

COMMUNITY REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2019 CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF ST. LOUIS

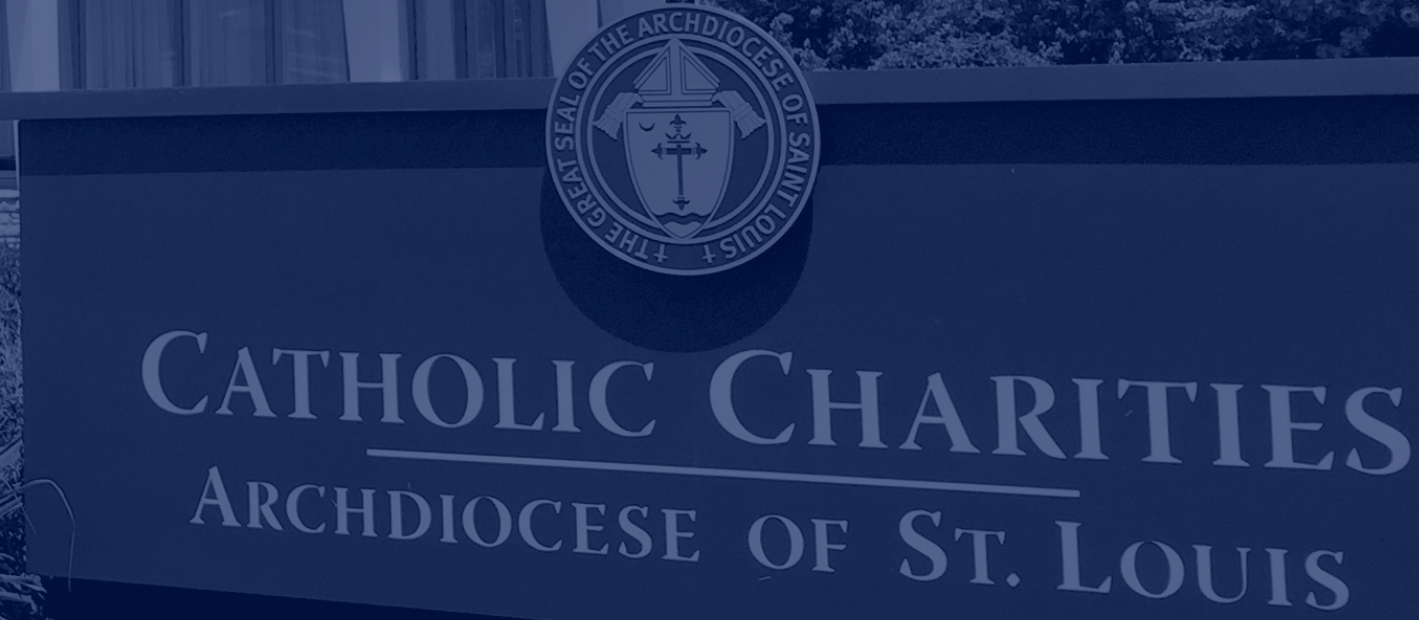


Ka'layah threw out a pitch at a 2019 Catholic Charities of St. Louis Go to Bat for Kids game at Busch Stadium.

EIGHT ORGANIZATIONS. ONE CAUSE. A STRONGER COMMUNITY.

In response to the teachings of Jesus Christ, our mission is to serve people in need, especially those who are poor and vulnerable; work to improve social conditions for all people in the community; and to call members of the Church and community to do the same.

- CARDINAL RITTER SENIOR SERVICES
- GOOD SHEPHERD CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES
- MARYGROVE
- QUEEN OF PEACE CENTER
- SAINT LOUIS COUNSELING
- SAINT MARTHA'S HALL
- ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY SERVICES
- ST. PATRICK CENTER



A MESSAGE FROM THERESA E. RUZICKA President

Dear Friends:

Thank you! You are truly mission partners in our work, bringing hope and healing to vulnerable people in our community. Because of you, Catholic Charities is one of the largest nonprofit social services organizations in both our region and state.

As our community struggles with challenges, old and new, we continue to think of solutions and ways we can improve. We strive to innovate and over the years have come to be known for ideas and programs at the forefront of social services. In our 2019 fiscal year, our innovative and collaborative approach was especially fruitful:

Working with Queen of Peace Center, we answered Archbishop Carlson's call to bring health care to some of the Archdiocese's poorest counties by developing and launching the Rural Parish Clinic. The mobile clinic is now its own nonprofit ministry as part of the Archdiocese.

Partnering with Catholic health care systems, we were chosen as one of five cities to pilot Catholic Charities USA's Healthy Housing Initiative, focused on connecting people who are homeless and frequent users of emergency care services with housing and primary care. Our lead agency for this initiative is St. Patrick Center.

Working with St. Francis Community Services, our Pathways to Progress program completed its third

year and recently graduated nine inaugural members on promising paths to financial independence. This program serves families in North St. Louis County with plans to expand into North St. Louis City.

We remain mission-driven and focused on supporting our family of eight agencies so they are equipped to serve clients with excellence. To care for those who care for others, we began the Luke 10:35 Employee Emergency Assistance Fund in May 2019. Luke 10:35 offers one-time financial aid to employees experiencing temporary hardship due to serious illness, accidents, home damage caused by fire, crime, or natural disaster, or similar crises. The fund has already assisted seven employees and their families.

As a friend, you help make all of this, and much more, possible. Together, in Christ's name, we are building a stronger community where all have opportunities to thrive.

With sincere gratitude,

Theresa E. Ruzicka
President
Catholic Charities of St. Louis





A MESSAGE FROM JAY HOLLAND

Board President

Dear and Valued Friends,

Catholic Charities of St. Louis achieved much in Fiscal Year 2019, thanks to your prayers and financial support. While successes were many, challenges remain and the need continues.

Catholic Charities serves our disadvantaged brothers and sisters regardless of faith, in keeping with the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are driven by the words of Christ, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Catholic Charities' federated agencies provide an amazing array of services including: safe environments for children to grow, live and learn; housing for mothers overcoming abuse and substance use disorders; meals and housing for the homeless; housing and care for the frail and elderly; counseling for those facing daunting challenges; and assistance for those suffering from mental illness. Catholic Charities serves as a refuge and is often the last resort for abused, neglected and marginalized members of society.

Last year more than 103,500 people benefitted from Catholic Charities of St. Louis services. More than half of those served

live below the Poverty Level (\$25,100 for a family of four). It is an incredibly heartwarming experience to see the immense joy of clients who have achieved success and been empowered to live safe, independent and productive lives!

On behalf of the Board and Staff at Catholic Charities, our volunteers and, most importantly, the clients we serve, we humbly and appreciatively say "Thank You" for your prayers and financial assistance. You are an integral part of our team and mission. With your help, together we are making a difference, changing lives and building a stronger community. Be an ambassador, and please share our story and the mission of Catholic Charities of St. Louis!

May God continue to bless you and your families!

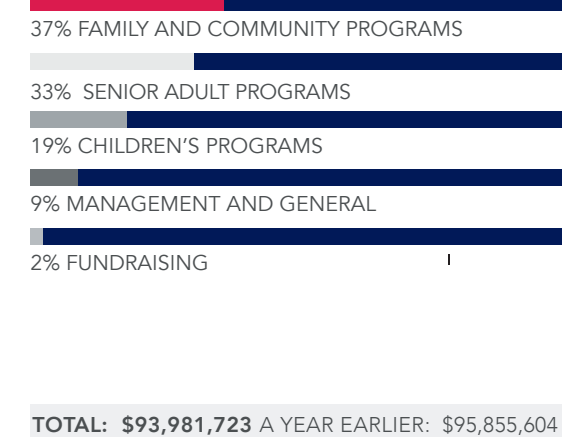
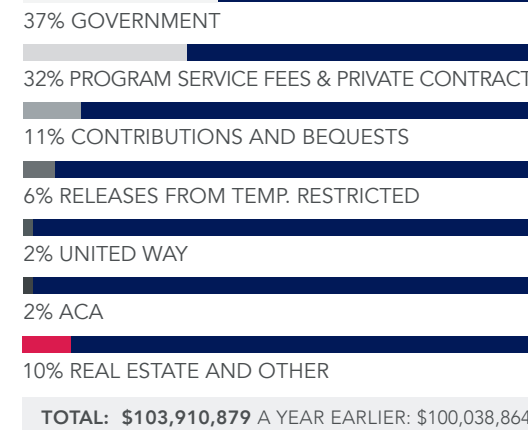
Sincerely yours,

Joseph F. Holland, II
Board Chair

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

FEDERATION-WIDE REVENUES & EXPENSES

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019



Net assets of our federation totaled \$42,124,787 at June 30, 2019, compared to \$33,882,029 a year earlier.

Operating expenses decreased by 2% from year prior, primarily due to a lower doubtful receivables expense. Improved billing processes resulted in fewer receivables collection delays.

Management and fundraising costs were 9% and 2%, respectively, of total expenses, from 7% and 2%, respectively, in the preceding year. Nonprofit accounting rules changed during the past year. Allocation of personnel-related costs between program functions and management functions became stricter, resulting in some supervisory and support roles being reclassified.

The remaining 89% of expenses were dedicated to programs that improve the quality of life of our community. The split among family and community (37%), senior adults (33%) and children (19%) is almost unchanged from the preceding year (38%, 33% and 20%, respectively).

A revenue increase of 4% from the preceding year was primarily due to a net gain of \$9,131,592 on real estate sales.

Unrestricted contributions and bequests decreased by 11%. Releases of restricted contributions decreased by 39%. Fees from program services and private contracts decreased by <1%.



Representatives for the Central Office and eight agencies met with legislators in Jefferson City at the inaugural Catholic Charities Day at the Capitol.

ADVOCACY: BEING A VOICE FOR THOSE WE SERVE

True to our mission, Catholic Charities advocates for those we serve. Catholic Social Teaching calls us to champion for those who are marginalized by society and to participate in the political process. As Archbishop Robert Carlson reminds us, “Catholics must be informed, active, and responsible participants in the political process. They must be knowledgeable about the political process and have a grasp of the moral dimensions of issues facing society.” (www.archstl.org)

The Catholic Charities Advocacy Department, supported by a board of directors’ Mission Integration & Advocacy Committee and cross-federation Advocacy Council, lead the federation’s advocacy efforts. The department also benefits from the expertise of the Missouri Catholic Conference – the Church’s state public policy agency –and several coalitions with whom Catholic Charities works.

Our advocacy work is guided by annually established policy priorities that are approved by the board of directors. Our fiscal 2019 policy priorities included:

- Supporting state policy which generates sufficient revenue to fund necessary programs for vulnerable people in our state, including those provided by our agencies, and is consistent with moral principles announced by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- Supporting health policies designed to make health care accessible to all and with a particular focus on increasing access to behavioral health care.

- Supporting incentives for the construction and maintenance of low-income housing.

To engage community members, outreach efforts included:

- Presenting at local Catholic high schools and parishes and to aspiring social workers at Saint Louis University.
- Hosting a poverty simulation for 90 people facilitated by the Community Action Agency of St. Louis County.
- Participating on panels at Missourians to End Poverty’s 2018 Poverty Summit and the 2018 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, D.C.
- Guest speaking on Saint Louis Counseling’s “Mental Health Matters” podcast.

A Vibrant Young Professionals Group Energizes Our Mission

Catholic Charities of St. Louis Young Professionals engage with like-minded peers, encounter Christ through charity, and promote the works of Catholic Charities. Events are open to all interested young adults. Opportunities are also available to serve on the CCSTLYP core leadership team, which meets monthly.

In fiscal year 2019, CCSTLYP hosted:

- “Meet the Agencies” Happy Hour at Tapped in Maplewood
- Bring-a-Toy Christmas Party at Dunn & Miller, PC, in Town & Country
- Volleyball Night with the teens living at Marygrove in Florissant

- Learning into Action Speaker Series at Schlafly Bottleworks in Maplewood
 - Homelessness in St. Louis with St. Patrick Center CEO Laurie Phillips
 - Mental Health Matters with Saint Louis Counseling Executive Director Tom Duff
- Ask the Board: “Living Catholic Values in the Workplace” at CCSTL Central Office

To learn more, join the mailing list, and keep up with the latest CCSTLYP news, visit www.ccstl.org/get-involved/young-professionals and follow @CCSTLYoungProfessionals on Facebook.



“While Catholic Charities is serving 130,000-plus free meals annually, they don’t ask people if they are Catholic. They just ask if they are hungry. Every day, thousands of Catholic Charities employees and volunteers are ready with open arms to welcome people seeking help and hope. I am continually inspired, challenged, and motivated by both those who serve and those who are served.” –Ryan Beckmann, Board President, CCSTL Young Professionals

To engage employees and board members, educational offerings included:

- Quarterly “Lunch ‘n Learn” sessions to better understand community issues impacting our clients.
- Training sessions for staff and board members to review pending legislation related to our policy priorities.

Other advocacy activities included:

- Hosted Catholic Charities Day at the Capitol for Catholic Charities leaders, staff, and board members from all four Catholic Charities organizations across the state to gather in Jefferson City and meet with legislators.
- Oversight of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, awarding more than \$143,000 in grants to fellow advocates within the Archdiocese of St. Louis.
- Co-chairing the sustainability committee for the Missouri Child Psychiatry Access Project, an initiative to ensure access to psychiatry to every child in Missouri who needs it.

To learn more about our advocacy efforts and policy priorities, visit www.ccstl.org/get-involved/advocacy/



Saint Louis Counseling Executive Director Tom Duff hosts a podcast to help break down stigma associated with mental health issues.



Saint Louis Counseling was well-represented at Catholic Charities Day at the Capitol

AN IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Thanks to you, we are empowering people to make positive, permanent changes and to lead more self-sufficient, dignified lives.



Catholic Charities of St. Louis has been helping people in need since 1912. Organized today as a federation of eight agencies, we serve the 11 counties within the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Together we are working to build stronger communities, one person at a time.

This federation impact snapshot, though by no means meant to reflect every service we provide, illustrates our two-pronged approach to care: first providing for urgent basic needs and then addressing longer-term barriers to stability and self-sufficiency.

103,517

people benefitted from Catholic Charities Federation services

58%

of people we served lived below the federal poverty line (\$25,100 for a family of four)

16,153

children were served directly through foster care, residential placements, counseling, after-school programs, and other services

132,607

meals were served to people who are poor and hungry

5,221

older adults were housed, fed, counseled, or received some other services

1,270

veterans received legal, counseling, housing, and other supportive services

21,771

individuals received interpretation or translation services.

88,307

volunteer hours

95%

of clients reported satisfaction with services received

Impact figures are measured by calendar year. The above reflect the last calendar year figures available, 2018.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES TAKES STEPS TO PROVIDE TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

At some time in our lives, most of us will experience trauma, defined as a perceived threat or a public or private experience/event that is deeply distressing or disturbing. This is especially true for our clients.

Recognizing that trauma touches every aspect of our wellbeing – our behavior, relationships, school and work performance, physical and mental health – Catholic Charities has committed to becoming a community leader in providing Trauma Informed Care (TIC).

A Trauma Informed approach includes:

- Realizing the widespread impact of trauma and understanding potential paths for recovery
- Recognizing the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved in our work

- Responding by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices
- Resisting re-traumatization

In 2018, the cross-federation Quality Improvement Committee formed a Trauma Informed Sub Committee. This group developed an action plan to continually train and coach employees in TIC best practices and to ensure all agencies operate with a trauma informed perspective that is reflected in policies and procedures, board and management commitment, and physical environment.

Treating trauma, lessening the impact of the resulting stress, and enhancing resilience in both clients and the employees who accompany them through their trauma, are goals we are striving to achieve as a trauma-informed federation. By making this commitment, we are equipping ourselves to provide the hope and healing that are essential for healthy and strong individuals, families and communities.

OUR AGENCIES



Senior adults find friendship and compassionate, skilled care at the CRSS Adult Day Program.

CARDINAL RITTER SENIOR SERVICES

Cardinal Ritter Senior Services provides compassionate care for senior adults through a continuum of high quality residential, healthcare and supportive social services.

The CRSS Adult Day Program has been providing professional, compassionate, community-based services in a group setting for 30 years. Adults who are isolated, socially or physically impaired, or limited in their ability to function independently engage in day program activities designed to provide stimulation and motivation, enhance self-image, and help maintain or improve function levels.

SAINT MARTHA'S HALL

Saint Martha's Hall offers emergency, confidential shelter and support services to women who are victims of domestic violence and their children. In fiscal 2019, the agency provided shelter for 124 women and 131 children who were forced to flee their homes to escape abuse; offered support and information to more than 2,500 hotline callers; and provided follow-up services to 51 women.

In 2019, the Eastern District Missouri Court of Appeals reviewed a criminal domestic violence case in which a Saint Martha's Hall representative served as an expert witness. One issue in question was the use of expert witnesses to provide insights on domestic abuse and victim behavior, something Saint Martha's Hall staff consider crucial to helping juries and judges make informed rulings. The appeals court upheld the use of an expert witness. This decision set an important precedent, paving the way for more prosecutors to call upon expert witnesses and encouraging more advocates to seek expert witness training.

Saint Martha's Hall provided support for 13 women navigating the judicial system in fiscal 2019.



Shown at a Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence advocacy event in Washington, D.C., are (left to right) MCADSV Public Policy Director Jennifer Carter Dochler, Saint Martha's Hall Executive Director Michelle Schiller-Baker (retired Dec. 2019), Congresswoman Ann Wagner, and Saint Martha's Hall Executive Director (effective Jan. 2020) Jessica Woolbright.



The Bohnert family generously shares their story to encourage others considering adoption.

GOOD SHEPHERD CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Good Shepherd Children & Family Services connects children with families and keeps families connected by providing the highest quality maternity shelter, crisis pregnancy, foster care and adoption services. In fiscal year 2019, the agency served 155 children with foster care-related services and 53 families with adoption services.

A Family Story

Good Shepherd accompanied Matt and Lauren Bohnert on their adoption journey. Lauren recalls that after their home study, family members prayed a St. Gianna novena on their behalf. "Within weeks, a woman chose us to adopt her baby," said Lauren. "On the Feast of St. Gianna, we went to the hospital to meet our daughter Claire."

The wait to adopt again was longer and included a failed adoption. The Bohnerts returned home on the Feast of St. Clare without the baby they planned to name Luke. They believed God was telling them to focus on Claire for the time being. A few months later – on the feast of St. Luke – a birth mother asked the Bohnerts to parent her unborn baby. Soon after they welcomed their son Ben.

"We've been so blessed by adoption as a way to grow our family," said Lauren. "Our adoption journey has taught us patience, and that God had a beautiful plan for our family all along!"

SAINT LOUIS COUNSELING

Saint Louis Counseling serves individual and families of all backgrounds through professional counseling, school-based services, training, and psychiatry services throughout the 11 counties of the Archdiocese.

SLC is helping lead Catholic Charities' efforts to become a fully Trauma Informed Federation (see page 9). In 2019, clinicians from the agency's long-standing Trauma Informed Team continued an ongoing series of related employee trainings.

SLC took their expertise into area schools, too, teaching faculty members trauma-informed practices and providing coaching that involved individualized intensive education and consultation on trauma and being trauma informed.

The agency also continued its mission to help break down stigma associated with mental illness through 35 episodes of its Mental Health Matters podcast and 30 community appearances in 2019.



As part of the School Partnership Program, therapy-dog-in-training Daisy recently visited St. John the Baptist (St. John Gildehaus) School.



Betsy and Camila enjoy the youth program at SPCS's Southside Center where bilingual staff help guide students through art, sports, games, and emotional lessons to foster social growth and development, as well as tutoring and homework assistance to help them progress in school.

ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY SERVICES

St. Francis Community Services works with marginalized populations to provide culturally competent legal aid and social services that support dignity and hope, and promote equal access to justice for their clients.

SFC has strengthened its commitment to serve our immigrant neighbors. They started by increasing advocacy efforts through the St. Louis Archdiocesan Immigration Task Force, connecting with clergy and the faithful to advocate for state and local policies supporting the dignity of immigrants. Additionally, the agency worked with community partners to offer clinics assisting immigrants in filing *pro se* asylum petitions.

SFCS also reimagined programming to address changing client needs. When bilingual therapists noticed many unaccompanied minors were unfamiliar with U.S. legal, educational, and social structures, they created a program to help young people navigate these systems. As many bilingual youth program participants began entering their teens, a group was formed to help parents understand their children's emotions and growth at this transitional phase.



Todd finds peace in the recently-completed chapel at St. Patrick Center.

ST. PATRICK CENTER

St. Patrick Center provides opportunities for self-sufficiency and dignity to people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Individuals and families build permanent, positive change in their lives through safe and affordable housing, sound mental and physical health, employment, and financial stability.

A Hope & Faith Story

SPC placed 364 clients and their families into housing last year, including Todd, who says God took him "the long way around to the right path."

Todd grew up in an upper-middle class family, never wanting for anything. When drugs came into his life, everything fell apart. He ended up in prison and later on the streets. Arriving at SPC's Shamrock Club with no shoes on his feet, he decided to change his situation.

Todd found God and his faith remains strong. "I say the rosary and read a proverb every day; I listen to the Bible on my phone and attend different masses around the city." SPC helped Todd secure an apartment, a job and a car. Todd says he continues to put God first.

SPC also helped 900 clients and their families retain housing last year, and prevented homelessness for 450.

MARYGROVE

Marygrove provides therapy and support for children, youth and families impacted by abuse, neglect or other trauma through therapeutic residential treatment and foster care, transitional and independent living, and crisis care.

A Resilience Story

Marygrove's community-based Independent Living Program provides at-risk young adults the opportunity to live on their own and thrive, while supporting them with the skills and resources they need to become successful, productive members of our community.

*Jordan came to Marygrove during his senior year of high school, after disclosing to a school counselor a history of physical, sexual and emotional abuse. He didn't feel safe at home, living with two parents who were struggling with substance use disorders. Jordan dreamed of going to college but knew he couldn't do it alone.

While at Marygrove, Jordan achieved extraordinary goals to move him towards a better life. His passion for creative writing earned him second place in the 2019 Walgreens Expressions Challenge, where he was recognized for his talent as a poet.

After being accepted into seven universities and earning nine scholarship offers, Jordan enrolled at Missouri State University. He recently completed his first semester and was named to the Dean's List. Jordan is breaking the generational cycle and now feels more confident in his future!

*Name changed to protect identity.

QUEEN OF PEACE CENTER

Queen of Peace Center provides family-centered behavioral healthcare to women with substance use disorders, their children, and their families.

St. Philippine Home, QOPC's long-term residential program for pregnant and postpartum women and their children, is one of only a few maternity homes connected to substance use disorder treatment in Missouri. The program provides a safe and therapeutic environment to promote the delivery of substance-free babies and long-term recovery support. Community partners include Alliance for Life, SSM St. Mary's WISH Center, and Generate Health.

In fiscal year 2019, 15 St. Phil babies (100%) were born substance-free!



At Marygrove, children find hope that their pasts don't have to determine their futures.



QOPC offers women hope, dignity and respect as they seek treatment for substance use and co-occurring disorders.



This St. Francis of Assisi (Oakville) group honored their favorite Cardinals fan with a Go to Bat for Kids donation, sending nine children to a game, complete with hot dogs & soda!

OUR SUPPORTERS

We could not help people without the support and generosity of our donors. Thank you!

Benefactor | \$5,000+

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Donor Spotlight: Allison Roberts

Touched by a volunteer experience at St. Patrick Center as a teenager, I have been donating to the agency for more than 30 years. It was only in recent years that I learned St. Patrick Center was just one of eight Catholic Charities of St. Louis agencies.

*I have since visited other agencies and witnessed how they assist and empower people. **The more I learn, the more I am convinced that if you love St. Louis the way I do, supporting Catholic Charities is the best way to help make our city better and stronger.***

I am proud to support an organization that is Catholic, yet serves people regardless of faith, or any criteria other than need. Jesus modeled this for us by showering compassion on those who were in most need of His healing power.

I encourage you to join me in being a part of this great mission through any combination of financial support, in-kind gifts, or volunteering that is meaningful to you, as well as sharing the good news of Catholic Charities with family, friends, colleagues, and fellow parishioners.



Catholic Charities of St. Louis traveled to Jefferson City to support tornado relief efforts.

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