Our Mission

Inspired by God’s love, Catholic Charities uses a two-generation approach to fight poverty.

Our Vision

That every home is a nurturing environment that supports the full potential of the child so that every child is ready for school on day one.

Board of Directors

Dave Feamster – Chair
Burnie Zercher – Vice Chair
Mark Miller – Treasurer
Monica Klein – Secretary

Debbie Carleo
Steven Fieldman
Anthony Martinez
Ashley Valdez
Jon Riggs

Caroline Trani
Jeannette O’Quin
Shelly Morechini
Sophia Markison-DiPrince

Looking Forward...

Dear Friends,

Another year done at Catholic Charities and another year started. Funny how that works. I do want to take a moment to pause, reflect on the past year and put ourselves on the back for our successes and consider our mistakes.

The agency continued to grow this year. That remains a priority for us. We see the needs in our community and want to step up and do more. There are 160,000 people in Pueblo County, of that 10,000 are between the ages of 0-5. This is our focus for our early childhood programs. Of those 10,000, 25% fall below the federal poverty line and 60% qualify for a free or reduced school lunch. As we work to fight poverty, this is our core. This past year we served 850 children in that group. We would like to serve 3000.

If we can do that, we begin the community forward. We prepare the children for school, ready on day one! These students graduate with better graduation rates, get better jobs, and attract more businesses to Pueblo because of our skilled workforce. I can see it. It is still years away, but we are laying the foundation.

This year we also begin preparations to celebrate our agency’s 75th anniversary serving the Pueblo community. Our agency was founded in April of 1944. World War II was still going on. Then, a loaf of bread cost 10 cents, a gallon of gas was 15 cents, a new house was $3,450, and average wages were about $2,400 a year. Both Pueblo and Catholic Charities have seen a lot since 1944 and I expect we will see quite a bit more in the future.

What we have to do now is determine that vision and keep moving forward.

I want to thank you for your support.

Joe Mahoney
Executive Director

Dave Feamster
Board Chair

1944

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo officially opens.

1965

The agency’s name changes to Catholic Social Services, Inc.

2000

The agency merges with Family Service of Pueblo to become Social Services of Pueblo United.

JAN – The agency’s name changes back to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Pueblo.

APR – CCOP moves from the old office on 1st Avenue to the current building.

... To be Continued
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Creating Hope
A Story of Success

It was the middle of February 2018 and I was at a loss. I had been looking for a job for months and hadn’t been able to find anything. My work history was poor because I had to take care of my sick ex-wife and become a stay at home dad for 8 years, and to top it off, I have had some trouble with the law in the past. I was ready to accept that maybe fast food restaurants were the only place for me. I wanted so much more for my family but I could see no light at the end of the very long dark path.

I had been temporarily working with a non-profit organization called Victory Outreach in Pueblo to pay my rent, but I knew I had to find something else fast. Joe Manzanares, my child support worker, referred me to the ReHiRe Colorado, a program with Catholic Charities.

I called and set up an appointment to meet with Evie at her ReHiRe office. She explained the application process and stated that it was a lottery. Shortly after completing the intake, I found out that I was accepted to the program! The program was surreal. They guide you through the process of seeking a career and not just a job. They put me in workshops and I was able to sit in on several mock interviews. The staff also helped me get a permit to pay for my driver’s test. Having my Driver’s License allowed me not only to get back to work but at a job I really wanted.

Throughout the program, Evie and Pam helped me construct an eye catching, professional resume and cover letter. With those in hand, I was able to finally apply at Crossroads Turning Points - a place I have been interested in working with for quite a while. I was caught off guard when Crossroads finally offered me a job as a UA Tech. My dream job is to work as a Certified Addiction Counselor which requires a CAC License. Now that I’ve started at Crossroads, they will help support me in the process of getting certified and allow me to work the necessary credit hours. Once again with the help of ReHiRe, which provided the fees for my first 2 classes, I was able to get started on another one of my professional goals.

A few months ago life was looking so dim. I felt discouraged and I struggled with my self-worth. Today I have my Driver’s License for the first time in 10 years, paying my child support every month, have a great job, and I am attending classes that will guide me to better care. The services I received through ReHiRe were not only helpful but very much needed. Pam and Evie did more than I could have ever expected and I cannot express how grateful I am. What I felt was impossible has now become possible thanks to support I received through ReHiRe!
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Providing Help...  
2017-2018 Program Outcomes

Family Support

Home Stability:
- Our Home Stability program provided assistance to 4,297 individuals for utility, rent, and mortgage payments, helping to stabilize families and prevent homelessness.

Immigration:
- Our Immigration program held 20 public meetings, workshops, attended by over 422 immigrants and family members informing them of their legal rights and paths to citizenship.
- 52 Immigration clients became U.S. citizens.
- 45 Immigration clients renewed their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and we assisted 8 more clients with their initial DACA applications.

SafeCare Colorado:
- Our SafeCare CO program delivered 1,539 home visits to parents living in Southern Colorado.
- The program helped create a safer physical home environment for 81 families and strengthened parent-child relationships in 69 families by providing skills training to parents in the areas of parenting, child safety, and child health.

Nurturing Parenting:
- Our Nurturing Parenting program served 219 families through all of its classes, bringing parents and children together to build positive parent-child relationships.
- The program was able to provide 119 families (3328 individuals) with a hot meal (sometimes their only hot meal that week) during their class.

Family Development:
- Our Family Support Services (FSS) Program brought 56 families out of crisis by providing family support, knowledge and resources.
- Colorado Community Response (CCR), our partnership with the Department of Human Services, served 77 families with concrete support, case management, and family goal setting.

Health & Wellness

Diaper Bank of Southern Colorado:
- We are one of three Diaper Banks in Colorado, and are a member of the National Diaper Bank Network.
- Provided emergency diaper assistance to 811 families who are struggling financially, ensuring 905 infants and toddlers remained clean, dry, and healthy.

Support, Connect, and Nurture (SCAN):
- SCAN served 176 individuals, addressing the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on the health and well-being of children and families in Pueblo County.

Healthy Steps:
- Our Healthy Steps program provided tools and support to 222 families so they can better understand what to expect as their child grows and develops from birth to age three.

School Readiness

Parents as Teachers (PAT):
- Our Parents as Teachers home visitors completed 4,112 home visits serving 480 children in Pueblo, Crowley and Otero Counties. During this year, 54 children graduated from our Parents as Teachers Program.

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY):
- Our Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program delivered 6,547 home visits to families, providing essential early childhood educational visits to 294 children.

Collaborative Management House Bill 1451:
- Our House Bill 1451 / Collaborative Management Program served 111 multi-system involved families and 286 at-risk youth through the family support team (FST) multi-agency collaborative model, and allocated over $40,000 to assist them with simple economic barriers to school success.
- After one year with the program, 43% of youth with truancy issues saw their school attendance rate improve.

Life Skills

Project ACCESS (Advancing Community Care Enhancing Student Success):
- Our Options 4 Change seminar helped 101 students examine the links between their life choices and their current situations to help recognize strengths and “options for change” - 78 of those students completed the seminar.
- Staying the Course seminar empowered 70 students to take steps towards accessing further education and the job market by addressing challenges commonly faced in the pursuit of education or employment - 54 of those students completed the seminar.
- Project ACCESS helped enroll 36 past participants in post-secondary education.

Re-Hire Colorado:
- ReHire Colorado placed 35 individuals in subsidized jobs with 31 of these participants transitioning to unsubsidized employment.
Providing Help...
2017-2018 Program Outcomes

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Agency Financials

Total Expenses: $5,015,401

Total Revenue: $4,949,260

- Administration 15%
- Direct Assistance 6%
- Programs 79%
- Individual Contributions 9%
- Program Fees 3%
- Assistance 6%
- Special Events 1%
- Program Contracts 54%
- Program Grants 28%

Ways to Give

“Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much.” - Helen Keller

Financial Support: Contributions of any size are deeply appreciated. Send donations to Catholic Charities, 429 W. 10th St. Pueblo, CO 81003, or go on-line at http://www.pueblocharities.org

Monthly Giving: Each month, your credit card or bank account will be charged in the amount you choose. Your commitment will help reduce poverty among families, children, and seniors.

Bequests: Name Catholic Charities Diocese of Pueblo as a beneficiary in your will to receive a fixed amount or a percentage. In doing so, you will be remembering Catholic Charities in in the future and providing hope for those in need. Please consider making Catholic Charities your charity of choice. For more information, please contact us at (719) 586-8613 or email at donate@pueblocharities.org.

Volunteer: Volunteers provide essential services that allow our finances to go further and allow us to offer compassionate services to more people in need. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers and the support they provide for us. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at (719) 586-8629 or volunteer@pueblocharities.org or go to our website at: www.pueblocharities.org/get-involved

In-Kind Donations: Contributions of hard goods are greatly appreciated. Items such as canned food, meat, baby food, formula, diapers, etc., help support all of our programs. For more information please contact us at (719) 586-8613 or email at donate@pueblocharities.org.

Diapers: Catholic Charities is part of the National Diaper Bank Network. We are one of three Diaper Banks in the State of Colorado. If you or your company would like to donate diapers or host a Diaper Drive, please call (719) 586-8629 or email at donate@pueblocharities.org

**Donations of $250 or more are eligible for a state tax credit of 25% of the donation up to $100,000. To receive the tax credit, make checks payable to “Catholic Charities Diocese of Pueblo” and write “Enterprise Zone Administrator” on the memo line of your check.