

ANNUAL REPORT Fiscal Year 2023



STATS AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Manatee Hardee Highlands ` DeSoto Sarasota Glades Charlotte Hendry Lee Collier

106

Staff Members

393

Volunteers

335,312

Services Provided

29

Programs

10

Counties

10,000

Square Miles

60

Sites

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

"Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect." – Pope Francis

I am pleased to present the 2023 Annual Report for Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc., representing our organization's accomplishments and impact over the past year. This report underscores the steadfast commitment of our team, partners, volunteers, and supporters.

In 2023, despite the changing financial landscape, natural disasters, and societal conflicts, Catholic Charities remained dedicated to its core mission of Providing Help, Creating Hope, and Serving All. Together, we navigated

challenges, making a significant impact on the lives of individuals and families in our community. Post-Hurricane Ian, our focus shifted to long-term recovery, with inspiring stories of resilience, collaboration, and generosity offering hope for the future. Gratitude is extended to the 393 volunteers, supportive parishes, and numerous donors who fueled our ongoing efforts.

Throughout the year, Catholic Charities delivered over 300,000 services, spanning housing, food assistance, financial aid, anti-human trafficking, and senior support. Each service outlines our commitment to addressing diverse needs and promoting dignity and belonging.

As we reflect on the past year, heartfelt thanks go to our stakeholders for their time, resources, and expertise. Your support has been pivotal in facilitating our vital work and positively impacting countless lives. Together, we strive to build a more compassionate and inclusive society where everyone can thrive.

We invite you to explore this annual report, showcasing the remarkable achievements of 2023. Let's celebrate these milestones, reflect on our collective impact, and embrace the opportunities and challenges ahead. Thank you for your unwavering support as we embark on another year of making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

With gratitude and determination,

Eddie Gloria, CEO

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Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc.

Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane, **Bishop**

Rev. Msgr. Stephen McNamara, Vicar General

Dr. Volodymyr Smeryk, Chancellor

Eduardo Gloria, Chief Executive Officer

2022-2023 EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rita Cavuoto, Chair Robert Farnham, Vice-Chair Brenda Dolan, Treasurer Michael J. Egan, Secretary

BOARD

Alfred Connizzo
Domenico Cricchio
Arthur Fleischer
Paul Gulbrandsen
Luca Hickman
Sarah Landman
Joseph Mallof
Therese Marie Soller



HOUSING SITES

FISCAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023



Parents & Children at Casa San Juan Bosco

88

Seniors at St. John Paul II

68

Mothers & Children at Our Mother's House

70

People Housed at Family Haven

54

Low-Income Individuals & Families at Marion Manor

29

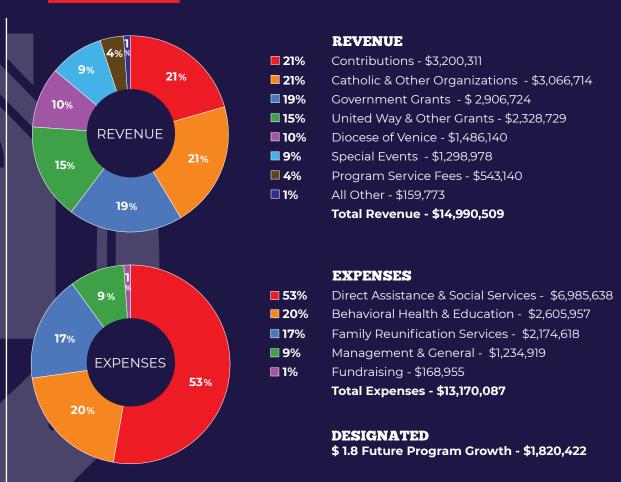
Low-Income Parents & Children at St. Dominic

28

Parents & Children at St. Monica

8

Vulnerable Residents at Casa San Jose



FISCAL YEAR 2023 SUPPORT SERVICES



276,168
Pantry and Food Services
Provided to Individuals



3,019,922
Dollars of Direct
Assistance Provided



3,561
Behavioral Health
Services Provided



4,034
Services for Victims
of Human Trafficking



1,419
Families, Children,
and Individuals Housed



17,546 Calls for Help



13,140
Education Services for Children and Adults



1,188
Families Accessed
Supplemental
Nutrition Benefits



785
Immigration
Services Provided



23,186
Services to Seniors

SUCCESS STORY

Meet Carmen Alicia Martínez, a Venezuelan lawyer who left her country and came to the United States in 2016 to escape the dire political crisis in her homeland. Accompanied by her husband and four children, she began life anew until she discovered an unexpected adversary: stage 4 lymphoma cancer. After two years of grueling surgeries and chemotherapy, she emerged victorious, free from cancer, and in excellent health. Carmen lost her country, her career, her home, and now her hair but never her faith and turned her sights on returning to a legal profession. She enrolled in Catholic Charities Empowerment Program and soon earned multiple certifications. She graduated as a paralegal in October 2023 and is now thriving in her new role, working alongside an Immigration Attorney.

Carmen also recently published *Doble*Rescate, a book detailing her kidnapping
experience in Venezuela. Her remarkable
story is a testament to her resilience, faith, and
determination, and Catholic Charities is proud to be
part of her success!

SIX PRIORITIES

Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc. is committed to serving our communities. To fulfill this, we've structured our organization around six priorities to focus on our goals and the people we serve.

1. Food Security

By partnering with other organizations in Southwest Florida, we leverage our food distribution network and provide a broader and more sustainable solution for individuals and families facing food insecurity.

2. Housing

As one of the leading low-income housing providers in SWFL, we develop housing solutions to increase access to safe, sustainable, and affordable housing to assist families in need, both in housing owned by Catholic Charities and through collaborative partnerships.

3. Anti-Human Trafficking

Southwest Florida sees some of the highest incidents of Human Trafficking in our Nation. In response, we have developed an innovative, responsive, and comprehensive system of care that provides direct assistance, trauma-informed counseling, and housing for victims. Our program encompasses intervention and recovery programs to protect and support victims of human trafficking.

4. Behavioral Health

Catholic Charities behavioral health services provides outpatient mental health therapy that is both accessible and culturally sensitive. Partnering with schools and licensed mental health professionals, we're able to bring access to those in need and support them on the path to mental stability and self-sufficiency.

5. Immigration

As our communities grow, we are prepared to assist individuals who qualify and seek a legal path to permanent residency or citizenship. Certified staff assists in reuniting families, work authorization, permanent residency adjustment, consular processing, and United States citizenship to support a legal pathway for successful integration into our community.

6. Youth Development

Catholic Charities believes that children are the couriers of the future. Our goal is to engage young people intentionally, proactively, and constructively while recognizing and enhancing their strengths. We provide various opportunities for positive encounters with adults, engaging youth programs, and offer after-school and summer reading programs to kindergarten through grade 12 students.



THE FOUR PILLARS OF OUR ORGANIZATION

Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc., is committed to providing a wide range of assistance to people across Southwest Florida. Our mission is to assist individuals in overcoming hardships to promote self-sufficiency and healthy lives, regardless of race, nationality, or religion.

Through our 60 sites, including offices, housing developments, and outreach services, we strive to meet the growing needs of the vulnerable populations in our region.

1. Donors

Our donors are the lifeblood of our organization, empowering us to fulfill our mission of "Providing Help, Creating Hope, and Serving All." It's their generosity that makes our programs and services for individuals possible.

2. Staff

Our dedicated staff brings together a diverse range of talents and shares a common commitment to serving and uplifting others. Their expertise and collaborative efforts enable us to work as a united team in pursuit of our mission.

3. Those We Serve

We make it a priority to understand the needs of the people we serve. This approach ensures that those seeking assistance receive the support they need to overcome challenges such as homelessness, food insecurity, mental health issues, human trafficking, and disaster recovery.

4. Volunteers

Volunteers play a pivotal role in advocating for our cause, contributing a variety of skills that amplify our impact. We depend on our volunteers' gifts of time and talent to fortify our services and extend our reach to assist further.



MESSAGE FROM OUR BISHOP

"They are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance." – Luke 8:15

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Amidst a landscape of constant change, where challenges and opportunities have shaped the path of service, we reflect upon the unfolding events of the past year in the life of Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc. In this environment, Catholic Charities has risen to the occasion, responding with unwavering dedication and selflessness to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters.

Catholic Charities witnesses every day the worst of situations and the best in people; it has seen generosity that knows no bounds and the joy of gratitude on the faces of those who need assistance, no matter how large or small.

This year, as always, I am grateful for the dedication of the Catholic Charities team. New energy has been brought to the mission of providing help, creating hope, and serving all, and the team's commitment to this mission is inspirational. The data in this Annual Report tells the story of not only their commitment but also of yours. You have helped so many!

Catholics are called to live a life for others, especially for our brothers and sisters in need. It is a blessing to have so many in the Diocese of Venice who take this Catholic mission to heart and act upon it. Challenges and opportunities lie ahead. But with the help of God and hearts united, it will be possible to forge a brighter and more compassionate future for all!

May God's blessing be upon each of you as this remarkable journey together continues!

+ Frank J. Dewane,

Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

SERVICE LOCATIONS

Arcadia
Boca Grande
Bonita Springs
Bradenton

Clewiston Fort Myers Immokalee Naples

Port Charlotte Sarasota Venice

North Port

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Adult Education Affordable Housing After-School Programs Anti-Human Trafficking Assistance Career Development & Empowerment Case Management Clothing Distribution Counseling Services Disaster Response & Recovery Early Learning Centers **Emergency Shelter English Classes** Farm Worker Housing Financial Assistance Homeless Prevention Housing for Homeless Families

Immigration Services
Infant/Toddler Supplies
Pantry & Food Assistance
Rapid-Rehousing
Residential Program for
Mothers & Children
Senior Housing
Senior Services
Soup Kitchen
Summer Youth Program
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
Program (SNAP)
Transitional Housing
Veteran Services
Vulnerable Population Housing



1000 Pinebrook Road Venice, FL 34285 941-486-4700

Manatee

Sarasota

Hardee

DeSoto

Charlotte

Highlands

Glades

Hendry





