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CATHOLIC
CHARITIES
100 YEARS OF SERVICE

2020

Works of Charity Newsletter

Winter 2020

ON THE COVER:
Sarah Matson,
Director of
Supported
Parenting

**HARD WORK
PAYS OFF, p. 2**

**100 YEARS OF
SERVICE
SPOTLIGHT, p. 3**

AND MORE!



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

SERVING MILWAUKEE, WAUKESHA, SHEBOYGAN, RACINE, FOND DU LAC,
KENOSHA, WALWORTH, DODGE, WASHINGTON, OZAUKEE COUNTIES

Employee Spotlight: Sarah Matson



Tell us a little about yourself:

I grew up in Waukesha, and went to UW-Whitewater for both my bachelors and masters degrees in Psychology and Guidance and Counseling (Marriage and Family track). I have two dogs, Jack and Sam, whom I love. I've been blessed with a close and loving family.

What sparks your passion for the work you do?

I've always loved working with people, which is one of the reasons I switched from a Business to Psychology major in college. I began working in a group home for disabled adults after college and loved it. I've been able to work with both adults and children, along with families, in the careers I've chosen.

What do you love most about working at Catholic Charities?

Catholic Charities and the Supported Parenting Program was a natural transition from the previous work I had done. I enjoy working with a wide array of families and watching them grow and become stronger. I've been with Catholic Charities for 20 years due to the positive work environment and ability to grow a program that I believe is beneficial to individuals and the community overall.

Volunteer Spotlight: Hard Work Pays Off

Kevin has been a volunteer with Catholic Charities since June 2019, working with our Refugee Integration Program. Kevin reflected on his time of volunteering with individuals who are preparing for the US Citizenship exam. He shared that it was really rewarding work and that it has been a chance to step out of his comfort zone. "I get to meet people where they're at. Meeting people from other countries has made me much more confident in talking to people who are skeptical about or opposed to immigration. I can share my personal experiences and humanize the people they only see as a political issue. Society is so divided right now that it's absolutely crucial to build bridges whenever possible."

Kevin recently worked with a woman, Alala*, to help her study and pass her citizenship test. Alala came from Sudan in 2013 as a refugee with her four children. In Sudan, she suffered unspeakable tragedies. Kevin admired how determined she was to make the most of her opportunity to start fresh here in the United States. She was in the process of becoming a US Citizen, and had passed portions of the exam, but struggled with the 100 civic questions. Kevin worked with Alala from July to September to prepare for the exam. Within those three months, Alala retook her exam and passed! She came out of the interview crying and thanking God. "I was really emotional when I heard that Alala had passed her interview; she also invited me to her Naturalization Ceremony."

Kevin looks forward to continuing his volunteer service and seeing more individuals like Alala pass their citizenship exam!



** Name has been changed for confidentiality.*

Meet the Youngs

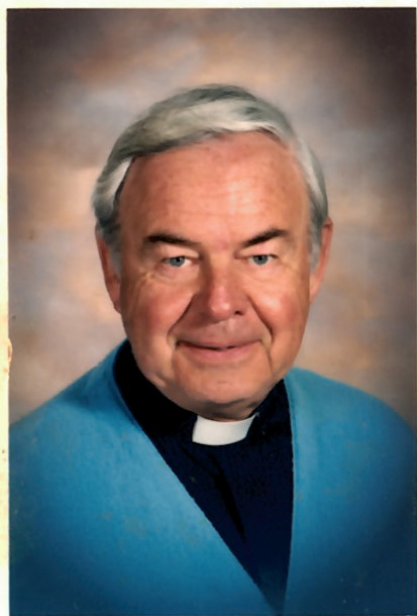


We'd like to take this time to welcome our 2020-2021 Good Samaritan Society Co-Chairs, Dave and Patti Young. The Youngs are excited to partner with Catholic Charities and help serve our neighbors in need.

Dave and Patti Young will join us for the next two years, eager to engage with our Good Samaritan Society members and be ambassadors of our mission to serve people affected by poverty.

When asked what they are most excited about, Patti responded, "It's a great way to get a higher level of investment in our faith and giving back to people that really need help and care. Every person is created in God's image, and if we can further that, then we're doing a good job."

100 Years of Service Spotlight: Fr. Ed Carroll



As we mark 100 Years of Service, we reflected with Fr. Edward E. Carroll on his time with Catholic Charities, and the impact he made.

His journey with the agency began in 1955, when the director of the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau (now Catholic Charities) asked him to join the staff as a Social Worker. Fr. Ed secured a Master's degree in Social Work and joined the agency, where his main focus was to decentralize the agency. He helped open offices in Waukesha, Kenosha, Fond du Lac, West Bend and Sheboygan, while expanding the office in Racine. "It was vital that we made our services more accessible to people throughout the archdiocese, not just Milwaukee," he shared.

In 1960, the agency's name changed to Catholic Social Services to better reflect its broadened base of services to families, individuals, and the elderly. At this time, Fr. Ed was named Associate Director of the agency, overseeing the Milwaukee office. Following Monsignor Springob's retirement in 1980, Fr. Ed was named Director of Catholic Social Services. In 1983, he retired from the agency. His ministry work continues today as he assists parishes as a senior priest.

When asked about his time at Catholic Charities, Fr. Ed reminisced and stated that he felt fulfilled in his work every time an office branch was opened and when a social worker on their team added an MSW to their name. "It's good to know that people around the ten counties are ...

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(Continued from page 3)

... receiving services because of the work that I was part of. But there are still several areas within the archdiocese that need our services. And it can't happen without the support of the community and our partners.”

Catholic Charities thanks Fr. Ed Carroll for the revolutionary work that has allowed us to serve hundreds of thousands of people affected by poverty throughout southeast Wisconsin. Our work is not done yet!



Pictured left, Fr. Edward Carroll receiving the Treasures of the Church Award at the 2019 Lenten Luncheon from Archbishop Jerome E. Listeski. Fr. Carroll was honored at the Tri-County South Lenten Luncheon at Bristol Oaks Golf Club.

2020 LENTEN LUNCHEONS



Come join us and Archbishop Listeski for a soup luncheon, where you can learn more about our mission, and celebrate individuals in our community who will be honored with the “Treasures of the Church” award. The 2020 Lenten Luncheons are now being held at four locations throughout Southeast Wisconsin. It’s an event you won’t want to miss!

Lake Country- March 18, 2020
Sheboygan / Fond du Lac- March 23, 2020
Greater Milwaukee- March 31, 2020
Tri-County South- April 2, 2020

For more information on registering, please visit our website at <https://www.ccmke.org/Lenten-Luncheon>, or contact Colleen Schmidt at 414-769-3400.

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