

An illustration of a house with a green roof and a light green interior. Inside the house, the text 'Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beach' is written in a bold, purple font. Outside the house, on a green lawn, a diverse group of eight people of various ages and ethnicities are holding hands in a line. There are several palm trees around the house, some in the foreground and some in the background.

Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beach

When life's storms hit
we stand together hand in hand,
providing help and creating hope for local people in need.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH, INC.
providing help • creating hope

*Continue your legacy ...
Remember us in your will*

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

ABOUT US

MISSION

Serving people in need and creating hope through all stages of life.

VISION

A community of empowered individuals, healthy in mind, body, and spirit.

VALUES

Everything we do reflects God's love with faith, respect, service, and compassion.



A TRIBUTE TO OUR PARTNERS AND OUR PURPOSE

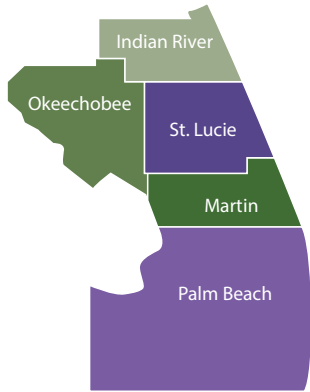
The 2024-2025 Annual Report is more than a summary of our work. It reflects what we've accomplished together with the steadfast support of our donors, community partners, and advocates across the Diocese of Palm Beach.

The past year was marked by significant challenges, which included the deepening affordable housing crisis and the increased cost of essential needs. Our dedicated team continues to help meet the urgent needs of the most vulnerable members of our community with outreach programs that create hope while providing help with compassion and dignity. Our unwavering mission has endured since 1984, and today, over 40 years later, it is made possible because of people like you.

This report offers a glimpse into the lives touched and the futures changed thanks to the generosity, collaboration, and shared commitment of those who help sustain our outreach efforts and believe in our mission.

Our partnerships fuel the heart of our agency, and your belief in our work enables us to respond with love and action to those most in need.

As we celebrate this past year's impact, we look ahead with gratitude and determination. Knowing that you are by our side, we are better equipped to meet the evolving needs of our community.

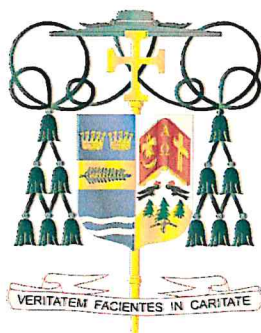


Serving over
100,000 local
people in need
since 1984.



“...announcing God's love to the poor—
and nurturing a spirit of hope in them,
reminding them that the fullness of life is
not found in possessions but in God's love.”

- Pope Leo XIV -



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

(561) 775-9595 Fax (561) 775-7035

November 2025

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities:

It is with sincere appreciation and thanksgiving that I write to you, sharing this year's Annual Report for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Palm Beach. The report details the extent to which this vital ministry delivers services of care, compassion and unwavering commitment to the Gospel calling to love and serve others. You, dear friends, are very much a part of the reason why Catholic Charities continues to carry out an impactful mission across our Diocese.

This year proved to be one of challenges, with storms bringing widespread destruction to our neighborhoods, and division plaguing our landscape. There were significant threats to our core beliefs, and tests to our commitment to the sanctity of life and dignity of all persons. Evidence of need and financial insecurity increased across our region. How comforting it is to know that the work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Palm Beach continues serve as a beacon of hope and a model of kindness, reaching out to the most vulnerable and serving with compassion to those who others might easily dismiss.

The successes detailed withing this year's report highlight both the resilience of those we serve, and the dedication and consistency of the staff and volunteers of this organization. Thank you for helping to make this possible! There is still much work to be done. As we continue our efforts in this new program year, I invite your continued prayers, volunteer efforts and financial support for our mission.

With gratitude for your continued generosity and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach

LEADERSHIP REFLECTION

Greetings,

On behalf of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Palm Beach, it is my pleasure to present our annual report for our 2024-2025 program year. The report provides a glimpse of the impactful and necessary outreach these programs deliver across the five counties of the Diocese of Palm Beach—Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee.

As you review this report, I hope you will come to better understand how the many programs and ministries we provide are rooted in the Gospel, called to serve the most vulnerable among us, and to do so with compassion, dignity, and with the demonstrated ability to make a difference. Each year, our programs provide critical support to individuals and families facing hunger and homelessness, struggling to recover from a storm, fleeing trafficking and persecution, or questioning what to do next when facing an unplanned pregnancy. We bring calm in moments of crisis, kindness and compassion to the imprisoned, and clarity and understanding around a culture that supports life from conception to natural death. We bring healing, we bring hope, and we bring resources that help forge a path forward.

Looking back on the year, we are reminded of the challenges we faced, from funding cuts to capital repair needs within our facilities to threats to the core beliefs that guide and shape our efforts. We met each challenge head-on, with the same resolve we bring to those we serve—with dedication, with hope, and with a firm resolve that the work we do is necessary and impactful. So much of the successes we have realized this year are the direct results of our dedicated staff and volunteers, along with the generosity of benefactors, and notably the trust and confidence of those we serve.

As we continue the work in this program year, we ask for your continued prayers and support.

Building on the work we have done, we will continue working to build strong, compassionate communities where individuals thrive.



Ellen T. Wayne

Ellen T. Wayne, Ed. D.
CEO-Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We are so grateful for all of our blessings, and most especially for all of you, who join us in outreach to the ministries that you see noted in this Annual Report. This report is just a brief summary of the efforts of our dedicated and compassionate staff.

We serve so many every day who are in such desperate need. From the forgotten and abused elderly to the wee baby nestled beneath its mother's heart; from the victim of criminal abuse and human trafficking to the hungry and homeless in our diocese; from the immigrant legally entitled to be here but lost in the complexities of the legal process to the refugee from war; every single day we try to make a real difference in their lives. This is our privilege and our passion.

We often stop to thank God for His gracious gifts to us, and there is no question, His greatest gift is your interest in our mission. We certainly thank God, but we also pray that God will continue to be kind to you and your loved ones. It is our hope that as you review this report, you might be encouraged in the fruitfulness of your kindness and find perhaps even more that will appeal to your heart.

So once more, I thank you. God has shown yet another of His gifts in joining us together to link our efforts to your generosity. We pray for your continued health, happiness, and success. Truly we know that but for the grace of God and the faithfulness of people like you, we could not do what we do each day to - **offer Help and Create Hope.**



William Shannon

William Shannon
Board President

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Ellen T. Wayne, Ed.D.
CEO-Executive Director

WHEN LIFE'S STORMS HIT WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

BAKHITA EMPOWERMENT (ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING)

In partnership with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, the Bakhita Empowerment Program assisted 76 victims who suffered these horrific crimes against humanity. This human trafficking program provided 124 total clients with financial support for education, employment, safe housing, food, transportation and professional counseling. Client self-sufficiency assessment scores improved 6% over the previous fiscal year, indicating that a greater number of victims are thriving after surviving the tragedy of their trafficking and victimization.



BAKHITA EMPOWERMENT

BIRTHLINE /LIFELINE

This program continues to successfully serve a large population of expectant mothers providing them with basic maternity needs, education and post-birth support. The program assisted over 2,000 clients with services which included: 704 pregnancy testing, 245 prenatal care assessments, 597 pre-birth assessments, 670 new parent assessments, and essential support services to 1,178 clients. Services increased 33% from last year.



BIRTHLINE/LIFELINE

DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

This emergency program is activated whenever there is a need to support Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee Counties following a hurricane or other natural disaster. The program provided support to more than 500 individuals who needed assistance in recovering losses caused by Hurricane Milton's tornadoes, which touched down across all five counties we serve. Over a quarter million dollars in support was provided in financial assistance, home repairs, rent/mortgage, utilities, food/nutritional assistance, household goods/furnishings, auto repairs and rental cars.



DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

ELDER AFFAIRS PROGRAM

This program provided critical guardianship care services to over 40 elderly clients, who are unable to care for themselves and lack a loved one to care for them. Our Case Managers assessed clients while protecting their financial accounts, and monitoring the clients' guardianship needs.



ELDER AFFAIRS PROGRAM

HUNGER/HOMELESS AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

This program had a 96% success rate for financially assisting households to remain housed for 6-months and a 98% success rate for financially assisting households to remain housed for 12-months or more, and provided homelessness prevention services to 2,760 Palm Beach County households for over 8,000 individuals preventing eviction, foreclosure, and utility shut-off, while providing financial assistance to 192 households. 3,319 food bags were also provided to client households, preventing food insecurity, an increase of 19% from last year. Over 2,000 Angel Food "SNAC" (Serving Nutrition to Area Children) distributions supported children's nutritional gaps and 112 households were assisted with SNAP and Medicaid applications.



HUNGER/HOMELESS & OUTREACH PROGRAM

WITH OUR LIFE-CHANGING OUTREACH PROGRAMS & MINISTRIES

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

This program assisted 724 new clients. Attorneys and staff worked on 1,067 cases (a 4% increase over FY-24) for 926 total unduplicated clients. The program garnered 180 victories, in which clients were granted advances in the legal processing of their cases. Some of these included: 8 U-visas granted for victims of crime, 53 Green Cards, 8 naturalizations for citizenship, 48 dreamers (DACA) granted status, and 22 temporary protected status applications granted.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Through targeted parish outreach and engaged volunteers this ministry empowers Catholics in our Diocese to celebrate and realize the Gospel call for life, human dignity, and care for God's creation through Catholic Social Teaching.

PROGRAM VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT & PRISON MINISTRY

76 dedicated volunteers contributed 7,564 hours and assisted with various clerical data entry and administrative functions. 90 prison ministers contributed 1,865 hours in support of the incarcerated in various Palm Beach County correctional facilities with Bible study, sacraments, and fellowship. Together, these efforts represent a 33% increase in volunteers and a 55% increase in total service hours compared to FY-24.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

This program assisted 87 new refugees/asylees. A total of 158 clients were assisted and 72 clients were provided financial literacy, education, and employment support. 88% of active refugees/asylees in the program secured employment within the allotted 240 days.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

This ministry promotes life from natural conception until natural death through prayer, education, legislation, and pastoral programs while playing a critical role regarding threats to life.

SAMARITAN CENTER PROGRAM

This transitional housing center assisted 13 homeless families and 106 family members. 5 new families were enrolled into the center, and 6 families graduated and were enrolled in the Samaritan Center After-Care Program. Fifteen parents participated in individual counseling; 20 children were supported with children's program services while 13 adults and 16 children attended group counseling sessions. Client self-sufficiency assessment scores improved 13% over the previous fiscal year, indicating a greater number of parents learned to build capacity and thrive during their residency at the Center.

WOMEN'S PREGNANCY SOLUTIONS PROGRAM

This program assisted 185 women providing: 134 ultrasounds, 190 pregnancy tests, 100 screens for vitals, and 178 referrals. Case Managers were successful with 90 changes of hearts (saves), a 34% increase over FY-24. Change of hearts are representative of abortion minded women who decide to carry their unborn child to full-term.



IMMIGRATION



PRISON MINISTRY



REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT



SAMARITAN CENTER



WOMEN'S PREGNANCY SOLUTIONS

MS. BETTY QUEEN'S STORY

DISASTER RECOVERY

When Hurricane Milton struck in October 2024, 75-year-old Betty Queen lost the Martin County home she had lived in for 25 years. Having no homeowner's insurance and limited income, the FEMA grant in the amount of \$27,000 fell far short of covering the cost to rebuild her \$200,000 home. She was forced into a hotel and then later was moved into an \$1,800-a-month apartment, where she had to use the repair funds just to stay housed.

There was no kitchen in the hotel, nor did she have SNAP benefits for food. She struggled and was feeling hopeless until Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beach stepped in with food, toiletries, financial assistance, and emotional support, giving her the strength to go on. Her Case Manager coordinated with FEMA and local agencies to ensure that Betty had a voice and a plan, which helped to restore her dignity and hope.

Today, Betty is in a furnished apartment with a signed lease and renewed faith and hope that promises a brighter tomorrow. Thanks to agencies like ours and support like yours, she is no longer just surviving—she is thriving.



“When I was lost in the darkest storm of my life, Catholic Charities was there, and they believed in me when I stopped believing in myself.

I'll never forget them for they restored my faith and gave me hope.”

-Ms. Betty Queen

YVENER CHARLES' STORY

A STORY OF HOPE GONE FULL CIRCLE

IMMIGRATION

I wanted to take a moment to reflect on a truly meaningful and full-circle journey I have experienced with Catholic Charities.

My first encounter with Catholic Charities came in the aftermath of the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, when Catholic Charities' team helped me apply for Temporary Protected Status (TPS). It was that moment that marked the beginning of a long and transformative relationship with this incredible agency.

Since then, Catholic Charities has guided me through every major milestone in my immigration journey, from TPS to lawful permanent residency and ultimately to U.S. citizenship in 2021.

At every step, Catholic Charities not only provided legal assistance but also offered hope, dignity, and a path forward.

Today, I'm proud to say that I am in my final semester of law school, set to graduate this October, and humbled that I now serve as a paralegal with Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beaches Legal Services team.

I am blessed to help clients navigate the same challenges I once faced, and I am honored to serve the community that once served me. Offering others the opportunity to pursue the American Dream is an experience I cherish deeply.

I thank Catholic Charities and all of the supporters of this incredible agency for being part of my journey and for believing in me, allowing me to now be part of its life-changing outreach.

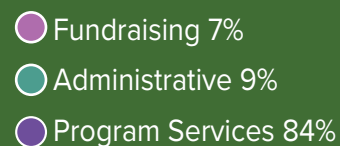
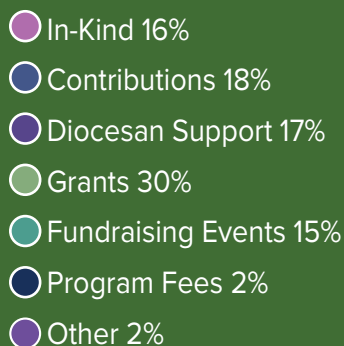
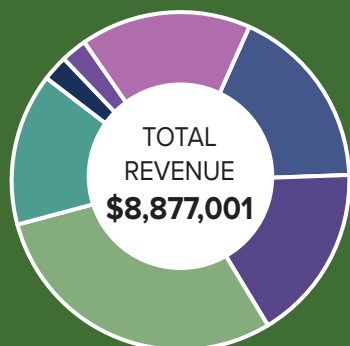
Yvener S. Charles

Paralegal | Catholic Charities Legal Services

J.D. Candidate, October 2025



FINANCIALS 2024-2025



**unaudited financial results*

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**If you want to make a difference,
join hands with an agency that
is making an impact in the local
communities we serve.**

DONATE TODAY



PROVIDING HELP AND CREATING HOPE IN ALL STAGES OF LIFE

*Since 1984, Catholic Charities has been
serving the Palm Beaches and Treasure Coast with
life-changing outreach programs and services for people
in need irrespective of race or religion.*

*This year alone, our outreach programs impacted
over 15,000 local people in need.*

**Looking to get involved
and support our efforts?**

Scan QR code for
volunteer opportunities



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