



**CATHOLIC
CHARITIES**

WORKS OF CHARITY

Thank you for caring for neighbors



Inside:

Remembering Father Carroll
How we counsel with care
Supporting families

WINTER 2024

Serving neighbors in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Sheboygan, Racine,
Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Walworth, Dodge, Washington and Ozaukee Counties

Supporting families together.

Pregnancy & Parenting Support

Carmen was excited to be a new mom but was also scared for the health of her baby girl and their immediate future. With a very low income and no family support, they lived day-to-day, just getting by.

Then, Carmen got in touch with Catholic Charities and a support coordinator named Erika. “Because her baby was born prematurely, Carmen is at greater risk of losing her baby in her first year of life,” said Erika, “and we want to eliminate that risk.”

Carmen worked with Erika to get the help she needed. This included going to a monthly Parent Group that helps moms and dads build healthy social connections, as well as develop parenting and life skills. At the meetings, program members share stories about their experiences, and receive support. “This,” says Erika, “makes our families feel accepted and loved.”



A life inspired by charity and service.

In loving memory of Reverend Edward E. Carroll (February 16, 1924 - November 28, 2023)



As a spry 95-year-old, Fr. Ed Carroll received the Treasures of the Church Award in Kenosha County at our 2019 Lenten Luncheon. He made the needs of children, youth and families affected by poverty central to his ministry and life’s work. Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI presented the award in honor of his nearly 30 years of service with Catholic Charities from 1955 to 1983. He began by earning a Master of Social Work degree from the Catholic University of America before being appointed assistant director and then director of the agency.

“It was vital that we made our services more accessible to people throughout the archdiocese,” Fr. Carroll once shared with us. During his tenure, Catholic Charities expanded services in Kenosha, Fond du Lac, Sheboygan, and Waukesha. His legacy lives on today through your compassion for neighbors in need.

Thank you and well done, good and faithful servant!

The art of caring.

Community Counseling

It's not always easy asking for support. But sharing your journey with another does make it easier. Especially if it's Marisabel, Catholic Charities newest Behavioral Health Therapist. "We want you to feel welcome and at ease," she notes, "Therapy starts in the waiting room."



But there's a lot more on Marisabel's mind. She's eager to learn about your life and help you create attainable goals. For her, "Being a witness to someone's progress is really beautiful."

With a quick smile and engaging personality, it's easy to talk with Marisabel. From preschoolers to seniors, she gives each person the time and space they need to discuss what's going on in their lives. "What works for one person might be completely different for the next," Marisabel notes. "Everyone is unique, which I really appreciate."

As a bilingual therapist, she finds that people sometimes express emotions better if they use their first language, whether it's English or Spanish. Also, she incorporates art. Drawing and painting can help relieve stress or give someone a new way to communicate thoughts. "Art therapy is like a third language," remarks Marisabel, who enjoys adding more ways to care for neighbors at Catholic Charities.



Feeling at home.

Refugee & Immigration Services

Cho Mai lived in a refugee camp in Thailand for many years. Being granted the opportunity to leave the camp was a dream come true. She was eager to adjust to life in America which meant navigating daily tasks like grocery shopping, scheduling doctor appointments, helping her children attend school and going to work. This would not be easy.

Among many things, she needed to learn English to accomplish her goals. Her sister-in-law introduced Cho Mai to Catholic Charities. Excited to begin, Cho Mai reached out to Catholic Charities where we matched her with one of our volunteers who is trained to provide English At Home Services.

Cho Mai was so grateful. Her tutor helped not just with English, but with understanding American culture and customs. Cho Mai felt comfortable asking questions, and her children were so happy to watch their mom learn. Now Cho Mai reads stories, writes and is more confident in her English skills. She is proud of her progress and even shares a laugh or two with people she meets. "After working with the tutor, I feel like I can understand what people are saying to me," remarks Cho Mai. "This makes me feel good."



Thank you, McGuire Foundation.

Community Partnership

It's winter in Wisconsin and 15°F. Kids are bundled up, ready to play in the snow. But not Marco. He doesn't have a winter coat. Watching other kids play outside while he stays in is especially hard on his parents, who just want him to be happy. His family, like many in our neighborhoods, is affected by poverty.

But Marco's story is not just about a winter coat. It is about neighbors caring for neighbors. Catholic Charities works with community partners to ensure families have their needs met. In Marco's case, the McGuire Foundation collected donated coats to help our families this winter.

So how does this affect Marco? He now has a warm coat. More importantly, he's outside playing with friends, which really makes him happy.



Join us for a Lenten Luncheon

February 22

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary,
Milwaukee

February 29

Bristol Oaks Golf Club, Bristol
(hosted by The Tri-Parish Catholic Community
of Burlington and Lyons)

February 27

Holy Family Catholic Community,
Fond du Lac

March 7

St. Anthony on the Lake Parish,
Pewaukee

Archbishop ListECKI will be there. Will you?

Register now for a
Lenten Luncheon!



Or visit
ccmke.org/Lenten-Luncheons

Your support means so much to families in need. Thank you!

Adoption Services • Adult Day Services • Community Counseling • In-Home Support & Hoarding Intervention
Outreach & Case Management • Pregnancy & Parenting Support • Refugee & Immigration Services • Supported Parenting



CATHOLIC CHARITIES | P.O. BOX 070912 | MILWAUKEE, WI 53207

CCMKE.ORG | 414.769.3413