



## Code of Ethics

The employees of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Inc. are a diverse staff growing in number and filled with hope. In response to the call to serve others, they reach out to all, especially to those who are poor in the eyes of the world. Employees of Catholic Charities must strive to enhance the quality life to those they serve by working collaboratively, by treating each other and those served with dignity and respect and by assisting the needy to reach full potential by offering leadership, service and resources. Urged by the Gospel we are to make our priority the poor and all who are in need.

Catholic Charities will seek to provide employees a working atmosphere based on Catholic, Christian beliefs where all are valued and treated with dignity and respect. The seven Catholic Social Teaching Principles are used as a basis for the ministry that is carried out and for decisions that are made in our organization.

1. Human Life and Dignity
2. Call to Family, Community and Participation
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
5. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care for God's Creation

In addition to the Catholic Social Teaching Principles, all employees must maintain the Code of Ethics for Catholic Charities:

1. Recognize confidentiality as a living principle within the agency and assure the protection of the privacy of the relationship established with clients and other relevant bodies.
2. Be consistently and publicly accountable for our programs and fiscal operations, and seek objective certification that we meet those standards of quality in our performance that have been established for the field of social service, through accreditation and licensing, as appropriate.
3. Support and advocate for those freedoms and structures in society that contribute to pluralism in social welfare and cooperation between public and voluntary sectors.
4. Subscribe to and advocate for the principle of subsidiarity, its concern to leave the highest degree of freedom to the individual that is consonant with the common good, to recognize the family as the primary institution for meeting the human needs of its members, and for active, vigorous mediating groups and voluntary organizations in society with particular reference to the parish as a caring community.
5. Seek to realize the virtues of charity and justice as expressed in all relationships with staff, volunteers, the people served within the larger community.