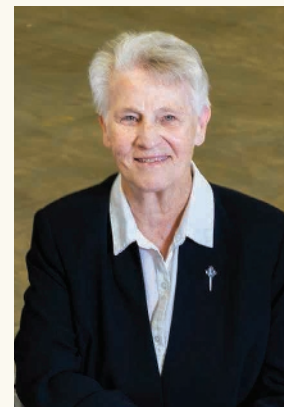


## MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



**D**uring the course of the last couple of months, Deacon Martin Gutierrez and I have had opportunities to witness some truly heartwarming moments with Head Start, our child and family development program. The program held a few year-end events that

I believe shine a light on how it continues to set a precedent for early childhood education while creating a caring and empathetic atmosphere that is conducive to real growth and opportunity for children in the Crescent City.

Staff at the Incarnate Word Head Start location recently held a **baby shower** for several new and expectant mothers, which included presentations, games and gifts. Expecting moms are able to enroll in our Head Start program, allowing them to begin receiving services and information related to Head Start. When the baby is born, he or she will also automatically be enrolled in the program. The baby shower was in every way a celebration of life.

During a visit to the St. Paul location of Head Start in New Orleans East, family members gathered for a **ring ceremony**, which served as a sweet way for parents to

memorialize their child's transition into the next stage of their early lives.

Everything culminated in late May for our two **graduation ceremonies** at Schulte Hall at Notre Dame Seminary, where Deacon Martin and I were able to take part in presenting diplomas to children transitioning out of Head Start into kindergarten.

These events and milestones don't simply happen by themselves. They are organized and coordinated by the dedicated staff and volunteers of multiple Head Start locations across the city. Their enthusiasm during this busy end of year is contagious and I always remind myself that this excitement is always equally as present in the yearlong work that takes place in the classrooms and on the playgrounds. I would also like to acknowledge our Foster Grandparents program, which places senior volunteers with children in our communities, including Head Start. Their patience and kindness are the embodiment of Catholic Charities.

I commend the teachers and staff at all our Head Start locations for going above and beyond. It shows. If these are the children many of us will look to in the future, we are all in good hands.

God Bless,

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



*St. Paul the Apostle Head Start students celebrate following their ring ceremony.*  
Photo by Chris Granger.



*Sr. Marjorie Hebert and Head Start Program Director Rhonda Taylor are all smiles during the morning graduation ceremony.* Photo by Chris Granger.



*Head Start's Trenise Mitchell gets some quality baby time in during the program's recent baby shower.*

## CENTENNIAL moments

**A**t Archbishop Philip Hannan's request, singer and actor Bing Crosby headlined the inaugural Catholic Charities Ball in 1976. The evening also included performances from local legends Pete Fountain and Al Hirt.

*Photo courtesy of the Clarion Herald.*



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**  
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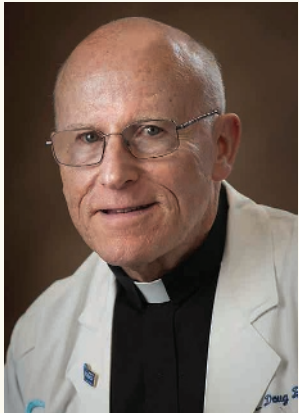
@cathcharitiesno

Please remember  
Catholic Charities in your will.

# Legacy Society Donor Embodied Spirit of Catholic Charities

As Chaplain at Touro Hospital for 37 years before he passed away last October at the age of 86, Fr. Doug Brougher was the optimistic and effervescent face of comfort for thousands of people seeking spiritual and emotional support during challenging and difficult times. Fr. Doug's commitment to patients and their families was always obvious and a testament to his character.

These qualities of Fr. Doug mirror Catholic Charities, which has strived to put people first over the last century. One of Fr. Doug's final gestures was including Catholic Charities as part of his planned giving. As a member of the **Legacy Society**, he is helping make a meaningful commitment to sustain the future of Catholic Charities for the next *Century of Service*.



Born and raised in New Orleans, Fr. Doug attended elementary school at St. Rita School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Notre Dame Seminary and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology degree (S.T.L.) from Gregorian University in Rome. He was ordained in Rome in 1962.

Friends for 70 years, Fr. Doug Doussan, Resident Chaplain at the Cenacle on the Lake Retreat Center, first met Fr. Doug as seminary students at Saint Ben's on the Northshore.

"I was two years ahead of him at Saint Joseph Seminary College. He was very kind, friendly and generous," Doussan said.

His affability was only matched by his selflessness and strong work ethic. According to Doussan, even in his 80s, Fr. Doug was visiting Touro five days a week for five hours a day.

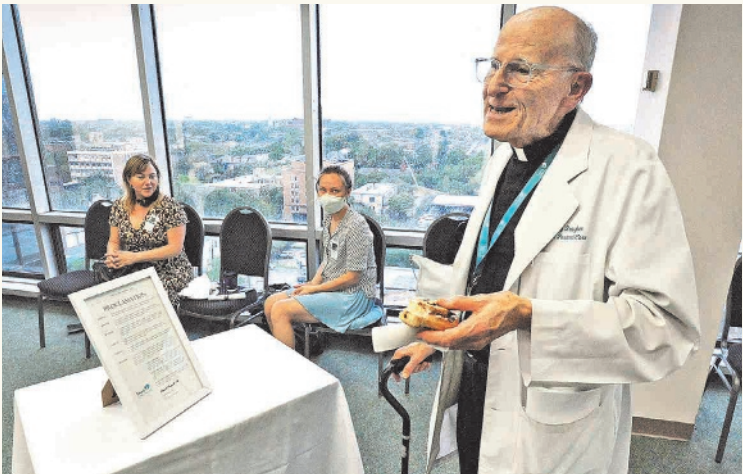
"He never really retired," Doussan added.

His diligence and loyalty to others was celebrated in 2021 when Touro presented him with the Judah Touro Society Award, given annually to a living individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the welfare of Touro Infirmary.

An avid reader, Fr. Doug's thirst for knowledge and affinity for social media engagement (including with Catholic Charities) was a key part of him remaining close and relatable to anyone needing a reassuring word.

"He was very faithful to his job. He talked about how much he loved bringing communion to people there, talking to people who were troubled or who were worried about surgeries or had family problems. He was always there. People loved talking to him. He was non-judgmental and always positive and very loving. He had a calming way," Doussan said.

As we celebrate the incredible life of Fr. Doug, we can't help but recognize the parallels between his work and the mission of



Catholic Charities. Just like Fr. Doug, we strive to foster hope where it may seem lost. We are honored to carry on Fr. Doug's legacy as we continue to serve the Archdiocese of New Orleans for the next 100 years.

*Photos of Fr. Doug Brougher courtesy of the Clarion Herald.*

**PLANNED GIVING MYTH:**  
Leaving a charity in your will is complicated and expensive.

**REALITY:** Leaving Catholic Charities in your estate can be as simple as adding a sentence to your will.

*Reach out to your financial advisor or estate attorney.  
Need help getting started? Contact our office at  
504-592-5688.*

1924  
2024

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

celebrate

a Century of Service throughout the year

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

■ **SEPTEMBER**  
Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal kickoff

■ **NOVEMBER 17**  
Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral for all staff, donors, volunteers, and supporters

*Stay tuned*

More details and information will be shared on **CCANO.ORG**

## St. Vincent's Guild Supports Those in Need with Compassion and Empathy



We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the St. Vincent Infant and Maternity Guild for their unwavering support of our Pregnancy Services and Adoption Services programs at Catholic Charities. Their generosity truly makes a difference in the lives of so many families in need.



We are incredibly proud to be able to work alongside such dedicated individuals who go above and beyond to raise financial support for these crucial programs. The events that they hold each year, including luncheons and a bingo, not only raise vital funds but also bring our community together in support of these important initiatives.

With their help, we are able to provide essential resources and care for mothers-to-be and families navigating the adoption process.



*Toys are collected at the Guild's annual Christmas luncheon.*

## ACCESS Joie de Vivre – annual fundraiser for Pregnancy Services September 5, 2024 • Metairie Country Club

This event will help raise much-needed funds for the vital pregnancy support care provided free of charge by Catholic Charities Pregnancy Services to more than 600 abortion-vulnerable women and countless families each year.

Proceeds from this year's dinner, along with the generosity of private donors, allow us to continue this life-giving ministry. Register at [ccano.org/ACCESS-Joie-de-Vivre/](https://ccano.org/ACCESS-Joie-de-Vivre/)



## Fathers Celebrate Children's Head Start Graduation at Picnic

What a wonderful day for Head Start's "Grillin' with the Class of 2024 Grads" picnic at St. John the Baptist in New Orleans! It was heartwarming to see fathers and children from St. John and Incarnate Word come together to celebrate their upcoming graduation. The bond between the students and their dads is truly something special. Let's continue to support and uplift these amazing young graduates as they embark on their next journey to kindergarten!

