



APRIL 2022

Notes from the Heart

News from Catholic Charities Archdiocese 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.

April is all about Volunteers

Dear Friend of Catholic Charities,

This month, we are highlighting Catholic Charities volunteers who have worked to keep our many programs running smoothly. Witnessing this work reminds me of the scripture passage, **"There are different gifts but the same Spirit; there are different ministries but the same Lord; there are different works but the same God who accomplishes all of them in everyone."** 1Corinthians 12: 4-6. Recently we celebrated with several volunteer groups who generously donate their time to help pack boxes for our seniors for our Food for Seniors program. Opportunities to donate time, talent and funds to help support our 20 plus Catholic Charities programs are plentiful. Our SERVE program for high school students is currently accepting applications for those students who need service hours over this summer. We could not achieve the volume of our outreach services without the generosity of our CCANO VOLUNTEERS. Volunteering is a opportunity to bridge the gap between those we serve through our programs and those that are in service to others. As you read the following stories of volunteerism and a success story from one of our clients, I encourage you to reflect on giving of your time and talent!

God bless each of you!

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, msc
Sister Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C.
President/CEO

"...I encourage you to reflect on giving of your time and talent!"



SERVE

Students Engaging in Reflective Volunteer Experiences

Second Harvest

June 6th – 10th

June 13th – 17th

July 18th – 22nd

Food for Seniors

July 11th – 15th

Sign up: <http://www.ccano.org/serve-app>
Or Call 504-310-6962



www.ccano.org
(504) 523-3755 | ccano@ccano.org



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NEW ORLEANS



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Lois & Hope

Lois Cambre has worked for and volunteered with Catholic Charities for the past 25 years. Hope, her daughter, has followed in her footsteps for the past 20 years. Both Lois and Hope proudly serve on the ACCESS Pregnancy and Referral Center Advisory Board and the Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Council for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans.

"It's such rewarding work to help everyone in the community who are so grateful for the much needed assistance." Lois truly has a calling to be here when needed and says, "I'll always be in touch with CCANO, no matter what." In 1990, she was employed by Hope Haven Center and would volunteer at that time with setting up the Christmas Parties and summer picnics for the adolescent residents of Hope Haven Center.

Lois really feels connected to Catholic Charities pregnancy services and Right to Life programs. Lois began assisting ACCESS pregnancy services by training as a volunteer night call counselor. It was an afterhours "hotline" where anyone with questions, concerns and decisions about pregnancy were able to call and talk to someone who could offer guidance. This led to Lois being asked to join the ACCESS advisory board. The advisory board supports ACCESS with the proceeds

of its annual Jazz brunch, the Baby Bottle fundraisers, Ye Olde College Inn night and other events through the year. Hope was asked to join the ACCESS advisory board in 2014 and loves her work with fundraising events like the "baby bottle fundraisers" and speaking at churches about the fundraiser.

Along the way, Lois and Hope have also been involved with the Foster Grandparents program of CCANO where they have made life long relationships with the seniors in the program who still call her with news and updates. They have also participated in the annual Recognition events for the seniors.

Being an amazing example, Lois's daughter, Hope has continued the tradition of giving.

"I really appreciate the give and take of volunteerism," states Hope. "It's a wonderful and fulfilling experience for me to help respond to the needs of others, just learning to really listen and understand that we all come

from different experiences in life."

CCANO couldn't exist without wonderful volunteers like Lois and Hope. We are so grateful for the time and care they give to our programs and participants.



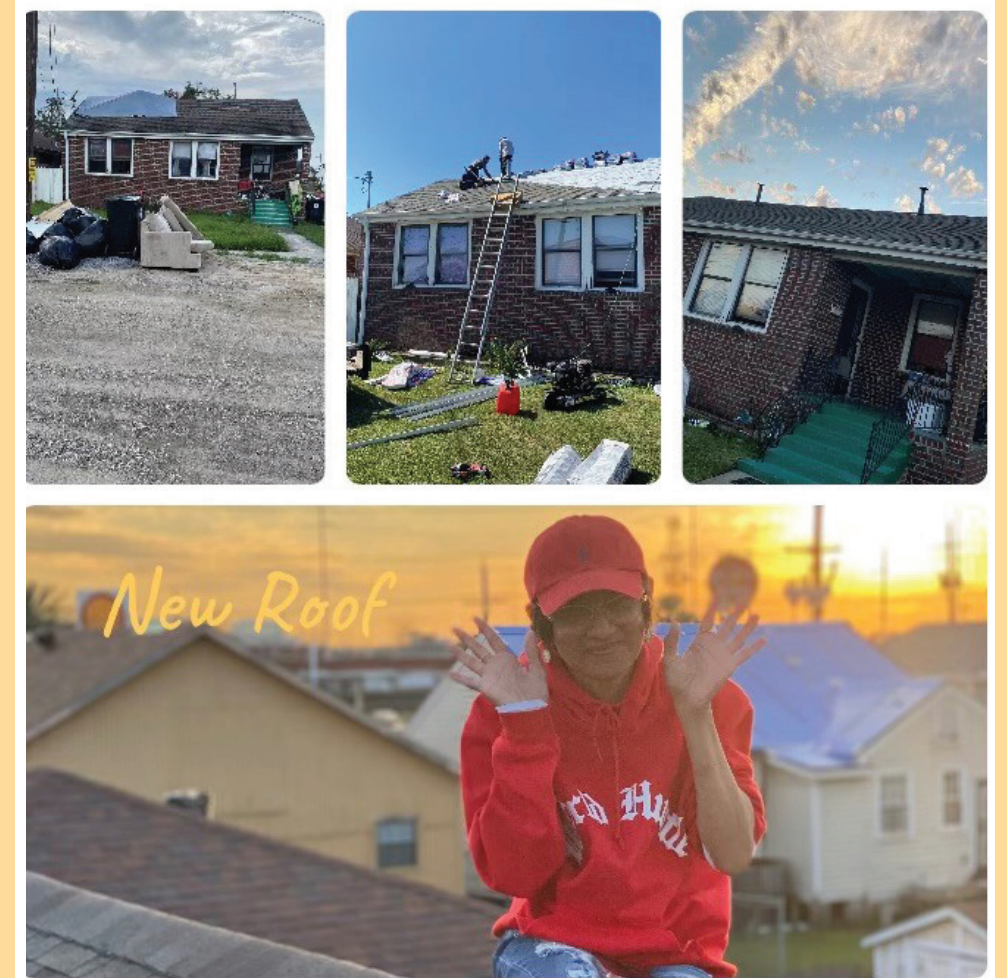
Read Across America Day at Head Start

Our Head Start students celebrated Dr. Seuss Day with colorful costumes and lots of reading! This day is used to encourage children to read and falls in March which is also Dr. Seuss's birthday. The holiday focuses on motivating children to read as this will improve their performance in school.



HURRICANE IDA SUCCESS STORY: Together We Can Make a Difference

Candace, a full time working single mother, came to Catholic Charities in great distress because she was in arrears on all of her bills. She had used whatever funding she had to repair the roof on her house from Hurricane Ida. Candace has a teenage daughter who she was afraid she would need to take out of her Catholic High School since she could not afford even the discounted tuition. Catholic Charities was able to pay two months of her mortgage, Entergy and water bills to get her back on track. Candace was given a referral to United Way of Southeast Louisiana where a case manager there is stepping in to continue to help with utility bills until she can get fully back on her own. Candace was very thankful for our help and the help from United Way. **Together we can make a difference!**



Health Guardians and Bethlehem Housing Programs Working Together for a Family

In October of 2020 the Wilson family was referred to our Health Guardians program. Dad, Mom and two sons relocated to New Orleans from Petersburg, FL due to the youngest son's mental health issues. Our Bethlehem Housing program was able to provide a home since their arrival here.

Mr. Wilson was setup with a primary care physician at Health Care for the Homeless. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's and has some ongoing back spasms due to a previous accident with a moving vehicle. Mr. Wilson was further referred to UMC for specialty care. Health Guardians provided transportation assistance and coached him how to utilize Medicaid transportation.

Health Guardians connected Mrs. Wilson to a primary care physician at Women's Clinic and encouraged her to follow up with specialty care and behavioral care. Their oldest son was connected to a primary care physician at Health Care for the Homeless Clinic and did not require any specialty services based on his physician's assessment. Health Guardians was able to assist him further by connecting him with a disability lawyer and is being encouraged by our case worker to seek behavioral counseling help to combat the stress of the family's experiences.

At the time of enrollment the Wilson's youngest son was in and out of Children's Hospital Psychology ward with ongoing crisis due to bipolar and schizophrenic diagnosis. He was connected to primary care at Children's Hospital and outpatient therapy and treatment with Epic Nola clinic with Tulane.

...Catholic Charities has been able to coordinate care for all four members of this family.

Working within two of our programs, Catholic Charities has been able to coordinate care for all four members of this family. They have been trained to use Medicaid transportation

for their appointments. Health Guardians has also educated and connected the entire family with Metropolitan Crisis Response Team to consult with before seeking emergency services. This helps keep the youngest son out of the hospital and relieves some stress on the family. Mr. Wilson is receiving disability payments and Ms. Wilson has been able to maintain employment full time. The Wilsons are grateful for the services they have received through the collaborative interventions of Catholic Charities programs.

