CATHOLIC CHARITIES MAINE



PHILANTHROPY REPORT | FEBRUARY-MARCH 2024

Thank you for a successful Fall Appeal!

Thanks to generous donor response, our Fall Appeal raised more than \$387,745 from 593 donors, and we welcomed nearly 80 first-time donors!

We are so grateful for those who can look out for others. Housing shortages, substance use disorders, mental health issues, isolation, and food insecurity are making life even more difficult for Maine's most vulnerable, and your generosity and compassion warmed our hearts.

Your Impact! Last year, 564 volunteers provided 32,821 hours of support for our 20+ programs statewide, equating to approximately \$1 million in time donated! We are deeply grateful to all who give the priceless gift of time to our mission.



Program Highlights

A Beautiful Gift to Hunger & Relief Services

Recently, Dixie Shaw, Director of Catholic Charities Maine's Hunger & Relief Services, received an anonymous gift of a beautiful, intricately stitched quilt. The gift came with only a few details about the quiltmaker and donor. She had a family friend bring the donation to Dixie, who was told that the quiltmaker's family was once helped by Catholic Charities Maine through a time of great need, and she carried her gratitude through her life.

Though not Catholic herself, she chose a quilt pattern that emulates the stained glass of Catholic cathedrals. The result is a stunning piece of fabric art, which the donor wanted to be used as a fundraiser to support our Hunger & Relief work in Aroostook County. **Please visit ccmaine.org/quilt for a chance to win this quilt!** Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Good luck!



Hope Keepers Monthly Giving Provides Year-long Help and Hope

Our Hope Keepers give automated, monthly donations, which provides sustained help and hope to Maine's most vulnerable people - all year.

Becoming a *Hope Keeper* is easy; it means less administrative fees, increasing your gift's impact. Plus a monthly gift ensures we can focus on our most important work: serving Maine people in their times of need.

Enroll today at ccmaine.org/HopeKeeper.

Many Hands Make Light Work

Because our Refugee and Immigration Services (RIS) team gets very little advance notice before refugee families arrive here in Maine, we take an "all hands-on deck" approach to meet their immediate needs. We are building a roster of volunteers who are interested in helping prepare for new arrivals in the Portland, Lewiston, and Bangor areas.

Our team needs help preparing apartments, which is a one-day commitment to move furniture and clean spaces. We also need shoppers to buy and/or put together welcome kits with toiletries, kitchen items, cleaning supplies, bedding sets, and other essentials for setting up a new home. We've put together an RIS Amazon wishlist so that in-kind donations are easy to make. Use the QR code to the right to access the list.



Provide a warm welcome to a refugee family!

Register at ccmaine.org/golf-registration.

If you are interested in supporting this effort with your time, talents, or treasure, please email volunteerinfo@ccmaine.org with your contact information so we can keep you posted as "Welcome Team" volunteer opportunities arise.

"Refugees come with this incredible resilience. They have already proven their strength of mind. They come with this optimism. They are here to create their own American dream, and that injects new vitality into communities,"

- Julie Allaire, Chief Program Officer.

Tee it up for a Good Cause!

We may still have to get through mud season, but it's not too early to mark your calendars for our 22nd Annual *Put Children First* Golf Classic on September 9, 2024, at the Woodlands in Falmouth.

Please note: This date is a little earlier than in past years, so we want to get the word out - early and often - to all golfers, supporters, and volunteers!

This tournament is a good time for a great cause – raising money to fund scholarships for families who rely on CCM's child care services at St. Elizabeth's in Portland and St. Louis in Biddeford.

Tune In for our 5th Annual Telethon!

Tune in to the annual WAGM-TV *Operation Hunger* telethon, which raises money for our Hunger & Relief Services. This year's event takes place from 4-8pm on Thursday, March 28th. Find WAGM on channel 8 in Aroostook county or online at wagmtv.com.



(*Right*) CCM's CEO, Steve Letourneau, is ready to take your call!

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Community Partners Program

Our Community Partners program is a way for local businesses to provide year-long support for our work empowering Maine's most vulnerable people and strengthening local communities. This month we're shining a spotlight on our **Platinum** level partners. We thank **Sicilian Table**, **Royal River Grill House**, **Tuscan Table**, **and Tuscan Bistro** for their dedicated support and belief that, working together, we can make lasting changes in our communities!

