Executive Director’s Letter

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

All my life the Catholic Church has been a place that is open to all. Catholic Charities is also a welcoming place as we live our mission "...to be a visible sign of Christ's love..." to those on the margins of our society.

Last year Catholic Charities welcomed nearly 28,000 people to our doors and provided them with the help that brought new hope into their lives.

With your support, Catholic Charities gave shelter to women and children who were escaping domestic violence, provided healing to families struggling with difficult issues in their lives, offered respite to families and youth wrestling with serious emotional problems, gave refugee youth new homes with loving families, and assisted couples to adopt children into their homes.

Catholic Charities helped abused or traumatized children find healing and families overcome crises in their lives. When disaster struck, Catholic Charities responded with compassion and assistance. Catholic Charities was also a voice for those who have no voice, calling all people of good will to speak for the poor.

Though the recent recession brought its challenges, Catholic Charities remained true to its mission to reach out to the poor and vulnerable in our communities. We were good stewards of the resources that were provided to us and focused those resources on our consumers who needed us. Together we will forge a future that is filled with welcoming service and advocacy. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

May God’s blessing be on each of you,

Greg Patin

Programs / Services

CHILDRENS SERVICES
Hope Haven Residential provides mental health services for children in a residential therapeutic crisis center which involves a short-term respite with individual, group and family therapy. Crisis Response and Outreach offers 24-hour telephone and mobile response with on-site intervention for the family in crisis. These programs served 418 persons during the year.

Hope Haven Home Based specializes in counseling and service coordination to families whose children have a mental health diagnosis. This program served 118 persons.

The Trauma Recovery for Youth Project (TRY) strives to raise the standard of care and increase access to services for traumatized children, their families and the community. In the year, 1,064 persons were reached.

Therapeutic Foster Care offers intensive in-home services to help children with serious emotional disorders who are in the custody of the Department of Human Services. We help these children develop the skills needed to function in the home and in community settings. We were able to help 159 persons.

Our House Shelter for Homeless and Runaway Teens provides emergency shelter, counseling and prevention services to runaway, homeless, neglected and abused youth ages 12-17. This service has now evolved into a Host Home Program that offers shelter in foster homes as well as remedial help N/A persons were assisted during the year.

WOMEN AND VIOLENCE
Domestic Violence Centers in Jackson and Natchez provide safe refuge for victims of family violence. We make available emergency shelter, daycare and counseling. The Jackson Center has a Legal Assistance Clinic that offers support and legal representation to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. We also offer violence prevention education. Second Stage housing and support services are available after victims leave the shelters. We served 6,600 persons in the year.

Rape Crisis Centers in Natchez and Jackson assist victims of sexual assault with medical intervention and counseling. We make sexual violence presentations before school, law enforcement and community groups 5,608 persons were reached during the year.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG SERVICES
Born Free is a residential treatment program for pregnant or parenting women in need of assistance to help them recover from chemical addictions. New Beginnings is a follow up service for women who have successfully completed the Born Free treatment. These programs served 121 persons.

REFUGEE SERVICES
Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program is a long term therapeutic foster care service for refugee children from war torn countries and individuals seeking political asylum. 40 persons were helped by these efforts.

ADOPTION/MATERNITY CARE
Adoption Services are offered to those seeking to open their homes and hearts to children. Our services include domestic and international home studies, pre and post placement services for adoptive families, services to birth parents and counseling which is available throughout the life of an adopted child. Maternity Care Services are offered to women facing an unplanned pregnancy. Services include prenatal counseling, exploring parental options, adoption planning and referrals. Infant Foster Care is provided on a short term basis for infants pending adoption or reunification with birth families. We were happy to have served 274 persons in these programs.

COUNSELING
The Solomon Counseling Center provides comprehensive professional and affordable services for individuals, couples and families. The Center is a Department of Mental Health certified community out-patient counseling center for children and adults. The Center served 240 persons last year.

The Office of Family Ministry works with parishes to provide a variety of services that support and minister to families. The following programs are
MINISTRY PROGRAMS
The Social Ministry Office is rooted in Catholic Social Justice teachings and provides education and advocacy. The office advocates before the state Legislature, and offers educational workshops and assistance to parishes. 711 persons were served.

Office of Parish Health Ministry assists individual parishes to establish their own health programs through the efforts of parish nurses and other volunteers. It also helps individuals find resources to medical or social needs that are not easily addressed. The Health Office served 1,076 persons.

The Immigration Clinic specializes in family and employment based immigration services including permanent residence, citizenship, work authorization, VAWA cases, and visa renewal. It also provides community education, advocacy and outreach for immigrant communities. The clinic served 5,582 persons.

Disaster Response Preparedness provides structure, education and leadership to parishes and organizations to promote effective aid to those affected by disasters. 848 persons were helped in the last year.

NATCHEZ REGIONAL OFFICE
Catholic Charities Natchez office offers an array of services including the Guardian Sexual Assault Center, Guardian Battered Families Shelter, Counseling, Emergency Assistance, the Natchez Food Pantry, the Guardian Thrift Store, and preschool and adolescent Day Treatment. During the past year 1,200 persons were served.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE
The Northeast Regional Office, located in Vardaman, strives to inform and provide rural families, especially immigrant families, with available resources and programs to help them develop into strong, healthy and contributing citizens. We assist in the following areas: information, referrals, advocacy, family support, translations, and emergency assistance. 449 persons were helped last year.

From the Independent Auditor’s Report
In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as of June 30, 2010 and 2009, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Horne LLP

Thank you to all donors for memorials and gifts in honor of loved ones. Go to www.catholiccharitiesjackson.org for a complete list.