

CATHOLIC CHARITIES



CATHOLIC
CHARITIES

VOICE

FALL 2022

Hope Street has a new home!

Inside:

- Day Treatment continues to help children
- Notre Dame Club's decades of volunteering
- Understanding mental health issues

A new beginning for Hope Street

Hope Street—the largest emergency youth shelter in Minnesota—recently moved from its previous location on the St. Joseph's Home for Children campus to a former assisted living facility in Minneapolis' Hiawatha neighborhood. The renovated building features 25 rooms with ensuite bathrooms, and further offers:

- ▲ Housing-focused emergency shelter for 30 youth (ages 18-24)
- ▲ Services helping youth move forward in the housing continuum
- ▲ Case management for youth living in permanent Hennepin County homes

"It's been a huge transition," said Hope Street's senior program manager Molly McInerny. "Youth really enjoy their privacy."

Each night, nearly 5,000 young people across Minnesota are without a home. Last year, Hope Street staff were forced to turn

away 1,000 youth because of limited resources. Unfortunately, young people experiencing homelessness face significant disparities: 80 percent who access Hope Street services are from BIPOC communities, and many identify as LGBTQ+.



Over 20 years, Hope Street has served thousands of youth. With an average stay of just 39 days, staff have a brief window to prevent homelessness from becoming their future.

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What footprints will you leave behind?

Everyone leaves footprints. They are made by the positive impressions our lives leave on others. Through thoughtful estate planning and making a will, we have the ability to make an impact in the sand, helping others to recall our values and our impact. Have you made your will?

We can provide you with a free Estate Planning Guide to help you protect your estate and family. Call 612-204-8374 to request your free copy, or online at cctwincities.giftlegacy.com.

The impact of anonymous donors

In the past, we have made a point to share stories of individuals and families who have made wonderful gifts to our programs that deliver substantial impact. In fact, over 15,000 individuals make gifts to Catholic Charities each year to help our clients break through barriers, find affordable housing and discover ways to thrive in life. Through storytelling, we've been able to spotlight donors' passion for programs and individuals and the reasons behind their philanthropy.

But Catholic Charities also receives many gifts from individuals who prefer not to be recognized. Each

year, we receive over 600 anonymous gifts, totaling more than \$500,000. Almost 50 percent of planned gifts are anonymous. These gifts come from incredible donors who give because they are in a place to do so and want to help. Many want to be part of the solution and give generously because it's part of their value system. Some give as an act of worship, because they feel called to provide for those who face challenges along life's journey.

Catholic Charities offers a heartfelt 'thank you' to all those who support our clients and guests through anonymous giving. We are grateful for each of you and your selfless support. Although we don't publicly recognize you, please know that many lives are forever changed because of your impactful giving. Thank you.

Healing together

When Ethan was young, his mom, Amy, was in an abusive relationship. When Amy made the difficult decision to leave, she took Ethan and his three siblings with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. They are safe now, but Amy soon realized that Ethan needed help navigating the trauma he experienced.

It took a long time to find the right supports. At first, Amy took Ethan to the emergency room about once a week. Then she tried partial mental health hospitalization programs. While the programs kept Ethan busy, they weren't helping him heal or grow. Finally, Ethan was referred to the **Children's Day Treatment** program at Catholic Charities.

Day Treatment provides children (ages 6-14) with mental health care combined with academic programming tailored to their needs. Each day includes two hours of social- and trauma-skills training, one hour of group therapy, and traditional classes taught by independent teachers.

"This is the only program that has helped," Amy said.

Ethan says his favorite things to learn are coping skills and math. He also loves to draw, color, and paint. Amy hopes that one day he will be an engineer, construction worker, or maybe a graphic designer. "I've come so far," Ethan said.

Now that he is better able to mitigate the impact of his trauma, Amy is getting to know her son for what feels like the first time in years. "I feel like I have my little boy back!"

**Pseudonyms and stock photography were used to honor the privacy of this child and his family.*



Supporting mental health and housing stability for everyone

“Opportunity for everyone means everyone,” believes Michael Kaup, a Case Manager on the **Housing-Focused Behavioral Health Support team**. One of four professionals on a small-but-mighty team, Michael supports the mental health needs of clients at the **Dorothy Day Place** campus in St. Paul.

Catholic Charities created the team in 2021 after experiencing a lack of community services focused on the mental health of people experiencing homelessness. Services range from securing medical assistance, to arranging transportation to appointments, to chemical dependency treatment referrals, as well as helping clients get stable housing.

Recently, Case Manager Ronnell Nadeau supported a client discharged from the hospital to Dorothy Day Place, homeless for the first time.

In a wheelchair, the client’s legs were swollen to a degree he could not stand. The hospital was unable to procure nursing home placement, but in just two weeks, Ronnell was able to secure emergency medical assistance and also acquiring placement in a Twin Cities nursing home.

The ending of pandemic-related emergency funding has resulted in significantly more homeless adults seeking our services. Evictions are on the rise now that rental assistance funds have dried up. Consequently, the number of clients with acute needs has surged. “As our team is limited, our efforts are directed toward those whose health and safety is most at risk,” said Kaup. “As a result, many vulnerable clients go without support as we focus on the most intense crisis.”



Elected officials make decisions every day

on important issues that impact you and the future of our communities, like access to housing and healthcare, education, transportation and neighborhood safety.

Catholic Charities encourages all eligible voters to participate in this year’s election, because your voice matters. Visit cctwincities.org/advocate for nonpartisan voter resources—including a candidate conversation guide focused on issues of housing and homelessness as well as links to voter registration and finding your polling place. Make your plan to vote today!

IESHA’S HOPE... HER OWN WORDS



I grew up in Missouri, part of a big family and began working when I was 16. I became homeless for two years, living with family and friends.

Then last year I was shot—I was in the wrong place at the wrong time, causing damage to my scapula and spine. I was affected by it almost every day. It is not as bad now. It was hard to spend a year inside; I never went anywhere. I was ready to move. Through connections, my sister found **Hope Street**. It is a big change. I am not used to being by myself. I am starting over.

This new building feels homey. It has way more privacy; I can change the air...and take a shower when I want. I sleep better. My case manager has been a big, big, big help. I’m about to get housing and better opportunities for a job.

I am also pregnant and ready to start my own family, but a little nervous. I don’t feel like my life is over. I push myself to get out more. I try to do better. I wasn’t going to be able to do that if I was in that same unsafe environment.

A new beginning for Hope Street

(Continued from page 1)

Hope Street’s new home is in an active neighborhood offering easy access to public transit, allowing youth to travel to school and work. “It’s been great here—neighbors look out for each other. We’re looking at catering in weekly meals from local restaurants, so we can further connect youth with the neighborhood,” said McNerny.



“This new welcoming space will help us engage with youth in more ways, allowing us to build a real sense of community.”

—Molly McNerny, Hope Street Senior Manager

Investments from the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, and key donors enabled Catholic Charities to purchase the facility. Youth moved into their new home in June.

Congratulations to our Northside graduates!



We’re so proud of the 13 young learners that graduated from **Northside Child Development Center’s** preschool program this year. This coming fall, they’ll be even more prepared as they continue their journey as lifelong learners.

**Great job,
young grads!**

Strong board leadership recognized

Board Chair **Kathleen Erickson DiGiorno** was recently named to the Twin Cities Business list of "2022 Notable Nonprofit Board Members." CEO Michael Goar nominated Kathy, recognizing her leadership of the organization through a period of tremendous need in our community, enabling us to support our most vulnerable residents.

Lynette Dumalag was also named to the list. She was nominated by the Urban Land Institute Minnesota. Lynette joined our board in 2020 and currently leads the Planning and Program Development Committee and serves on the Executive Committee. We are grateful for all of our strong, committed board members!

TWIN CITIES BUSINESS



Well done, Andy Martin

We are proud to announce that Andy Martin, who has been working with youth at Catholic Charities for over 45 years, has been honored with the 2022 Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Award from Catholic Charities USA. Each year, this national award recognizes a Catholic Charities employee who has shown an outstanding commitment to serving youth and families. Andy's work has changed many lives, and he has truly earned this wonderful distinction.

Congratulations, Andy!



CATHOLIC
CHARITIES
of St. Paul and Minneapolis

VOICE

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES SERVES THOSE MOST IN NEED.

A message from our board

As we enter this fall season, I can't help but reflect on my past three years as Board Chair. When I stepped into this role, I could not have anticipated what we as a community would experience. A pandemic, racial reckoning at the local and national levels, and an underlying current of fear for the unknown presented challenges for us all. Watching the Catholic Charities team problem-solve on the ground, safely provide services, and share their compassion with the people we serve—while being exhausted and putting themselves at risk every day—was truly awe-inspiring. More recently, it has been incredible to witness the openings of nearly 200 apartments at **Endeavors Residence** (which puts Catholic Charities at over 1,000 apartments in the Twin Cities); a new administrative center; and **Hope Street**, a new emergency shelter for youth experiencing homelessness.

For me, fall is a season of gratitude for the work done by our committed Catholic Charities team members, board members, volunteers, and supporters. I am excited that Board Member Desirae Butler will become our Chair in 2023. Desirae's personal and professional experience comes at a wonderful time for the agency. I am grateful to her and to every person who supports those most in need.

Kathleen Erickson DiGiorno
Chair, Board of Directors



Serving Our Community, Fighting Irish Style

Many Fighting Irish graduates call the Twin Cities home. The Notre Dame Club of Minnesota is among the most successful organizations of its kind.



Ron Leung is one standout alum who has been volunteering for years. "It's been so long since I started serving breakfast; sometime in the 1980s," Ron believes. Since then, Ron has had his fair share of memorable stories, one which involved bacon. "I used to experiment with preparing different breakfast items," he said. "We attempted cooking bacon several times, the last experience resulted in a grease fire. No damage done, but we never tried again!"

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For more than 35 years, approximately 15 Notre Dame volunteers have committed to serve breakfast on the **Dorothy Day Place** campus the second Saturday of each month. Over two shifts, volunteers both cook and serve meals to those gathered. "I've learned that guests call our day 'Notre Dame Saturday!'" said Ron.

For some, serving a meal might be their first Catholic Charities experience. "Many think it's just a meals organization," shared Ron. "But when volunteers show up, they get a better understanding of the organization's other services—and ways to give back."

"While it's meaningful to serve meals, we also enjoy interacting with guests. I think some are truly moved by the life stories of those we serve."



**Notre Dame Club of
Minnesota's Standout Stats**
(Since 1989)

81,600 breakfasts—and counting!
12,240 volunteer hours
1,632 volunteers (occasional)
50 Notre Dame alumni who
regularly volunteer

READ JIM ANDERSON'S VOLUNTEER STORY AT [CCTWINCITIES.ORG/NOTRE-DAME-CLUB](https://cctwincities.org/notre-dame-club)