

Quarterly News

Summer 2009

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Hardship Manifested in the Four "Hs"

In Steuben County, the economic crisis is, of course, affecting many Catholic Charities clients, most of whom work part-time at low wages and struggle to get by. But now we are seeing a new population of people needing assistance with basic needs. People who have lost jobs or lost hours may be facing financial challenges for the first time in their lives. The challenges facing those living on tight budgets fall primarily into four categories:

Hunger: Catholic Charities food pantry usage increased by 26 percent in the last six months of 2008. Requests for Food Stamp information rose 42 percent between the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2008.

Housing: Evictions are on the rise; more and more people are forced to "cluster" together with family or friends, resulting in over-crowding and other poor living conditions. Some people are even living in their cars.

Heating: HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) applications increased by more than 80 percent in Steuben County this winter.

Health Care: Medical expenses, especially the cost of prescriptions, can represent a significant financial burden for those who earn low wages and do not have health care benefits.



The economic crisis that took hold of the country in 2008 has caused so many job losses that people who have never before struggled to get by are finding that they need help.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Catholic Charities is able to provide help and hope to anyone experiencing financial hardship. *We are very grateful for past donations, and humbly request renewed support through our membership drive.*

Membership Drive

If you missed the opportunity to become a member or renew your membership, there is still time! *Thank you for your generosity!*

"Once you choose hope, anything is possible"

Christopher Reeve

Please indicate your giving level:

- Hope Society: \$500 or more
- Benefactor: \$250 - \$499
- Patron: \$100 - \$249
- Steward: \$1 - \$99

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Please indicate the amount of your gift. \$ _____

Please clip and mail with your donation to: Catholic Charities, 23 Liberty Street, Batn, NY 14810

Catholic Charities Steuben is proud to be a funded partner of :



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Catholic Charities of Steuben County is deeply grateful to our donors for their commitment to our mission of reducing the effects of poverty.

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Mr. & Mrs. David Stull
Mrs. Nita Sturiale
Ms. Rita Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Supulski
Dawn Sutfin
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Sutryk
Mr. & Mrs. W. Chris Sutton
Ms. Rose Sweeney
Ms. Aliene Swick
Mr. & Mrs. David Tammaro
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Tammaro
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. James Telehany
Mr. Nick Testa

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Tetor
Ms. Loretta Tetor
Ms. Barbara Tharrett
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Thomas
Margaret Thomas
Mrs. Dale Thompson
Ms. Dawn Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Thompson
Pauline Thompson
Mrs. Evelyn Thurston
Ms. Joan Tichenor
Ms. Mary Tobin
Mr. Thomas Tomsa
Mr. And Mrs. Clayton Tong
Nancy Torp
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tostanoski
Philip & Debra Townsend
Mr. Ignatius Trentanelli
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Trifoso
Mr. & Mrs. John Troy Jr
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Tucker
Mr. Joseph Tunney, Corning
Mr. Joseph Tunney, Dundee
Mr. & Mrs. Les Turner
Ms. Dianne Tyner
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Usiak
Mr. & Mrs. William Valentine
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon VanVleet
Kees & Billie Vandersterre
Ms. Catharine Vaughan
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Vincent
Bettie Vonhagn
Mr. & Mrs. James Wager
Ms. Donnette Wagner
Ms. Regina Wagner
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Waldo
Kathryn Wall
Mr. & Mrs. Addison Wallace
Mrs. Evelyn Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. Ardean Warner
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Warner
Ms. Kathryn Warren
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Warren
Mrs. Mary Ann Watlock
Levi Weaver
Bernadette Webster
Mr. & Mrs. John Welc
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wells
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Wexell
Ms. Janice Weyand
John Weyand
Ms. Natalie Ann Weyand
Ms. Yolanda Wheeler
Ms. Elizabeth White
Mr. & Mrs. Paul White
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wich
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Wienk
Tina Wilcox
Frances Wilke
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Wilkins
Mr. & Mrs. David Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Wilson
Kym & Ellen Wilson
Mrs. Rose Woodard
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Woodhouse
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Woods
Mr. & Mrs. Kogo Yamaguchi
Mr. Ronald Yorio
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Yorio
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Young
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Young

Ms. Sandy Zaidel
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Zone
Mr. Walter Zydanowicz

Organizations

Chemung Canal Trust
Company
AFGE Local 491
Bath Methodist Church
Boychuck's Coal & Stoves, Inc
Bath VA Secretarial Council
USW Local Union 1013T
Browsers
Religious Society of Friends
Costa Flying Service
Bath Lions Club
Leigh Ann Evans Interior
Design
Dickson Environmental
Services
Sonora's Mexican Restaurant
United Methodist Church of
Hornell
Sisters of St. Joseph of
Rochester
Surrogate Court Employees
American Legion Auxiliary
Post #173
United Methodist Church
LaMarche Funeral Home
Ross Design & Graphics
Young-at-Hearts Club
Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter Day Saints

*Catholic Charities of
Steuben County makes
every effort to record and
print its donors names
correctly and in the
appropriate giving
category. If we have made
any mistakes, we sincerely
apologize. If your entry is
inaccurate, please notify
us so we can modify our
records.*

*Contact Carleen Tarpin at
607-776-8085 x216*

Thank you.



Agency News

Welcome!

Please join us in welcoming Andy Mazzella as Assistant Director. Andy works part-time overseeing Turning Point's county-wide operations.



Andy Mazzella

Progressive Dinner

The Justice & Peace program organized an interfaith Progressive Dinner fundraiser held at churches throughout Bath in support of the Turning Point food pantry.

Deacon Bob Colomaio

In May, Justice & Peace coordinator Bob Colomaio was ordained a Deacon. ***Congratulations!***

Deacon Dan Williams

Deacon Dan Williams of Hammondsport has been placed with Catholic Charities to assist with Justice & Peace work.

Turning Point Thanks Schmidt, Welcomes Fowler

Long-time Turning Point Advisory Council volunteer Eileen Schmidt recently stepped down. We are deeply grateful for her outstanding service. A hearty welcome to Barbara Fowler who recently joined the group.

An Uncommon Donation

A local couple donated a beef cow to Turning Point, resulting in 400 lbs. of beef that we distributed to food pantry clients.

Walk A Mile In Their Shoes: September 12, 2009

Imagine what it would be like not to have enough money to pay all of your bills each month ... if you had to maneuver around bill payments and use more credit than you know is sensible. That's what families earning low incomes face each and every day. What if you were a senior citizen living on a fixed income and you literally had to choose between buying food and paying your heating bill? Too many of our older neighbors are forced to make choices like this that negatively affect their health and well-being.

Imagining yourself in these situations is what *"Walk A Mile In Their Shoes"* is all about. The goals of the event are to raise awareness of poverty in Steuben County and to collect donations to support Catholic Charities' work to give help that works and hope that lasts to our neighbors experiencing financial hardship.

About the Walk

WHAT:

One-mile fundraising event to help Catholic Charities fight poverty in Steuben County

WHEN:

Saturday, September 12, 2009

On-site Registration 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks..... 9:45 - 10:00 a.m.

Walk..... 10:00 a.m.

STARTING LOCATIONS:

Corning

Community Bank, W. Market St.

Bath

Pulteney Square

Hornell

Shaumut Park, Thatcher St. Ext.

THREE WAYS TO BECOME INVOLVED

- ◆ Become a walker.
- ◆ Sponsor a walker.
- ◆ Make a donation.

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER

- ◆ Register at a Turning Point office near you: 39 W. William St., Corning; 23 Liberty St., Bath; 20 Elm St., Hornell. Sponsorship forms will be provided.
- ◆ Visit our website at www.catholiccharitiessteuben.org
- ◆ Use our on-line tool to register and create your own personalized fundraising page at www.firstgiving.com/catholiccharitiessteuben



Walk a Mile in the Shoes of:

- ◆ **A child:** 1 in 5 children in Steuben County is living in poverty. Half of our children are eligible for free or reduced school lunch.
- ◆ **A single mom:** Half of the families living in poverty in Steuben County are headed by a single female with children under 5.
- ◆ **A family earning a low income:** A family of four earning \$20,614 per year will be more than \$2,000 over budget after meeting their basic expenses.
- ◆ **A senior citizen:** Too many seniors living on fixed incomes are forced to make tough choices about their food, housing, heating and healthcare.
- ◆ **The recently unemployed:** Those who have lost jobs or had their hours cut are facing hardship for perhaps the first time in their lives. While they look for work, their nest eggs shrink as they are forced to use their savings to meet basic expenses.

Program Beat

Turning Point

It's Not Too Late To Join the 40 Week Club!

The "40 Week Club" is a great way to help support our Anti-poverty and Child Day Care Programs while creating opportunities to win cash prizes. The 40 Week Club is a weekly drawing club that costs one dollar per week and runs for 40 weeks. There is \$5,000 in guaranteed prize money! We are selling tickets through August 31st, with the drawings beginning September 4, 2009. In order to join, all that is needed is the first week's payment of \$1.00. Visit our Web site to learn more, or call 776-4575 and ask for Jackie Slayton.

C.A.\$H. Tax Assistance Program Puts Money In Pockets That Need It

This tax season, Catholic Charities Steuben helped 255 households file their taxes, bringing back \$257,783 in tax returns to the community. The C.A.\$H. Tax Assistance Program helps working people access the Earned Income Tax Credit and other tax credits that boost their annual income. A sizeable tax return for a lower income household is often spent to catch up on bills, buy needed clothes and household supplies, or save for a high-priced necessity such as a car.

Community Widely Supports Turning Point Food Drive

Turning Point holds a community food drive each March and April in conjunction with the *Feinstein One Million Dollar Challenge to Fight Hunger*. Food and money donated during the drive qualified to receive a donation from the Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation based on a percentage of what was collected. This year, the Bath community collected \$6,492 in donations and 3,121 in food items. The Hornell community collected \$1,468 in cash donations and 2,458 in food items. That's nearly \$10,000 in cash contributions and more than 5,500 food donations for our pantries.

Thank you to all who participated!

Bath Community Child Day Care



A young child creates a marble painting at the BCCDC art show held on April 22nd.

BCCDC Holds First Annual Art Fair
Bath Community Child Day Care held its first annual art show on April 22, 2009. Children's artwork was displayed throughout the center and activity centers allowed families to complete art projects together. In addition, the center hosted a fundraising dinner so families could support the center while enjoying a kid-friendly meal.



A participant in BCCDC's school-age program works on the center's yearbook.

Technology and Art

In 2008, the center received a Lego Grant for \$5,026 to fund a project for the youth in the school-age program to produce a yearbook for the center. In this creative design project, children use computers, digital photography and graphic design software. In addition, they are gaining valuable practice in writing. Local senior high and community college students are volunteering to guide the youth in the technical and creative aspects of graphic design. The yearbook is expected to be completed by the end of August 2009.

Prevention Services

Parents Who Host Lose The Most

The Steuben Council on Addictions, through a \$4,377 media grant from the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS), is promoting the legal consequences of providing alcohol to minors. A nationwide survey shows that, by the age of 17, nearly half (46 percent) of teens surveyed have been at parties where alcohol was served to minors and parents were present. SCA efforts to create public awareness on this issue include: public displays in the Hornell, Bath and Corning communities, letters to parents through school district newsletters, and ads and editorials in local newspapers. For more information, please contact the Steuben Council on Addictions at 607-776-6441.

SCA Publishes E-newsletter

The Steuben Council on Addictions in April published its first issue of an e-newsletter that was distributed to more than 100 individuals and agencies. The newsletter, published monthly, addresses a different substance abuse topic in each issue. The topics, information and articles are developed by SCA staff. While the newsletter is a joint effort by all SCA staff, the design and layout are the creation of Stacey O'Dell, one of our Prevention Educators. For more information on the newsletter or to subscribe contact Stacey at sodell@dor.org.



SCA held a "Kick Butts" poster contest to raise awareness about the hazards of smoking. This winning entry was submitted by Jessica A., Grade 9, Hammondsport Central School.

Local Food Pantries

The following is a short list of a few of the larger food pantries in the county. For a more complete listing, go to the Catholic Charities Steuben website at www.catholiccharitiessteuben.org

American Red Cross
24 Maple Street, Hornell
(607) 324-6511

Corning Salvation Army
32 Denison Pkwy East, Corning
(607) 962-4681

Hornell Salvation Army
95 Seneca Street, Hornell
(607) 324-1933

Turning Point Food Pantry—Bath
23 Liberty Street Bath
(607) 776-4575

Turning Point Food Pantry—Hornell
20 Elm Street Hornell
(607) 324-3457

*Corning Community Food Pantry/
Turning Point*
39 West William Street Corning
(607) 962-6750 - (607) 936-0704

Add-An-Item Program

Turning Point has identified a convenient, low-cost way for community members to support neighborhood pantries. To participate, just add an item or two while doing your routine grocery shopping. It might help to take advantage of buy-one-get-one-free opportunities and other sales. Then, collect the items at home and periodically donate them to the food pantry of your choice! ***Thanks for supporting local food pantries!***



You're not seeing double! The "Add-An-Item" program encourages people to buy doubles of non-perishable food items and donate the extras to a local food pantry.

Convenient Ways to Support Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities offers two alternative giving options for interested supporters: online credit card giving and planned giving.

Online Giving: Anyone interested in making a donation to Catholic Charities using a major credit card may do so through PayPal on our Web site at www.catholiccharitiessteuben.org.

Planned Giving: Estate planning directs the distribution of one's assets after death. Including a charitable gift to Catholic Charities reduces estate taxes and ensures a legacy of caring. *Contact Laura Opelt at 776-8085 x212 to learn more.*

Help that works.
Hope that lasts.

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