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Fall 2020

### **ON THE COVER:** Remembering Carol

Mary Navin A Legacy of Caring and Service

**Parish Partners** 

**AND MORE!** 

# CATHOLIC CHARITIES

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

## **Remembering Carol**



Carol A. Boxhorn 1953-2020 Catholic Charities' Adult Day Center was Carol's second home for the past 14 years and the staff became like family to her. When drawing pictures of her life it was her friends and her family whom she colored. Carol passed at 67, which was both heartbreaking and a miracle for those who loved her.

People like Carol with Down Syndrome, have a shorter life expectancy, usually ranging from 50-60 years. Her time at the ADC allowed her to stay with her family which we believe contributed to the longevity of Carol's life. The many years that Annette, the Program Director, and her team at the Adult Day Center, had with her was something they were grateful for every day and felt truly blessed to spend with her.

Carol inspired the staff daily. She taught us to be strong as she dealt with multiple surgeries and medical issues that she faced fearlessly, and she continues to inspire the staff as the pictures she has drawn are framed and hung around the center. She reminds us of the good we can do for others, but mainly she reminds us of the good that she has done for us. How a light and positive spirit like hers could teach us all to color the world a little brighter, to spend a little more time being happier, and to create loving families wherever we go.



### **Employee Spotlight: Jay, Parish Relations**



#### What has surprised you most about Catholic Charities?

"The compassion and professionalism of our teams and their commitment to serve families affected by poverty. We have dedicated people who always seem energized despite their large workloads," Jay joined Catholic Charities' only six months ago, after rededicating his life to service. He started at his home parish, Holy Apostles, where he first learned of the mission of Catholic Charities. Jay serves as a connection between Catholic Charities and parishes to create partnerships to support our communities and to help parishes be involved in our mission to reach and serve those most in need.

Continued on next page.

# A Gift to Last Beyond a Lifetime



Mary A. Navin 1939-2019

Mary Navin's passion for the mission of Catholic Charities came from her deep faith in Christ and love of others. To those who knew and loved Mary, and there are many, she is remembered for her caring heart, welcoming spirit, and beautiful smile. She was a devout Catholic, educator, and servant.

Mary was introduced to Catholic Charities by her dear friend, Charlie Wieber. "She was a very inclusive person," Charlie shared. "She brought people in." In her eulogy, her niece Kathy wrote, "It didn't really matter if you spent two minutes or two hours with Mary, she was always present, always listening, and genuinely very interested in what you had to say..."

Often, we don't know the impact we have on a person, but through each act of kindness, we leave the world a better place. This is how Mary lived her life. In her final wishes, she made one more act of kindness leaving a special legacy to Catholic Charities. Mary was an extremely private person and shared her plan with those closest to her. We are filled with gratitude to Mary and inspired by her ability to bring joy to her family, friends, and community.

We share her story as a small gesture of thanks to Mary, and to those who loved her, and promise to continue to serve those who need us most with compassion, dignity, and respect. Through her legacy, Mary continues to care for countless others, and her spirit of service lives on.

Mary and Charlie at the opening of Catholic Charities' Waukesha Office.

#### **Partnering to Feed the Hungry**

# With COVID-19, you adapted to partner with different parishes and offer food for those affected by the pandemic. How will this experience affect the work you do going forward?

"We had a woman call who had no access to food, we provided her with food and connected her to our outreach caseworker who listened and helped her better her situation. She called to thank me, saying how much we had done. While addressing her immediate needs, we could go a step further and offer her life changing services that made me realize if we could partner with all of the parishes, imagine the difference we could make." Jay shared, "I am proud to work with St. Hyacinth, Sacred Heart, and St. Patrick Parishes to help people in need at an unexpected time of hardship. I became the face of the food drive, but our social service staff are the real heroes, making home visits, driving food to those who need it, carefully following health and safety guidelines and being on the frontlines every day."

#### **A Legacy of Love** O' Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them.

Margareth R. Brumsted Peggy A. and Rudy L. Gabos Emil J. Granitz Tekla Marie Keyser Rev. Carl M. Kazmierczak Mary A. Navin Sylvester Schueller Adair M. Templin Rev. Russell F. Tikalsky

To inquire about creating your legacy for Catholic Charities, please contact Jackie Rekowski at 414-769-3524 or jrekowski@ccmke.org.

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