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Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans provides life-giving programs that deliver health and human services to the most vulnerable and needy throughout 8 civil parishes in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. We serve people regardless of race, religion, age, ethnicity or economic status.

A Community of Faith, Hope and Love in 2014

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

During the Christmas and New Year's holiday, I was called to travel to Le Mans, France to the headquarters of the Marianite Congregation with several of my Sisters. While there, my fellow sisters and I worked on several issues affecting our community. Throughout our dialogue, I could not help but reflect on our Catholic Charities family and the community we serve through our daily work in each of our chosen vocations. Despite challenges and sometimes conflicting points of view, each of us at Catholic Charities work as an integral part of a community of care, each of us taking our mission of service to heart and putting it in action every day. I gave thanks for this community our staff continues to nurture.

As we welcome 2014, I look forward to the many opportunities and new possibilities that a new year always brings. I want to take a brief look back at some of the highlights of service our Catholic Charities family was able to accomplish this past year. Last year, Catholic Charities served 105,594 people including:

- **1,795** students of all ages through our educational programs such as ESL, Head Start and Summer Witness Camps.
- **245** hearing impaired individuals with 5,638 hours of sign language interpreting through our Deaf Action Center.
- **488** homeless who received food and shelter through our homeless services.
- **781** individuals and families in the wake of Hurricane Isaac with services including case management, direct assistance and rebuilding assistance.

- **765** women and mothers through ACCESS Pregnancy and Referral Centers.
- **70** physically and developmentally disabled people who received a home or in-home loving care through Padua Community Services.
- **9** children who found loving permanent homes through Adoption Services.

These numbers, however, do not tell the whole story and impact of our work. It is in the hands and hearts of our many staff members that the mission of our work is lived in our community. It is in the faces of our clients and the hope that our services bring that make an impact. It is by your support and prayers that we continue to find a renewed spirit of service. As we embark on this new year, please continue to keep our staff and clients in your prayers.

There is always much work to be done, but we at Catholic Charities are ready to take on 2014's challenges with a renewed sense of love and stewardship for our brothers and sisters in need. Plus, if you are looking for ways to get involved in your community this year, this issue offers several ideas from volunteering to mentoring and parenting. We hope you will join us as we continue to nurture a community of faith, hope and love in 2014.

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C.

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President & CEO




The Newsletter of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans

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ACCESS Jazz Brunch

Sunday, April 27, 2014 ~ Audubon Tea Room

Proceeds from the annual event will benefit ACCESS Pregnancy and Referral services.

A highlight of this year's event will be the official blessing of the new ACCESS Mobile Pregnancy Center! For ticket information, contact Michelle Black, Director of Pro-Life Services, at 504-885-1141 or email mblack@ccano.org.

The ACCESS Mobile Pregnancy Center has hit the streets! Visit www.accesspregnancy.com for their current schedule of locations!

The Second Collection for Catholic Charities is February 8 & 9!

On the weekend of February 8 and 9, the annual second collection for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans will be held at all Masses throughout our archdiocese.

This collection raises crucial, undesignated dollars for Catholic Charities to respond to the needs of the poor and vulnerable. **Please remember those we serve and give generously this year!**



Isaiah 43 Teaches Parents Constructive Discipline



By Peter Finney, Jr. Originally published in the Clarion Herald. See more at: <http://clarionherald.com>.

One of Archbishop Gregory Aymond's specific responses to the epidemic of violence in the Archdiocese of New Orleans was to establish the Isaiah 43 program to offer parenting classes and mentoring programs that would help strengthen family life. Isaiah 43 continues to provide this resource through workshops across our archdiocese.

The parenting workshops consist of five, two-hour sessions for parents of 5- to 12-year-olds who want to find better ways to encourage and discipline their children. The workshops are based on an established program called "Active Parenting," and that model has been modified to include Catholic components such as Scripture, faith and prayer, said Kristina Gibson, director of Isaiah 43.

"It all starts in the home," Gibson said. "What we see in the community is the direct result of the disintegration of the family unit and the morals and

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!" Isaiah 43

the values that are not being instilled. The home is the domestic church." The workshops are designed to teach parents how to enhance respect among family members and self-esteem among children and create a relationship based on "active listening, honest communication and problem solving."

The workshops cover topics such as parenting styles, the power of encouragement, building cooperation, fostering empathy, praying creatively, resolving conflicts, using effective discipline without corporal punishment and cultivating a spirit of forgiveness.

Dinner and free childcare are offered during the sessions, which are held at several parishes across the archdiocese. About 40 workshops have been offered in the last two years. Daughter of Charity Sister Salvatrice Murphy, who just moved into the archdiocese, is now serving as program coordinator of Isaiah 43.

"Many parents are frustrated because they are trying to do the best they can, and they are frustrated because maybe they are not seeing the results they would like to see," Gibson said. "We tend to do what we know how to do, and sometimes we see parents continuing to use the methods they grew up with or the things that came from their family. We talk a lot about not using corporal punishment. We're trying to support parents with using some of the new methods of discipline."

"Nonviolent discipline can be effective," Sister Salvatrice added. "It also helps with buy-in when parents have the understanding that when we say 'nonviolent discipline,' we're not saying we want kids to get away with bad behavior. Once parents understand that they're not going to be doormats for their kids, they buy in."

Get involved, become a mentor or enhance your parenting skills in 2014! For upcoming Isaiah 43 parenting and mentoring classes, call 504-310-8772 or go to www.isaiah43.org.

Amerigroup Partners with CCANO Head Start



Catholic Charities is pleased and excited to announce that Amerigroup Louisiana has signed on as a new sponsor of our Head Start program. This sponsorship aligns

Catholic Charities Head Start with an organization whose mission is to improve health care access and quality for more than 129,000 low-income Louisiana citizens by developing innovative care management programs and services. Members are assured care that is not only accessible, but also accountable, comprehensive, integrated and patient-centered. Amerigroup Louisiana provides ongoing community relations and outreach to encourage its members to become active participants in their health care. Through health education programs, members are empowered to choose and sustain a healthy lifestyle.

Of particular interest and significance to Amerigroup Louisiana are healthy initiatives and health outcomes for children, making its sponsorship of Catholic Charities Head Start a perfect fit! Among the children's health initiatives that Amerigroup Louisiana and Catholic Charities Head Start will promote together are immunizations, well-child visits, childhood obesity prevention/healthy eating and pre/post natal check-ups for infants. When speaking about the alignment of our two organizations, Peter Lambousy, Director of Marketing for Amerigroup said, "Amerigroup Louisiana is proud to support the Catholic Charities Head Start program's mission to provide education, social services and health screenings to infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to participate in your wonderful work."

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, President and CEO of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, said of this new sponsorship, "Catholic Charities Head Start is blessed to have the commitment and support of Amerigroup, whose mission and values align well with ours. Their sponsorship of Catholic Charities Head Start will help highlight the value and importance of children's health to their success in school and in life. We look forward to working closely with Amerigroup."



Amerigroup's sponsorship of Catholic Charities Head Start program will extend to all five of our Head Start sites throughout the New Orleans community.

Head Start is a federal program that provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition and parent involvement services to all low-income children—infants, toddlers, and preschoolers—and their families. Families who qualify for Head Start earn less than 130% of the federal poverty level. In the 2012-2013 school year, Catholic Charities served 453 students through Head Start.

The new Amerigroup/Catholic Charities sponsorship will be formally announced on January 21, 2014 at St. John the Baptist Head Start. Please check our Facebook Page for photos soon!

Youth Services Receive Support from St. Elizabeth's Guild



The St. Elizabeth Guild recently raised over \$70,000 for programs serving our community's youth including Padua Community Services, Independent Living Skills Program and Head Start. Thank you to the members of the guild for their continued extraordinary support! Pictured Left: St. Elizabeth Guild leadership presents Catholic Charities' program leaders with their support at their January luncheon, with Cindy Wooderson, Diann Sanborn, Edgar Lazaro, (Padua Community Services) Kathi Mitchell, Gaynell Anderson (St. John Head Start) and Melissa Jack (Independent Living Skills Program). Pictured Right: Ashley Wooderson Keller, Maria Huete (2014 Activist Luncheon Chair) and Kathi Mitchell (2013 Activist Luncheon Chair) at the January luncheon.

**Archbishop Hannan
Community Appeal Update**

**As of January 14, 2014,
we are 77% of Goal!**

**Thank you for your continued support
as we head into the final stretch of our
campaign! For more information, to give
or get involved, contact Helen Young at
hyoung@ccano.org.**

During the 2013 Christmas season, over **125** organizations, individuals and families adopted client families in need! **179** families received toys and gifts this Christmas, for a total of **1,491** clients served!

Thank You

to our many generous donors who helped make the holiday season bright!

Volunteer in 2014!

Volunteers are essential to our programs and ministries! We are accepting volunteer applications for ongoing volunteer work across all our programs – from mentors and tutors to clerical assistants and more! Find out more about our current volunteer opportunities at an upcoming Volunteer Information Session. **All Volunteer Information Sessions are held at 4pm at 1000 Howard Avenue in New Orleans.**

Volunteer Info Sessions

- Tuesday, January 28, 2014
 - Wednesday, February 19, 2014
 - Thursday, March 20, 2014
 - Monday, April 7, 2014
 - Tuesday, May 13, 2014
 - No Orientations in June & July due to SERVE Summer Volunteer Program for High School Students.*
 - Wednesday, August 20, 2014
- Questions? Contact Volunteer Services at (504) 310-6960 or email sslackey@ccano.org.**