

NEW ORLEANS

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

This year marks the centennial celebration of Catholic Charities' founding. It means a lot to me to share this historic moment with you, our faithful friends and supporters, and to recognize the thousands of lives Catholic Charities has changed over the past 100 years. Thinking about the last century, how does one sum up the number of people that have been given a shoulder to lean on, or the number of times a case manager has been there to listen or a staff member has been there with an open heart to show that a client is valued and respected? That is a part of Catholic Charities' legacy that can't be quantified, but we more than make up for that in the success stories and memories of mothers, fathers, grandparents, and children overcoming hardship and pain. To match the scope of work of Catholic Charities is indeed a tall order. Catholic Charities assisted more than 73,000 people last year alone throughout its 23+ programs.

Over the last several months as fellow leadership and staff at Catholic Charities have been making plans to celebrate and recognize our centennial, I often find myself reflecting on the legacy of Catholic Charities and how we can commemorate the future.

During this centennial year, I am happy to usher in a renewed look forward to our next Century of Service with the Legacy Society, our new planned giving initiative, which will strengthen Catholic Charities' outreach and ensure no client is left behind for the next century: the homeless, expectant mothers, senior citizens, refugees, domestic violence survivors, the formerly incarcerated, those struggling with mental health issues and so many more.

As you assess your giving plans for the future or discuss updates to your existing estate plans, we hope you will consider including Catholic Charities in those plans. Please consider checking the planned giving box on the enclosed remittance envelope. Doing so will allow Catholic Charities to celebrate and thank you for this commitment in your lifetime and helps Catholic Charities plan for a bright future.

## "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God."

(Luke 6:20)

I believe the founders of Catholic Charities may have drawn inspiration from this scripture reading. I too hope that it will give you pause and embolden you to help in your own way to create lasting change for those in

Thank you and God Bless,

Se Marjons Hehert, mise

Sister Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C. President & CEO

Superintendent-Rev. P. M. H. Wynhoven Treasurer- Jno. X. Wegmann Secretary- W. J. Leppert These officers took office at once with Msgr. Prim in the chair. Mr. Wegmann moved that Father Wynhoven and Mr. Den echaud be authorized to secure an appropriate office site. Carried. The official name chosen was Board of Catholic Charities, Diocese of New Orleans, and the regular meeting date was fixed as the second Monday of each month at 8 P.M.

On March 21, 1924, Catholic Charities is founded by Archbishop John W. Shaw with an entirely new board consisting of Msgr. J. Francis Prim as chairman, Father Wynhoven as superintendent, John X. Wegmann as treasurer and W.J. Leppert as secretary.



Tn 1924, Catholic Charities joined the Commu-Inity Chest, a drive to raise money for local organizations helping the needy. The following is an excerpt from Archbishop Rummel's written appeal in 1935 championing the continued support of the Community Chest:

This year this community must rise to the full stature of its responsibility and end the mental agony of the faithful guardians of our city's multiplex charity service. The chest of mercy must be filled "to good measure" and pressed down and shaken together and running over." There must be no alibis, no senseless bickering about the size of the job; there must be no more heartaches among our dependents, no more headaches for those who devote their lives to caring for our helpless minority; until some genius devises a better plan, let us do the chest job honorably and fully.

"The chest of mercy must be filled to good measure and pressed down and shaken together and running over."



Archbishop Joseph Rummel



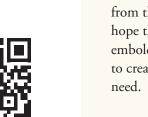
**Catholic Charities Archdiocese of** New Orleans provides life-giving programs that deliver health and human services to the most vulnerable and needy throughout 8 civil parishes in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. We serve people regardless of race, religion, age, ethnicity or economic status.

www.ccano.org 504.523.3755





Please remember Catholic Charities in your will





@cathcharitiesno



#### Board Meeting Minutes - 1924

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BOARD OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES.
MARCH 21st, 1924.
Pursuant to a call by Archbishop Jno. W. Shaw the following gentlemen assembled at the Chancellor's Office, Msgr. J. F. Prim, Very Rev. A. J. Bruening, Rev. Peter M. H. Wynhoven, and Messrs Frank L. Barker, Chas. I. Denechaud, W. J. Leppert, Leo Marrero, Allison Owen, and Jno. X. Wegmann.

Allison Owen, and Archbishop Shaw announced the need of naming a new Board of Catholic Charities and expressed his decision to constitute it of the gentlemen who had been invited to attend. He described the scope of duties as identical with the duties now performed by the Board of Catholic Charities and announced the following as the official personnelof the Board :-

Honorary Chairman-Rt. Rev. J. W. Shaw Chairman-Rt. Rev. J. Francis Prim

# **A Century of Service**

Tracing Catholic Charities' roots back to the early 1700s, the Catholic Church in Louisiana boasts a rich heritage of providing social services since the time of French exploration and settlement.

The invaluable efforts of clergy, religious, and laity have been pivotal in the Church's mission to meet basic humanitarian needs. Our commitment has been unwavering to serve the poor, the orphaned, the hungry, the sick, the disabled, the abused, the aged, the displaced, the homeless, and the troubled. It has always been more than a mission - it is a calling, a duty we cherish, to uphold human dignity and manifest God's love in challenging circumstances.

In the early 20th century, amidst the mosaic of diversity and thriving Catholic community, it became increasingly clear that we needed to bring harmony to the chorus of associated services in our Archdiocese. And thus, Catholic Charities was born! Initially a committee, Catholic Charities evolved into a robust body, coordinating various agencies' efforts. Though the maiden mission focused on children's programs, the organization widened its reach over the decades.

In retrospect, it's breathtaking to see how far we have come and how many lives we've touched! As we continue our mission, we honor the past and anticipate the future, always inspired to serve with love and dedication.

As we look forward to continuing this noble tradition, we invite you to journey with us in this remarkable voyage of faith, hope, and love.



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES TIMELINE

#### Catholic Charities and programs before 1924

- The Ursuline nuns arrive in Louisiana. Their arrival is considered the beginning of Catholic Charities in the United States - 1772
- Catholic religious and clergy establishes a number of orphanages -1830s - 1860s

#### Lo1924-1949

- Founding of Catholic Charities 1924
- Catholic Charities Board decides to join the Community Chest that collected community funds for an expansive set of social programs with the hope to eliminate the need for select religious communities to fundraise themselves - 1924
- Catholic Charities moves to 211 Camp Street, its home for the next 23 years - 1942

# LEGACY SOCIETY

In our centennial year, we are excited to introduce our latest initiative, the "Legacy Society." This planned giving venture is about more than just philanthropy: it's a commitment to sustain the future of Catholic Charities.

Legacy and community are two elements that define Catholic Charities. The Legacy Society recognizes and celebrates those individuals who have included Catholic Charities in their will, or in another form of a planned gift.

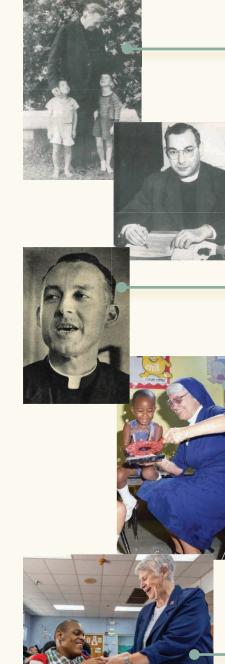
This is one of the most meaningful ways individuals can give back to the place that means so much to them.

To be anonymously included in this group or for more info, contact Samuel Rottman at SRottman@ccano.org.

#### Lo1949-1974

- Archbishop Hannan establishes Archbishop Community Appeal in response to Hurricane Betsy - 1966
- The CSFP (Commodities Supplemental Food Program) starts providing food boxes to mothers and children in Orleans Parish. The program was later renamed Food for Families - 1970
- Foster Grandparents begins as a volunteer program (not yet affiliated with ACC) - 1972

# Leadership throughout the years



### **Directors/ Chief Executive Officers**

1937)

#### Associated Catholic Charities of New Orleans, Inc. - incorporated in 1938

- Fr. Fred Digby (1949-1958)
- Mr. Eugene Buchert (first lay director) (1971 - 1975)
  - Fr. Michael Haddad (1973-1980)

#### **Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New** Orleans - legal name changed in 1996

- 2001)
- L. Orville Duggan, Interim Director (January 2002-May 2002)
- James R. Kelly (May 2002-July 2003)

#### **Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New** Orleans - merged with Office of Social Apostolate in 2003

- James R. Kelly and Gordon R. Wadge (merger) (July 2003-March 2011)
- 2013)
- 2013 to present)

## Lo 1999-2024

Padua House opens to meet the needs of emotionally, mentally, and physically handicapped clients - 1977

**L**01974–1999

- Food for Families (now Food for Seniors) begins to supply food boxes to seniors - 1983
- Catholic Charities starts its first program for persons with HIV/AIDS -1988
- From 1960-1975, approximately 17,000 Cuban refugees are resettled through ACC

Monsignor Peter M. Wynhoven (1924-

Monsignor Joseph Jacobi (1937-1949) • Monsignor Ray P. Hebert (1958-1971)

Sr. Anthony Barczykowski, D.C. (1980-

• Gordon R. Wadge (March 2011-January

Sr. Marjorie A. Hebert, M.S.C. (January

Ciara Permanent Housing launches to provide housing for the severely and persistently mentally ill - 2002 Catholic Charities merges with Office of Social Apostolate - 2003 Catholic Charities responds to Hurricane Katrina, providing more than \$7 million in direct survival assistance and serves more than 700,000 people - 2005 The Shirley Landry Benson PACE

Center opens in the former St. Cecilia Church in the Bywater to provide



# a Century of Service throughout the year

- **MARCH 21** Official date of Catholic Charities founding. A private Mass will be said for those served by Catholic Charities and all the volunteers, staff, and supporters who share in this mission.
- **APRIL** Volunteer Peace Prayer Walk (more details to come on CCANO.ORG)
- **JUNE** Catholic Charities Staff Day
- **SEPTEMBER** Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal kickoff
- **OCTOBER** Special 100th Anniversary Annual Report
- **NOVEMBER 17** Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral for all staff, donors, volunteers, and supporters

More details and information will be shared on CCANO.ORG

all-inclusive health and day care for seniors. It quickly becomes a national model for health and wellness for a vulnerable population - 2007

- Catholic Charities works with partners such as Second Harvest Food Bank and the Salvation Army to provide help to Destrehan residents after Hurricane Ida - 2021
- Catholic Charities celebrates 100 years of living out faith in action in the Archdiocese of New Orleans - 2024