



CATHOLIC  
CHARITIES  
WEST MICHIGAN

2021  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



DREAM BIG

# TO THOSE WE SERVE AND THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK

When we mailed our 2020 annual report, I did not anticipate all of 2021 would have been so defined by COVID-19. We began last year with a tremendous sense of hope with the rollout of the vaccine, and I was cautiously optimistic we might bring the pandemic to its knees – but that was not to be.

As I write this letter, I feel a tempered sense of hope – and renewed determination to keep focused on our mission of providing help and creating hope. Our team of 237 compassionate, caring and dedicated individuals accomplished amazing things during the just-completed year, including:

- Settled 60 children into loving homes through adoption
- Facilitated training on post-abortion healing to 192 individuals, including clergy, diocesan staff and mental health professionals
- Provided 2,800 meals at the emergency homeless shelter located in the Heartside community, in collaboration with Mel Trotter Ministries and Guiding Light
- Educated 83 youth on making healthy decisions and the value of abstinence

While our programs are open to all, no matter one's faith tradition, our work is driven by the tenets of Catholic social teaching. The principles of life and dignity, call to family, community and participation, and caring for the poor and vulnerable inform all our outreach. The pandemic simultaneously magnified the need in the 49 counties we serve and made it far more difficult to identify those who would benefit from our services.

So, we leaned into our faith and got creative. When God's Kitchen remained closed, we packaged meals to go – and secured a grant to fund a mobile food resource, which we are calling God's Roaming Kitchen, to bring meals to those in need beyond Grand Rapids' central city. We will launch that program this year, bringing 100 meals daily to suburban and rural communities struggling with food insecurity.

We also saw an increased demand for our behavioral health services, yet the coronavirus made it impossible to provide face-to-face counseling sessions. We invested in telehealth, which allowed us to offer virtual visits with counselors and therapists, expanding our reach and connecting with those who needed connection and support.

The need for foster care rose during 2020, so we stepped up to support families in crisis by strengthening and expanding our programs. We recruited and trained new foster families virtually, ensuring they had the tools they needed to provide a safe and loving home to kids at one of the more vulnerable times in their lives. Thanks to 202 loving foster parents in 126 foster homes, we were able to provide care for 267 foster children last year.

We succeeded by identifying needs in the communities we serve and then developing programs that responded to those needs. We recognize the needs of the world have changed because of COVID-19, perhaps forever, and we must find ways to adapt.

For example, programs like our baby pantries address basic needs and are often an initial touchpoint for a client. How then, do we take these entry-level encounters and assess underlying

needs and bring additional community resources to the table? In Muskegon, we secured grants from the Towsley Foundation and the Community Foundation for Muskegon County's Greater Muskegon Service League's Women and Children's Fund and launched monthly community education classes that provide car seat safety, safe sleep tips, child soothing techniques, home babyproofing, stress management and other educational offerings. Parents and guardians who complete each class receive a new car seat or Pack 'n Play™.

We're also working with parishes throughout the Diocese of Grand Rapids to jump-start Walking with Moms in Need, an initiative that was sidetracked during the pandemic. The idea is to equip church communities to serve as "resource connectors" for expectant and new mothers, positioning parishes as the community place to go for help and support throughout pregnancy and early childhood.

Catholic Charities West Michigan will provide the training for parishes to do an inventory of available resources, gather and train a core team and then, as the name suggests, walk alongside these mothers. This gives us the chance to underscore the services we provide, from counseling and family preservation programs to our food and baby pantries. It also allows parishes to get creative, offering companion support, mentoring programs and mother's faith sharing groups.

We continue to dream, and to dream big, because the issues and challenges facing communities across West Michigan ARE big. And they will demand big solutions, whether we're looking at immigration or workforce training or supporting the return to very different-looking workplaces.

We could not do any of this work without the generosity of our donors, who fund a large part of the programs and services we provide. Thank you for the trust, encouragement and faith you place in us. Your continued support makes our work possible.

Together with you, we look forward to accomplishing great things in 2022.

In partnership,



**David Bellamy**, Chief Executive Officer  
*Catholic Charities West Michigan*

## CCWM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jennifer VanHorn-Pfeiffelmann (Chair)
- Scott Opperman (Vice Chair/Treasurer)
- Mary Brandon (Secretary)
- Fr. Matthew Barnum
- Russ Daniel
- Gregory Guest
- Jack Hoedeman
- Dan Lupo
- Michael Naltner
- Kristi Nagengast
- Kevin Quinn
- Lisa Wolf
- Matt Tate

## CCWM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Ryan Mullaney
- Marcia Ritzenhein

THIS YEAR, WE

PROVIDED OVER 50,000  
FREE TO-GO MEALS.

NO QUESTIONS ASKED. NO QUALIFIERS.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Below is a snapshot of the impact and partnerships that Catholic Charities had in 2021, throughout West Michigan. To learn more about our specific programs, please visit [ccwestmi.org](http://ccwestmi.org) or call 616.551.5659.



## 2,800 MEALS

were provided to the emergency homeless shelter in Grand Rapids, in partnership with Mel Trotter Ministries and Guiding Light.



## 10,044 DIAPERS

were provided to children in need.



## 11,000+ MEALS

were delivered to the homebound.



## 588 ADULTS & CHILDREN

were helped through our work with 87 Senior Corps volunteers.



## 93,960 SERVICE HOURS

were completed by 72 Foster Grandparent volunteers who provided one-on-one tutoring or mentoring.



## 40 WOMEN

were provided pregnancy counseling.

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

This year we facilitated **19,547** Behavioral Health services. Below is a highlight of some of the services we provided in 2021.



## 369 CLIENTS

were worked with on issues of domestic violence.



## 2,012 PATIENTS

were provided individual counseling.



## 27 WOMEN

were provided opportunities for post-abortion healing.



## 192 INDIVIDUALS

were provided training on post-abortion healing including clergy, diocesan staff, and mental health professionals.





THIS YEAR, WE

PROVIDED HELP &  
CREATED HOPE FOR  
**18,290** INDIVIDUALS

OFFERED **54** PROGRAMS

REACHED **49** COUNTIES  
IN **9** LOCATIONS

THROUGH...

**285** EMPLOYEES  
**15** BOARD & COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS

**345** ACTIVE  
VOLUNTEERS

# FINANCES

Transparency in Catholic Charities West Michigan's finances is very important to us. On these two pages, you will find assets, liabilities, and net assets as well as the breakdown of our revenue and expenses.

## ASSETS

	2021	2020
Cash	2,854,291	3,660,070
Restricted Cash	n/a	602
Accounts Receivable	1,439,597	2,013,041
Promises to Give	736,148	736,552
Prepaid Expenses	117,799	195,515
Property & Equipment	7,262,486	6,485,050
Beneficial Interest in Assets	1,265,587	425,698
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,675,750</b>	<b>\$13,516,528</b>

## LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	272,372	887,267
Accrued Liabilities (Compensation, Wages, Fees, Other)	1,952,508	1,001,467
Funds Managed for Others	n/a	602
Note Payable	n/a	2,980,900
Long-Term Debt	3,549,426	2,536,631
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,774,306</b>	<b>\$7,406,867</b>

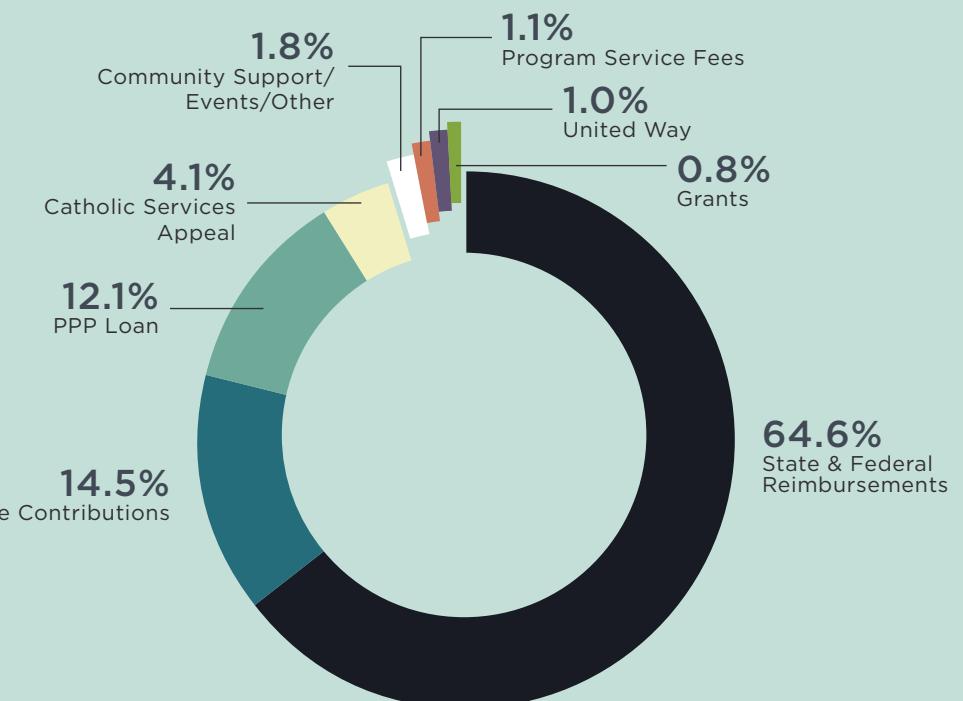
## NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	7,066,131	5,313,553
Temporarily Restricted	(719,415)	(515,405)
Permanently Restricted	1,554,727	1,311,513
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,901,443</b>	<b>\$6,109,661</b>

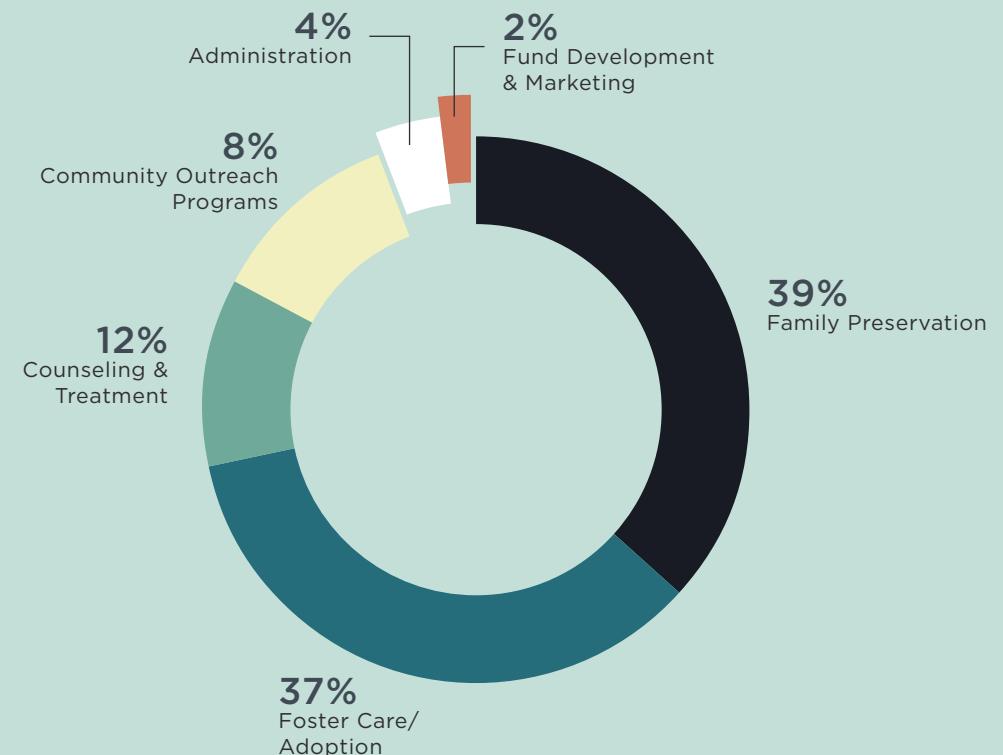
## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,675,749</b>	<b>\$13,516,528</b>
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## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



The 2021 financials are based on draft figures and are subject to change.

CHILDREN, LET US  
LOVE NOT IN WORD  
OR SPEECH BUT IN  
DEED AND TRUTH.

JOHN 3:18

# CHILD WELFARE



## 267 FOSTER CHILDREN

were cared for in 2021.



## 126 FOSTER HOMES

took in children.



## 202 FOSTER PARENTS

lovingly welcomed children into their home.



## 63 CHILDREN

were placed into loving homes through adoption.

# FAMILY PRESERVATION



## 693 FAMILIES

were offered family preservation services through Families Together Building Solutions (FTBS).



## 16 WEEKS OF HELPING DADS

learn how to create a safe and nurturing family environment through our Fathers Matter Program.



## 83 YOUTH

were educated on making healthy decisions and the value of abstinence.



## 100 FAMILIES WERE PROVIDED SERVICES

through Health Families West Michigan, promoting positive parent-child interactions.





CATHOLIC CHARITIES ADMINISTERS GRANTS TO  
WEST MICHIGAN NON-PROFITS WHO ARE MAKING  
AN IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

## CRS RICE BOWL

### BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY / \$2,100

Lake County Area Churches

### HEALTHY MEALS FOR HEARTSIDE COMMUNITY / \$2,100

Degage Ministries

### CARITAS FOOD PANTRY / \$2,100

St. Mary Church, Custer

### PROVIDING HEALTHY PRODUCE THROUGH LOCAL AGRICULTURE / \$2,100

Degage Ministries

### ST. GIANNA BABY AND TODDLER PANTRY / \$2,100

Catholic Charities West Michigan

## CCHD LOCAL GRANTS

### MIGRANT CAMP MINISTRY / \$7,000

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish

### PREGNANCY COUNSELING AND SUPPORT SERVICES / \$7,000

Catholic Charities West Michigan

WE CONTINUE TO  
DREAM, AND TO  
DREAM BIG, BECAUSE  
THE ISSUES AND  
CHALLENGES FACING  
COMMUNITIES... ARE BIG.



# WHAT'S NEXT

## GOD'S ROAMIN' KITCHEN FOOD TRUCK

In partnership with Mercy Health St. Mary's, CCWM is relaunching our God's Roamin' Kitchen program, tackling the issue of hunger in rural, impoverished and underserved West Michigan communities. We will be serving up to 500 free, nutritious meals per week to these food insecure communities. God's Roamin' Kitchen food truck will be able to **provide 100 meals each day in one of 5 designated communities** identified for their high concentrations of food insecure families. These locations will also serve as sites for regular, scheduled, pop-up services such as health screenings in partnership with Mercy Health and agency referrals by community health and resource specialists. This will assist isolated or at-risk residents to connect and integrate into the available community resources designed to improve health and wellbeing.

Adequate nutrition and healthy eating is a core, underlying, social determinant of health. Alarmingly, statistics show that **12.5% of Michigan residents are food insecure**. This was further evidence in the most recent Kent County Health Needs Assessment which highlighted that poor nutrition is a top health-related priority in our community. Disturbingly, the CHNA report highlights that almost 1 in every 5 residents has experienced running out of food in the past 6 months and we know too that food insecurity is even higher among children, seniors and BIPOC communities. It is in this context that we at Catholic Charities West Michigan view the relaunch of the God's Roamin' Kitchen food truck as both a critical answer to Jesus' call to "feed the hungry" and to remedy a key factor for poor healthcare outcomes in vulnerable West Michigan communities.

## WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED

In response to the call to walk with mothers in need, we are joining the force of Catholics across Michigan to lend a hand to mothers and children on their journey to long term success and flourishing. Catholic Charities West Michigan will work in partnership with parishes to walk alongside mothers throughout their pregnancy and the early years of their child's life. Since our inception, we have cared deeply for both the mother and baby through our programs. We are thrilled to further our reach into the community to aid mothers and children on their journey to prosperity. From providing physical immediate needs, to offering services like parenting classes, CCWM is ready to answer the call to walk alongside mothers in need of extra love and support.

# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## RAISING HOPE (AT HOME)

Raising Hope (at home) was our second virtual event, and again it was a great success! Bill Barkeley joined us as our keynote speaker this year during our livestreamed program. Bill is a West Michigan native who was the first deaf-blind person to run the Boston Marathon, has climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, and hiked the 500-mile-long Camino de Santiago pilgrimage (Way of St. James) from France to Spain. The virtual program **raised a record \$124,527** for our vital programs.

## SOUP'S ON FOR ALL!

Our popular Soup's On For All event looked different again this year, due to COVID-19. Ticket holders were still able to support God's Kitchen, while enjoying delicious soups made by our God's Kitchen chefs and local restaurants, Panera artisan bread, a dessert, a hand-painted soup bowl, and a free restaurant soup punch card. Thanks to the support of the community, we were able to **raise over \$94,000** for our hungry brothers and sisters in need.

## INVESTING IN HOPE

This weeklong event was held in June to highlight the programs of CCWM in Muskegon. We had a fun week celebrating our staff, clients, and the work that we do along the lakeshore. To wrap up the week, we were able to celebrate the opening of our new Muskegon campus with a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house. Community members were able to tour our new facilities, and check out our expanded and new programs like the St. Gianna Baby & Toddler Pantry. These expansions and program implementations would not be possible without the support of community partners, who collectively helped us **raise over \$78,000** for our Muskegon programming.

## CONFIDENT KIDS

In August, we celebrated our first annual Confident Kids event. On this special day, hundreds of children came to enjoy a day that was truly all about them! The children in our care celebrated their unique identities, their diversity, and felt truly special. **We had over 30 stylists, braiders, beauticians, and barbers** across West Michigan gather to offer haircuts, styles, and braiding to all of the foster children in our care. The families also filled backpacks up with school supplies, so they could feel confident and ready to go into the new school year. Lastly, families were able to cool off with free snow cones from Kona Ice and leave with gift cards for their whole family to Chick-Fil-A!





With humble gratitude, the staff and board of Catholic Charities West Michigan thanks you for your support of our mission and vision this year! Each day, we work to feed the hungry, counsel those who struggle, and build strong families. We hope that the contents in this annual report were informative and affirming of your support for our work, which is unparalleled in its efforts to bring the mercy and love of Christ to everyone it serves.

## HOW TO HELP

### DONATE

We are sustained by the generosity of our donors who join us in working to love, to serve, and to teach our neighbors in need.

For information about how to help, call 616.356.6207 or visit [ccwestmi.org/donate](http://ccwestmi.org/donate)

### VOLUNTEER

Our volunteers are an army of selfless people who lend their time and talents so that others' lives can be improved.

For information about how you can help, please visit [ccwestmi.org/volunteer](http://ccwestmi.org/volunteer)

## HOW TO CONTACT

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST MICHIGAN

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### PHILANTHROPY TEAM

Working to gather support and expand our mission through fundraising, marketing, communications, and special events, please contact our staff members to the right.

**40 JEFFERSON AVE. SE  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503**

**1720 PARK ST.  
MUSKEGON, MI 49441**



**CCWESTMI.ORG/DONATE**