



CATHOLIC
CHARITIES

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The *hope* you create.



CATHOLIC
CHARITIES

“ —
All works of
love
are works of
peace. — ”

- Saint Teresa of Calcutta



53,123
PEOPLE POSITIVELY
IMPACTED IN 2023



96%
LIVE AT OR BELOW
POVERTY LEVEL



370
VOLUNTEERS
IN 2023



15,476
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

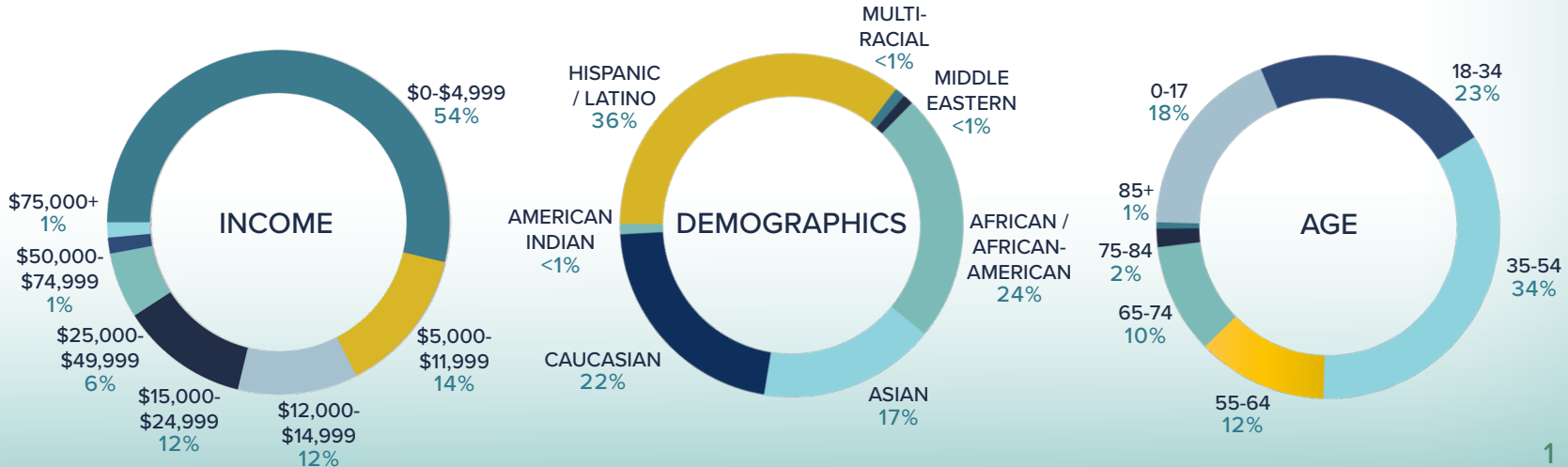


10
SE WISCONSIN
COUNTIES SERVED



104
YEARS OF
SERVICE

THE IMPACT YOU MAKE



FROM OUR LEADERS

Our Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Thank you for caring for your neighbors.
Truly, your compassion continues to help
others when they need it most.

They have healed.
Kept their human dignity.
Experienced love.

And we are all the better for it.

An invisible thread connects us all — it's
called community. And you make it stronger
by choosing action through giving and
volunteering. Your generosity is reflected in
our Annual Report from Catholic Charities
of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Your compassionate heart makes healing,
dignity and love possible.

Fr. David H. Reith

VERY REVEREND DAVID H. REITH
Vicar for Catholic Charities
Vicar General

+ Jerome E. Listecki

MOST REVEREND JEROME E. LISTECKI
Archbishop of Milwaukee
President, Catholic Charities





ADOPTION SERVICES

With heartfelt dedication, our team facilitates adoptions, ensuring the well-being of children, birth parents and adoptive families. We offer compassionate and professional services for various adoption types in Wisconsin.

DJ and Kristi are a couple with a lot of love to give. When they heard about a mom in the community who was “struggling greatly,” and her children who suffered from abuse and neglect, they knew they had to help.

Working with the mom, DJ and Kristi first offered to babysit the girls on weekends. They hoped this would benefit both the mom and the girls. Their goal was to make sure the girls knew they were loved and in a safe environment. After seeing the girls thrive in their care, DJ and Kristi then offered to take the girls for weeklong intervals, which the mom readily accepted. The weeks turned into months, then became full-time care. Around this time, they proposed guardianship to the mom. She agreed and this arrangement lasted two years.

More than anything, DJ and Kristi knew the girls needed a permanent family unit, one that would allow the girls greater mental and physical well-being. This meant adoption. They began the process with Catholic Charities.

In 2023, the girls became a part of DJ and Kristi’s family through adoption. They are now members of the family in a legal sense, though they’ve always felt a part of it with the deep love that DJ and Kristi have given them.

100% of children placed with adoptive families show positive attachment and bonding during post placement visits

REFUGEE & IMMIGRATION SERVICES

Our experienced staff, including licensed attorneys, offers comprehensive support for refugees, asylees and immigrants, helping them secure legal status and integrate into U.S. society with dignity and respect.

Hanady

Hanady is a courageous woman who has risked her life for the happiness of her family. She and her husband were born in a country with rigid customs and severe penalties for not following traditional practices.

When their second child was about a year old, Hanady, her husband and children traveled to the U.S. They saw that they could live here in peace, escape strict rules and worship as they chose. Hanady stated, "I cannot go back. You can get killed for changing religions." This began their long journey to seek asylum, and a friend suggested they contact Catholic Charities Refugee & Immigration Services for support.

That was fifteen years ago. Their family has since grown and embraced American culture. Their oldest daughter is now an EMT and firefighter. Their younger children are middle and high school students.

They are hopeful that their asylum request will be approved this spring. Hanady says, "My family really appreciates Ms. Barb and the Catholic Charities team. They are doing a great job!" For her family, she says, "Thank God, we are safe in the U.S.!"





COMMUNITY COUNSELING

Our compassionate therapists offer a supportive space for individuals, couples and families affected by poverty to heal from emotional distress and trauma. With a focus on inclusivity, we provide bilingual services for the Spanish-speaking community.

Ana

Scared and anxious, Ana desperately needed relief. She had escaped an abusive household, but still felt powerless. She suffered deep emotional pain, and it was difficult to care for her two young children. She remembers thinking, “Por qué me está pasando esto?” [Why is this happening to me?]

Without a support system, Ana felt unsure about her children’s future. They faced other challenges, too, including limited finances and a language barrier. Physically and emotionally worn down, her health began to suffer which was difficult for her family.

Then Ana felt a spark of hope. She met a domestic violence advocate who referred her to Catholic Charities. With the help of a bilingual therapist, she began talking about her trauma and exploring healthier ways to manage her thoughts and feelings. She focused on her own well-being.

Gradually, Ana saw improvements in her self-esteem and self-confidence. A new job helped her feel more productive while her family regained financial stability. If you ask Ana what she feels best about, she’ll tell you, “Ahora soy una mejor madre. Puedo cuidar de mis hijos.” [I am a better mom now. I can take care of my children.]

97%

of people receiving counseling report improved functioning and wellness in their lives

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Our dedicated staff provides engaging and nurturing daytime care for adults with special needs, ensuring a fulfilling daily experience that blends socialization, physical activity and essential care services.

Verlean

Moms and daughters have a special connection that goes beyond words, just like Lois and her mom Verlean. When Lois felt her mom needed a little more care during the day, she turned to Catholic Charities and the personalized services offered at the Adult Day Center. Lois's aunt was once a member of the Adult Day Center (ADC) and she remembered that her time with Catholic Charities was such a wonderful experience.

“After I took a tour, I knew this was the right place for my mom — every staff member is just so kind and dedicated. Plus, the center looks and feels like a home,” says Lois. “Most of all, I really appreciate that she's cared for in such a loving way.”

While arts and crafts are Verlean's favorite pastime, she also listens to live music played by a visiting harpist and violinist at the ADC, plays board games and relaxes with magazines from a local library. The center is safe, comfortable and stimulating. Verlean loves it.

“The Adult Day Center's goal is to keep our seniors living in their own homes longer,” says Annette, Director of Adult Day Services, “and a healthy daytime environment definitely helps.” For Verlean and Lois, this means so much.





PREGNANCY & PARENTING SUPPORT

We provide essential prenatal care and parenting education to families impacted by poverty, focusing on healthy births, nurturing parenting skills and connections to community resources.

Bailey

“I was so scared,” says Bailey. Five months pregnant with twins, she began experiencing serious health issues. But that wasn’t all. With limited finances, she worried she couldn’t get medical help.

Both physically and mentally exhausted, a local hospital referred her to Catholic Charities where she met a pregnancy support worker who encouraged her to focus on her health.

Eight months into her pregnancy, Bailey delivered a little boy and a girl. But unfortunately, her little boy had health complications. After her Catholic Charities case worker let her know how important nutrition and creating loving parent-child bonds were, she visited the hospital each day to nurse her son. “Despite the setbacks she’s experienced,” says her support worker, “Bailey tries to stay positive which is a great asset for her family.”

Today, Bailey is successfully navigating the demands of life with a new job, child care for her twins, and the support of Catholic Charities. She feels renewed strength and resilience, and proudly says, “I want to stay strong for my family.”

100% of parents participated in an educational program and are improving parenting skills

SUPPORTED PARENTING

We stand alongside parents with intellectual disabilities, providing personalized in-home mentoring and dedicated community advocacy, to nurture positive parenting skills and strengthen loving family bonds.

Camila

Camila has a big heart. She wants to solve her own problems but often finds it difficult. As a child, she remembers struggling in school, not being able to grasp what others seemed to understand so quickly.

This was even more apparent when she became a mom. Understanding her daughter's needs was difficult, and without support from family and friends, she was scared to make big decisions. She was overwhelmed by the responsibility.

Then Camila was referred to Catholic Charities. Working with both Camila and her children, a Family Support Worker made sure her family received the resources they needed. Camila learned better ways to communicate and how to parent with more structure. With guidance, she's now able to capture details from school meetings and doctor appointments.

After two years with Catholic Charities, Camila says, "It has been really hard work, but I feel so much better about myself as a person and as a mother. We are happy."



IN-HOME SUPPORT & HOARDING INTERVENTION

Our respectful in-home support services offer companionship and light housekeeping to older adults and those with disabilities. Our hoarding intervention focuses on improving safety and well-being.

Tina and Paul

Paul and Tina love one another deeply. They share, as many couples do, similar interests and enjoy spending time together. But over time, they saw that clutter was taking over their apartment. Floor to ceiling, their home was packed with items they didn't need every day. It was just one of the signs of hoarding disorder.

When state health inspectors ordered Paul and Tina to clear the clutter in their home or be evicted, the couple knew they needed help. Their landlord recommended they contact Catholic Charities.

Paul and Tina were matched with a Home Coach who made them more aware of safety issues. Together, they cleared hallways and their kitchen. Their Home Coach helped them understand hoarding has an emotional component too. Paul and Tina were connected with a therapist so they could better manage their emotions when it came to their possessions. The couple now focuses on better organization and discarding items.

“If it’s overflowing onto the floor, then we don’t need it,” says Tina. “We don’t want to go back — we’re moving forward.”

96% of older adults feel less worried and that they are making progress

OUTREACH & CASE MANAGEMENT

Our bilingual case managers provide holistic and empathetic support, focusing on immediate needs and coordinating services to restore stability and well-being for people facing poverty or crisis.

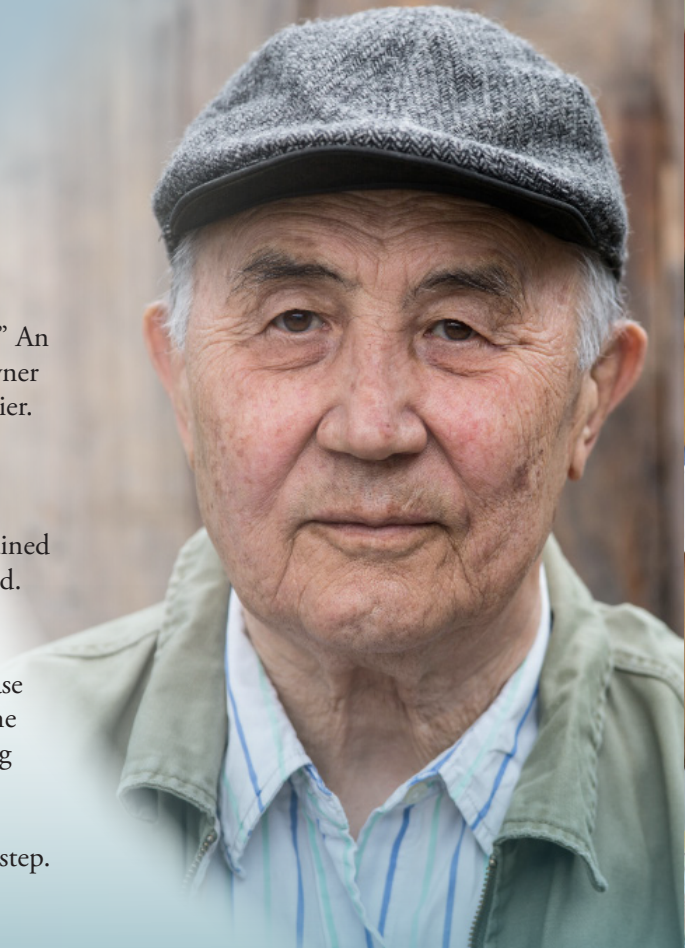
Jack

A quiet, humble guy, Jack says, “I’ve always been independent. I can take care of myself.” An immigrant from Shanghai, China, he’s worked hard his whole life. He was the proud owner of a Chinese restaurant in his early years. When he retired, he thought life would get easier. Living in a rural area, he took long walks and enjoyed the nature around him.

But the quiet retired life Jack so fondly dreamt of ended abruptly. Sitting outside of his apartment, he was a victim of a shooting spree which also harmed three others. He sustained an injury that required three months of hospitalization. While he healed, his rent accrued.

Threatened with losing his home, Jack reached out to several organizations for help, but was rejected. Then he saw a Catholic Charities flyer in the community. The very same case worker who distributed the flyer met with Jack and provided much-needed guidance. She arranged for pro bono legal services and coordinated support from local groups. Working with the landlord, an attorney developed a payment plan.

Throughout the process, Catholic Charities was his constant - by his side through every step. Relieved he could keep his home, Jack is sincere when he says, “I am so very thankful.”



VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES & INTERNSHIPS

Our volunteers and interns are integral to all of our programs. They contribute their compassion and skills to neighbors in need in southeast Wisconsin.

With 55 years of an active life of service in Catholic education, Kathleen has recently found even more ways to serve her community — this time as a volunteer at the Catholic Charities Adult Day Center.

“I knew I didn’t want to lose the momentum that I felt for service for the Church and for society,” says Kathleen. “I’ve always had a love for the elderly. Direct service at the Adult Day Center is the best experience I could have asked for.”

When she began volunteering, Kathleen immediately felt drawn to the members at the center. “This is completely about relationships,” she explains. “With some, communication is without words. They may wave or just want to sit near you. There’s a connection ... a deep emotional joy. That’s what I try to unlock.”

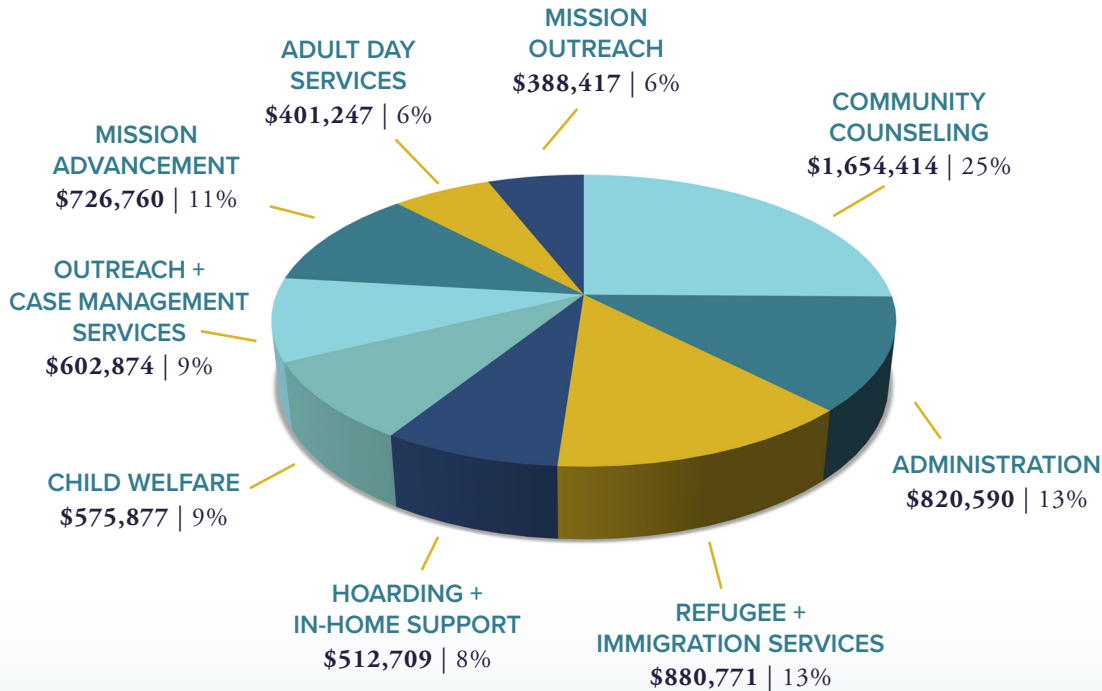
Kathleen now volunteers each week. “I consider it a privilege to volunteer at the Adult Day Center,” she says. “This is a natural extension of who I am. The care is gentle and loving. It’s so beautiful and refreshing to see. It’s filled with grace. It’s the kind of care anyone would want for a loved one.

“I wish the world would know that the Adult Day Center exists,” Kathleen says. “This is a secret haven of safety, love and care that is here on the north side of Milwaukee.”



100% of volunteers and interns receive training and support for their role

CATHOLIC CHARITIES EXPENSES



Expenses

PROGRAM SERVICES

Community Counseling	\$1,654,414
Refugee + Immigration Services	\$880,771
Hoarding + In-Home Support	\$512,709
Child Welfare	\$575,877
Outreach + Case Management Services	\$602,874
Adult Day Services	\$401,247
Mission Outreach	\$388,417

TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES: \$5,016,309

SUPPORT SERVICES

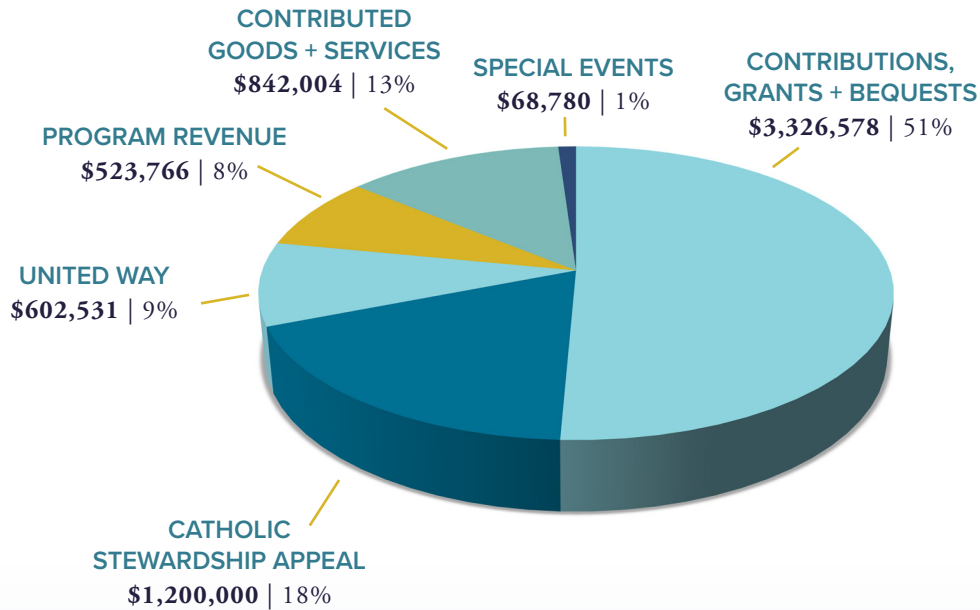
Administration	\$820,590
Mission Advancement	\$726,760

TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES: \$1,547,350

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$6,563,659

*Unaudited Financial Results

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SUPPORT & REVENUE



Support + Revenue

GENERAL SUPPORT

Contributions, Grants + Bequests	\$3,326,578
United Way	\$602,531
Contributed Goods + Services	\$842,004
Special Events	\$68,780

DIOCESAN SUPPORT

Catholic Stewardship Appeal	\$1,200,000
-----------------------------	-------------

TOTAL SUPPORT: **\$6,039,893**

REVENUE

Program Revenue	\$523,766
-----------------	-----------

TOTAL REVENUE: **\$523,766**

TOTAL SUPPORT + REVENUE: **\$6,563,659**

FROM OUR HEARTS TO YOURS, THANK YOU



AGENCY LEADERSHIP

Carla Alejo

Director of In-Home & Hoarding
Intervention and Treatment

Nate Braun

Director of Human Resources

Jessica Brandt

Parish & Volunteer Coordination

Ricardo Cisneros

Chief Operating Officer

Brandi Ellis

Director of Finance

Barbara Graham, JD

Director of Refugee & Immigration Services

Susan Howland

Director of Outreach & Case Management

Annette Jankowski

Director of Adult Day Services

Robert Kaisler

Director of Quality Services

Jennifer Layton, MSW, APSW

Director of Child Welfare Services

Sarah Matson, MS

Director of Supported Parenting

Laura Ramos, MS

Director of Community Counseling

Very Reverend David H. Reith

Vicar for Catholic Charities

Jackie Rekowski

Director of Mission Advancement

Colleen Schmidt

Executive Assistant



2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI
President

John F. Herbert, Jr.
First Vice President
Board Chair

Dr. Julie Schuller
Second Vice President
Vice Chair

Max McGee, CPA
Treasurer

Vincent Beres, JD
Secretary

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Michael Adams
Father Michael Bertram
Father Juan Camacho
Kathleen Cepelka, PhD
Sharon deGuzman
Michael Laszkiewicz
Vevette Hill-Nwagbaraocha
John Kinsella, CPA
Rosana Mateo, PhD
Nicole Schmidt
Teresa Velk
Father Matthew Widder

Thank you!

For questions regarding Catholic Charities
2023 Annual Report, please call 414.769.3524.

Donations may be mailed to:
Catholic Charities
P.O. Box 070912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

DONATE ONLINE: CCMKE.ORG

FEDERAL TAX ID: 39-0806321

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Inc.

To continue your legacy of caring for neighbors in need,
please remember Catholic Charities in your will,
trust or future financial plans.





**CATHOLIC
CHARITIES**
SERVING NEIGHBORS IN NEED

MISSION

Inspired by Christ's call to serve, our mission is to provide service to those in need, to advocate for justice and to call upon others to do the same.

VISION

Our vision is to improve the lives of those we serve, to empower the most vulnerable, and to help reduce poverty through quality, compassionate, and effective human services.

CCMKE.ORG

Member Catholic Charities USA

Adult Day Center

1919 N. 60th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208
414-771-6063

Beaver Dam Area Office

St. Katharine Drexel Parish Center
408 S. Spring St.
Beaver Dam, WI 53916
920-319-3770

Central Administrative Office

P.O. Box 070912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912
414-769-3400

Fond du Lac Area Office

191 S. Main St.
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
920-923-2550

Kenosha Area Office

St. Mark Parish
7117 14th Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143
262-637-8888

Refugee & Immigration Services

1233 S. 45th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53214
414-643-8570

Milwaukee Area Office

2021 N. 60th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208
414-771-2881

Racine Area Office

800 Wisconsin Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
262-637-8888

Sheboygan Area Office

503 Wisconsin Ave., Ste. 2
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-458-5726

Walworth Area Office

St. Patrick Parish
107 W. Walworth St.
Elkhorn, WI 53121
262-637-8888

Waukesha Area Office

717 N. East Ave.
Waukesha, WI 53186
262-547-2463

Washington County Offices

1519 E. Washington St., Suite B
West Bend, WI 53095
38 Sell Drive
Hartford, WI 53027
262-346-4700