development, as well as cooking classes to prepare tasty meals for picky eaters. They offer behavioral health services for families impacted by trauma, and safe and healing environments for women seeking a life free of domestic violence.

Most of all, Catholic Charities recognizes that achieving transformational outcomes takes time. Its Children, Youth, and Families programming runs deep, in collaboration, and with patience.

Holistic and transformational services for mothers and families that promote lifelong growth, healing, safety, and wellbeing.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
Provided 53,000 moms, infants, and young children

healthy food, formula, and nutrition education at our WIC Grocery stores.

Domestic Violence Services
Helped 340 women and their children find safety and hope

through transitional housing and counseling programs.

Pregnancy and Parenting
Provided 1,100 new parents and their children

with doula and home-visiting support, parent education, and case management.

Family Support
Assisted 330 single parents

with achieving their financial, parenting, and career goals.

Behavioral Health
Supported 2,500 adults and children

on their journey toward mental wellbeing, including 340 survivors of suicide loss.

Immigration, Refugee, and Legal Support
Welcomed 2,450 people

with legal assistance, resettlement, referrals, and citizenship classes.

A Compassion that Stands in Awe

Ashley Ruiz, photographed at the House of the Good Shepherd shelter. She also provides counseling to survivors of domestic violence at Catholic Charities' offices on Chicago's west side.



“Maybe you’ve heard that it takes a victim of domestic abuse seven times to leave the person that uses harm. From my experience, that number is low.”

Ashley Ruiz

Bilingual Therapist
Domestic Violence Supports

There are many reasons why someone might struggle to leave their partner. Maybe they still love them or are clinging to memories of when they were nice. A lot of times, though, it has to do with financial resources, especially if they have children. They worry their kids won't have a roof over their heads or food to eat. Then there's manipulation from their partner, fear of losing everything, what people will say... It's a lot.

This is why it's so important to meet each survivor wherever they are on their journey. I let them know that I'm open, that I'm not judging, that this is a safe space for them.

When someone seeks help, even if it's not for the last time, they are at least

working on understanding that what they are experiencing is not OK. There is a lot of education about what abuse looks like. Sometimes, they'll say, "Wait, this was happening with my parents and now it is going on with me."

We also talk about boundaries, what they look and feel like, what healthy ones look like. I tell them to extend their arms and visualize a line around the space between us. I'll ask what physical sensations they experience when they imagine someone crossing that boundary. Does it feel like this person is too close to you? Can you breathe?

Survivors often suffer from PTSD, anxiety, depression. They are alert all the time, watching their surroundings, thinking everyone is there to hurt them, that they are too vulnerable.

The kind of counseling I provide addresses intimate partner violence. There are times

my clients need additional mental health support. If I'm providing services within the community, I'll connect them with Catholic Charities behavioral health services or whomever else they are working with. If they're at our shelter, their case manager and I work as a team to get them the help they need.

Most often, when someone returns to the person that uses harm, they just stop showing up to appointments. But, in the cases when they let me know, I make sure they have a safety plan. Who will you reach out to? Can you put money away? What documents do you need to have ready if you need to file an order of protection? I encourage them to repeat the plan back to me so I know they have it memorized.

Then I tell them that whenever they are ready, I'll be here.



Seniors and Housing

With the senior population expected to double by 2040, the call to honor and serve seniors in our communities grows ever stronger. Catholic Charities continues to respond to this call, providing compassionate support, meaningful connections, and dignified, affordable housing.

At Catholic Charities' 22 housing communities, low-income seniors over age 65, U.S. military veterans, and people with disabilities live independently with the added comfort of knowing their rent will remain stable every month. In addition, onsite

In Fiscal Year 2024, Seniors and Housing served more than 70,100 individuals.

care coordinators help them access supportive services as well as provide opportunities to gather with other residents.

At St. Leo's Housing Community for Veterans in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood on Chicago's south side, social workers and case managers are available to help residents manage health, financial, and other needs.

Theo, a senior and veteran, moved into St. Leo's after experiencing instability related to health and housing. "Within six months of me being here, the sun woke up on me in the heart, I exhaled," he says. "It was a beautiful thing. I was home. These people are more than just our counselors. They're our friends."

Catholic Charities' community care coordinators visit seniors in their homes to assess how they are living and what they need, create individualized care plans, and connect them with services to support healthy, independent aging.

Supports and housing communities that help people live with dignity

Affordable Residences Provided 1,600 seniors with affordable housing

at 19 residential communities serving low-income individuals over age 65

Care Coordination Connected 23,900 seniors

with the care, resources, and supports needed to age at home with dignity.

Community Care Provided 3,300 seniors a place to belong

at community-based senior centers in Chicago.

U.S. Military Veterans Offered 160 veterans with housing and support

including case management and behavioral health.

“I love that I get to help seniors, especially those who are barely getting by. It’s really gratifying to help them make their lives a little easier.”

Sophia Ortiz

Care Coordinator Supervisor
Senior Services, Southwest Side of
Chicago

Sometimes, I see my grandparents in the seniors I visit, especially those who are not fluent in English or unable to read because they didn’t receive an education in Mexico—or wherever they’re from—due to needing to work to support their families. Basically, that’s where my grandparents came from.

My grandma was my neighbor. When we were at work, she had someone to take care of her until we came home. The services that helped my family are how I’m helping seniors now.

Our team of 12 senior care coordinators serves seniors in five zip codes on Chicago’s southwest side. We visit every senior for an initial assessment to determine their needs and create a

plan of care. We make more than 400 of these visits a year.

For the initial assessment, we look around the house to see how they live and make sure it is a safe environment. We check bank statements to see if the seniors meet the asset limit (which can also let us know if they are victims of financial abuse) and ask to see proof of citizenship, like a birth certificate or green card. These can be difficult for seniors to locate or obtain.

I ask about their health and medications and whether they can bathe, groom, cook, eat, and clean their house by themselves. I also conduct a mini mental state exam to test their memory and see how well they are able to answer questions.

Based on their responses, I determine the amount of time a caregiver is needed to assist with daily activities.

Services might include light

housekeeping, grocery shopping, cooking, or picking up medications. Then, we make referrals to in-home service agencies. We keep in touch by phone and visit again in six months and after a year to determine if their needs have changed.

Some of the seniors we visit have been in their households for 30 or 40 years. This program is helping them continue to live in the community and care for themselves. Instead of worrying about cleaning, they can worry about making sure they take their medications, or that they’re eating. It takes a little bit of weight off their shoulders.

I do like to kid around with them just to assure them that I’m here to help. Sometimes, they feel like we’re going to send them to a nursing home if they tell us they can’t do certain things. I assure them, “No, this is so we can send someone to come and help you so you can stay in your house.”

Sophia Ortiz making an initial determination of needs assessment visit at a seniors home on Chicago’s south side.

A cherished Christmas tradition



“We are delighted to be chairing the St. Nicholas Ball to support Catholic Charities and all the important work that they do.”

Tim and Sue Sullivan

Chairs, 35th Annual Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball

Since its founding 35 years ago, Catholic Charities’ Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball has been widely recognized as the kickoff to the holiday season in Chicago.

For many, including inaugural Chair couple, Maryjeanne and Richard Burke, Sr. the Ball is a special family tradition, bringing together multiple generations to support Catholic Charities. Funding raised through this event helps Catholic Charities heal, strengthen, and empower over 374,000 people across Cook and Lake counties each year.

The collective generosity of attendees is remarkable: To date, the Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball has raised more than \$26 million, including a record-breaking \$3 million in 2023.

This year’s Ball on December 6 at the Hilton Chicago promises to be one for the books. Guests can expect an evening that brings bespoke seasonal elements together with the traditions that make it such a festive

event, including cocktails, dancing, carolers, and perhaps even a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus themselves.

As Catholic Charities’ premier fundraiser, planning for the Ball is a year-round effort that wouldn’t be possible without the support of the Chair couple. As 2024’s Chairs, **Tim and Sue Sullivan** have joined a notable group of philanthropic leaders committed to advancing Catholic Charities’ mission of witnessing a message of mercy and hope to communities and families across our region.

As ambassadors to the Catholic Charities community, the Sullivans have visited program sites and met with frontline teams, seeing firsthand Catholic Charities’ impact. They have also generously shepherded the Ball’s planning and design.

Together with Catholic Charities, the Sullivans are also grateful to Vice Chairs **Quinn and Debbie Stepan**, who will assume the role of Chairs for next year’s Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball on Friday, December 5, 2025!

Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball
2024 Sponsors

Premier Dinner Sponsor
Beth Moritz and Mark Filip*/
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Steve and Christy King*
Chip and Ellen Mulaney*
Jim and Molly Perry*
Tim and Sue Sullivan*

Seraphim Sponsor
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Sheila M. Mickus
Misericordia
Northern Trust
Richard and Megan Witzel

*Current or former Chair couple.
Sponsor listing as of publication.

A record-breaking year



In Fiscal Year 2024, the Catholic Charities community joined together to raise **\$42.7 million** in critical funding and share more than **45,000 hours of service** to support our neighbors.

Answering the call

10,380 Partners in Giving made donations in support of Catholic Charities' mission

56 are new members of the Saint Katharine Drexel Society, bringing the society's membership to 232

1,871 are new supporters who gave to Catholic Charities for the first time

1,498 made their first gift to Catholic Charities 30 or more years ago

Gathering to support and celebrate

2,200 guests dined, sipped, golfed, danced, and raised their paddles at six fundraising events that raised **nearly \$4.4 million**

Supporting year round

\$319,200 was raised through monthly donations

Giving at every level

13,308 gifts of \$100 or less added up to \$637,700

Sharing time, talent, and compassion

1,464 volunteers shared their time and talents with Catholic Charities programs

Investing for the future

44 donors made planned gifts or bequests totaling **\$8.7 million**

Working with the Archdiocese of Chicago

188 parishes from across the Archdiocese made financial gifts to Catholic Charities

Financial Statements

Revenue and expenses for fiscal years ending June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024

	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals <i>Unaudited</i>
Program Revenues		
Government Fees and Grants	\$142,445,726	\$155,201,378
Program Service Fees	10,114,101	11,091,209
Total Program Revenues	152,559,827	166,292,587¹
Operating Expenses		
Program Expenses		
Children, Youth, and Families	66,540,383	61,514,046
Immediate Access and Basic Needs	59,060,129	68,548,566
Seniors and Housing	49,933,041	47,675,141
Rapid Response	2,362,298	11,685,963 ²
Mission Engagement	735,962	845,349
Total Program Expenses	178,631,813	190,269,065¹
Support Services		
Management and General	16,347,048	18,511,388 ³
Fundraising	3,276,340	3,851,277
Total Support Services	19,623,388	22,362,665
Total Operating Expenses	198,255,201	212,631,730
Net Operating Loss	(45,695,374)	(46,339,143)
Contributions and Bequests	\$41,795,868	\$42,713,744⁴

Source: CCAC audited GAAP financials

Notes:

- \$21.9MM in FY24 Program Revenues and \$29.2MM in direct Program Expenses are associated with government contracts and other services that CCAC will not be offering after December 31, 2024. See our March 7, 2024 announcement at catholiccharities.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/CCAC-News-Release-Final-March-7-2024.pdf.
- FY24 Rapid Response activities focused on migrant support and were funded by \$12.2MM in support, including \$10.9MM in State of Illinois grants and \$1.3MM in private contributions, which covered both the direct and management and general expenses associated with this programming.
- FY24 Management and General expenses include \$935K in one-time transition costs associated with our FY25 contract exits. In addition, as part of our services realignment, FY24 expenses associated with \$1.1MM of FY23 Program Expenses were reclassified to Management and General in FY24.
- Roughly \$11.6MM in Contributions and Bequests were restricted and not available to fund current year operations, as reflected in the table *Contributions and Bequests Raised in FY24* on the facing page.

Financial Statements

Assets, liabilities, and net assets for fiscal years ending June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2024 <i>Unaudited</i>
Assets		
Current Assets	\$53,724,739	\$48,518,264
Investments	107,283,650	119,666,051
Other Assets	7,318,766	9,894,076
Limited Use/Right of Use Assets	35,080,148	33,596,570
Land, Buildings, and Equipment	155,950,659	150,165,901
Total Assets	359,357,962	361,840,862
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	31,320,288	27,336,528
Other Liabilities	6,129,288	4,236,521
Refundable Grant Advances	148,166,778	148,166,778
Unfunded Pension Liability	30,828,874	17,037,246
Post Retirement Benefits Liability	6,687,780	5,838,738
Lease-Related Liabilities	7,347,515	6,664,121
Net Long-Term Debt	22,811,762	21,512,567
Total Liabilities	253,292,285	230,792,499
Net Assets	106,065,677	131,048,363
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$359,357,962	\$361,840,862

Contributions and bequests raised in FY24

	2024 Actuals <i>Unaudited</i>
Total Raised	\$42,713,744
Raised toward Future Years	(10,575,238)
Raised toward Endowment	(1,000,000)
Net Raised Available for Current Year	31,138,506
Support Raised in Prior Years for Current Year	6,010,243
Net Allocated Contributions and Bequests for Current Year	37,148,749
Net Operating Loss	(46,339,143)
Net Operating Loss after Allocated Contributions and Bequests	(\$9,190,394)

In FY24, our Board recognized that, without correction, our operating model risked becoming unsustainable.

See Note 1 on facing page and page 4, Year in Review.

Join us to improve lives and nourish spirits across Cook and Lake counties

Ways to give

Donate online, or by phone or mail.

Secure donations can be made by visiting catholiccharities.net/give or calling (312) 655-7525. Checks made out to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago can be sent to P.O. Box 7154; Carol Stream, IL 60197-7154.

Make a planned gift. The Legacy of Hope Society honors people who include Catholic Charities in a will or trust to help ensure our programs

flourish for years to come. Contact Andrea Wynne, Planned Giving, for more information at anwynne@catholiccharities.net.

Saint Katharine Drexel Society.

The Drexel Society recognizes individuals and families who have contributed \$10,000 or more during the past fiscal year. The society convenes our most generous and loyal donors through exclusive events and communications.

Make a corporate gift or sponsor

an event. Catholic Charities offers sponsorship opportunities for fundraising events throughout the year. Visit catholiccharities.net/attend-an-event for more information.

Questions? Contact our Donor Relations team at (312) 948-6864 or donor.relations@catholiccharities.net, or visit catholiccharities.net/give.

About our funding

100 percent of donations to Catholic Charities go directly to our mission and charitable works. We are financially independent from the Archdiocese of Chicago. We do not donate to them, nor do we regularly accept funds from them, except when their donors designate gifts to support our work. Our donors and those we serve represent a range of faith backgrounds and robust diversity. **We are proud of our Platinum GuideStar rating as an independent nonprofit.**

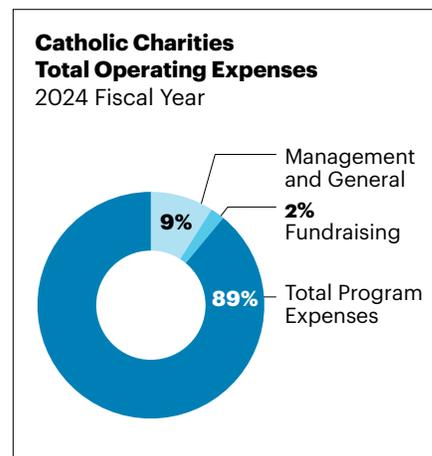
We are fully responsible for securing our own funding. We rely on mission-driven individuals like you to join us in caring for

our neighbors, many of whom are newly struggling and in need. With your help, we provide coordinated services to those who seek more stable and peaceful lives.

We receive government funding, but your support allows us to expand our footprint, innovate programs, and give witness to our mission.

We are a go-to partner for government and civic leaders, particularly in times of need, but local, state, and federal budgets for human services are on the decline. Government funds received by Catholic Charities have fallen by more than 40 percent in real terms over the last decade while demand for our services grows exponentially.

We are efficient. We spend only 2 percent of our operating budget on fundraising and only 9 percent on administration.



Answering the Call to Serve

“Although need changes, what doesn’t change are our values. We care for each person as a *person*. We serve all with dignity.”

– **Michael Monticello**



Michael Monticello | Managing Director, CIBC US and Member, Catholic Charities Board of Directors

Cura personalis, caring for the whole person—body, mind, and spirit—is a hallmark of Ignatian spirituality and Jesuit education. It also shapes how Mike Monticello, who is marking nearly 30 years of service with Catholic Charities, shares his time and expertise to give back to his community.

“Corporate, civic, and charitable work are all components of *cura personalis*,” says Mike.

While service had always been part of his life, in the late 1990s, he became more intentional about making it a priority. “My parents were great role models. Being involved in their parish community was part of our day-to-day life.” He began volunteering at a Catholic Charities shelter for mothers and their children in Chicago’s Logan

Square neighborhood. “I would read to the children and give them snacks. It was a great complement to what I was doing during the day. Plus, I had young children at the time; I wanted them to see that service is important.”

Mike’s involvement with Catholic Charities continued to grow: In 2002, he helped found the Junior Board (“It was a great way for people to begin their journey around service”); was elected to the Board of Advisors in 2005, serving as Chair of the Finance Committee for a decade (“I worked with so many wonderful people, true warriors for the greater good”); and was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2018.

He served as Chair of the Board of Directors from 2020 through 2024, leading through COVID, the migrant

crisis, and more recently overseeing the launch of the Vision 2030 strategic plan. Now, as he reflects on his term, Mike is hopeful and energized about the organization’s future. “We’ve taken a lot of time to plant, fertilize, and set up our foundation. We are ready to soar.”

In his role as Managing Director of CIBC US, Mike leads with the tenets of *cura personalis*. “It is important to give back and that is something I cultivate in my teams. I encourage them to put their compassion into action.”

This Christmas, you are likely to find him and his family serving brunch at Saint Vincent Center. “It’s part of our Christmas tradition. It is wonderful to be blessed with the opportunity to serve others.”



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catholiccharities.net/greater

