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# Notes from the Heart

## News from Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans

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*Archbishop of New Orleans*

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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.

## Sharing in God's Grace

### Introducing the 2014 Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal Chair-Couple: Jennifer and Mason Couvillon

Recently, our family had the opportunity to visit Incarnate Word Head Start Center on Apricot Street in New Orleans and our children - Aidan, 10, Bryce, 8, Blake, 6 and our newborn daughter, Grace - enjoyed an energetic story time with one of the Head Start classes. By the end of three storybooks, it was hard for both our kids and their new Head Start friends to say goodbye. Many hugs and high-fives were exchanged before we left.

Before going into the classroom, our youngest son had asked, "Dad, why are we here?" It was an early day in summer vacation for our kids and a work day for mom and dad. It was an unusual visit on a summer's day. Although he had known the name "Catholic Charities" around our house, this was his first real encounter with the organization. We are so glad our kids had this opportunity to experience the work of Catholic Charities in action through this visit to Head Start. It is important to us that our kids know and understand the impact of Catholic Charities on the many people it serves in our community - from the elderly to the young!

We take to heart the mantra that, "to those that much has been given, much is expected" and we try to instill this value of service to others in our children. Our involvement with Catholic Charities is truly a work of the heart and a tradition for our family. Mason's grandfather worked with Archbishop Philip Hannan in establishing the first Community Appeal to support the social services of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. We are honored to continue the tradition as the 2014 Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal Chair-Couple.



The Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal (AHCA) campaign is the annual, volunteer-driven fundraising campaign which strives to raise unrestricted funds to support the work of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans. The AHCA began in 1965, when Archbishop Hannan brought local civic and business leadership together to address the critical needs of our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Betsy. His work inspired those around him to take action by forming the first Archbishop's Community Appeal.

We are proud to help continue the work 49 years later. The funds raised through the AHCA enable Catholic Charities to address the current needs of the poor, the vulnerable and the struggling. From disaster relief to over 30 programs and ministries including adoption services, early childhood education, feeding and caring for the homeless and supporting the elderly, Catholic Charities has always evolved to effectively provide hope and help through this campaign.

We encourage you to learn more about the impact Catholic Charities is making in our community and how you can be a part of this tradition of service to others. It is our firm belief that God does not refuse Grace to those that do what they can. Being able to give is a blessing for our family and we hope you will join us. Thank you for being a partner in the mission and ministry of Catholic Charities, and for doing your part in serving the poor and vulnerable of our region. We are honored to be your partner in this endeavor.

Gratefully,

*Jennifer & Mason*

Jennifer and Mason Couvillon  
2014 Chair Couple  
Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal



Banner image: Inside the new Hope Haven Adult Day Healthcare Center on Barataria Blvd in Marrero, La.

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**Proud to #LIVEUNITED** Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans staff members participated in United Way's Running of the Flag at the August 15th pre-season Saints game at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. Proudly representing our agency were Rhonda Butler (Head Start), Chris White (Finance), Erica Martin (Counseling Solutions) and Karen Stall (Finance).

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## Doors & Enrollment Open at the New Hope Haven Adult Day Healthcare Center

On August 18, 2014, PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) and Catholic Charities was thrilled to open the doors at the new Hope Haven Adult Day Healthcare Center in the former St. John Bosco Chapel on Barataria Blvd. in Marrero. This beautifully renovated space is able to provide daytime care for up to 96 seniors and adults with disabilities. Services include daily meals, health screenings, wellness monitoring, exercise classes, field trips, music, art and intergenerational projects. Its trained staff of nursing professionals and social workers will also provide support for families of the participants.

Hope Haven Adult Day Healthcare Center invites you to stop by for a tour weekdays from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. For info, call 504-267-9690. To enroll today, call 504-835-0006. **Join Catholic Charities friends and staff at an open house celebration on September 18th from 10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Take a tour, meet the Hope Haven staff and learn more about our senior services!**



We ask for your prayerful support as we kick-off the 2014 Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal

to support the mission and work of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans. Our goal this year of \$1.6 Million will provide crucial undesignated funds that allow us to swiftly and effectively address areas of most need in our agency and in the community. To learn how you can become a part of this legacy of service and giving, contact Helen Young, Director of Development at 504-592-5688 or email [hyoung@ccano.org](mailto:hyoung@ccano.org).

**\$1.6 Million**



## Dine Out for Life September 24th!

Join us Wednesday, September 24,

4 p.m. – 11 p.m. at Ye Olde College Inn, 3000 S. Carrollton Ave. in support of ACCESS Pregnancy!

**ACCESS will receive 20% of all proceeds on this night!**

ACCESS is a pro-life program of Catholic Charities that provides free, comprehensive pregnancy support services including pregnancy testing, ultrasound, case management and material support to nearly 1,000 abortion-vulnerable women each year.

Visit [www.accesspregnancy.com](http://www.accesspregnancy.com) to learn more.

Thank you for supporting life with Catholic Charities!

For reservations, call 866-3683\*(Reservations accepted, but not



## Remembering Alden J. "Doc" Laborde

The Catholic Charities family was saddened by the passing of Alden J. "Doc" Laborde this past June. A brilliant businessman and community leader, he was at his heart, first and foremost, a man of faith. His legacy of faithful servant leadership is one that will continue to move our agency forward as we work to meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable. A longtime friend of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Mr. Laborde's involvement with Catholic Charities began 49 years ago with a fateful encounter with the then new Archbishop of New Orleans, Philip Hannan.

It was 1966 and Archbishop Hannan happened to meet Mr. Laborde in the hallway at the Chancery. At the time, the city of New Orleans was facing the daunting task of recovering after the devastation of Hurricane Betsy the year before. Much like Hurricane Katrina, Betsy brought to the forefront many of the underlying socioeconomic problems facing the people of New Orleans. Archbishop Hannan had ambitious plans to address the needs of the poor and he needed others to help him start the work. Hannan shared his plans and his predicament during this chance encounter with Mr. Laborde. On the spot, Mr. Laborde wrote him a \$25,000 check, and thus, the Archbishop's Community Appeal was born. Today, the Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal (AHCA), started by that check from Mr. Laborde, continues to make the work of Catholic Charities possible.

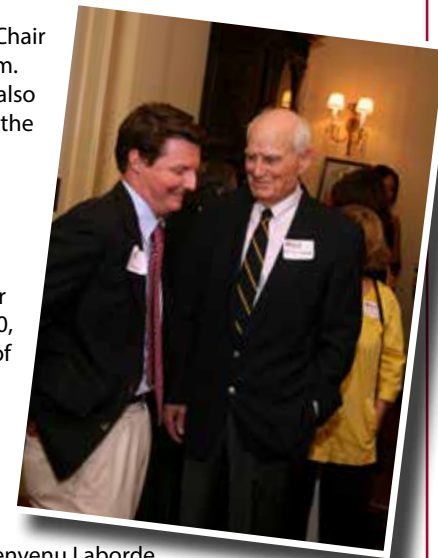
"Catholic Charities owes our history of being able to effectively and swiftly serve those most in need to people like Mr. Laborde who did not hesitate to step up and be the change for good in the face of adversities," said Sr. Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C., President and CEO of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans. "He will always be a cherished friend of Catholic Charities and we have been truly blessed and honored by his support."

"He was an extraordinary role model for all of us!" said Anne Milling, past Archbishop's Community Appeal Chair and longtime friend and colleague of Laborde. "He was a quiet philanthropist who truly lived his Catholicism. Not only did he commit his resources to Catholic Charities and many other archdiocesan programs, but he also actively committed his time to participating in the programs, bringing food boxes to poor or taking care of the needy."

Alden J. "Doc" Laborde was born on December 18, 1915 and grew up in Marksville, La. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1938 and served during World War II as a Lieutenant Commander. By applying his naval training and experience to the offshore oil industry, he designed and built the first submersible offshore drilling rig. He founded ODECO, Tidewater (NYSE), Gulf Island Fabrication (NASDAQ) and the Almar Foundation (Philanthropic). He was elected a member of the National Business Hall of Fame in 1985. In 2010, he received the inaugural award for Ethical Entrepreneurship from the Center for Spiritual Capital, College of Business, Loyola University of New Orleans. He received honorary degrees from Catholic University, Xavier University and Loyola University. He received the Paul Tulane Award as well as the Junior Achievement Lifetime Achievement Award. He was proclaimed a Knight of St. Gregory, a member of the Order of St. Louis and received the John Paul II award from the Archdiocese of New Orleans, the Martin de Porres Award from the Dominican Province as well as the Integritas Vitae Award from Loyola University.

A loving and dedicated family man, Mr. Laborde was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Margaret Bienvenu Laborde who passed in 2008. He is survived by his children, Susan L. Couvillon (Tucker, deceased), J. Monroe Laborde (Karen), Jack P. Laborde (Peggy), Stephanie B. Laborde (Darrell) and Jane L. Roussel (Carey), and 18 grandchildren.

*Pictured: Alden J. "Doc" Laborde with JT Hannan, past AHCA Chairman and great-nephew of Archbishop Philip Hannan, at the 2010 AHCA Campaign Reception.*



## Did you know? In the 2013-2014 year, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans assisted 89,028 men, women, children and families including:

- **64,268 seniors and new moms** across our state received food and nutrition through Food for Families/Food for Seniors
- **1,136 children and adults** were served through Education Services with Head Start and English as a Second Language classes
- **1,042 immigrants and refugees** received guidance and assistance through Immigration and Refugee Services
- **684 moms and families** received support through Pro-Life Services and Adoption Services
- **443 survivors of domestic violence** and their families were assisted by Project SAVE providing 2,402 hours of legal services
- **336 homeless men and women** received a total of 15,232 nights of shelter
- **305 seniors** received daily care through PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) and our Adult Day Healthcare Centers
- **68 vulnerable adults and children with disabilities** were lovingly cared for through Padua Community Services
- **54 formerly incarcerated men and women** obtained employment and hope for a new life with Cornerstone Builders
- **And more!**

