

EFFORTS FOCUS ON HEALTHY EATING

Empty Bowls Monongalia exists to raise money to feed the hungry people in Monongalia County and increase public awareness of hunger, food insecurity and related issues.

Since its first luncheon, Empty Bowls Monongalia has distributed \$346,765 to local agencies serving people who may not know where their next meal will come from.

Empty Bowls supports Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) WellnessWorks program. All funds are used to purchase healthy food alternatives and educate clients.

The CCWVa staff shared some experiences and feedback they've received from clients:

"One client comes in once per month and has two children. We provide the children with some crayons and coloring pages and invite the family into the pantry area. We discuss with them the dietary needs of the household, and the family is an active participant in the selection of the available foods in the pantry. This particular client, along with others, is surprised that they get choices. When so many things in their lives are chosen for them, they feel empowered when they get to choose the slightest things. We then provide this young mother with our WellnessWorks newsletter. She said she always keeps the newsletters and places them on her refrigerator. She shared that she enjoys reading them and has tried the healthy recipes. Overall, what we do is all about the client. Empowering people to make decisions in their life helps their emotional well-being as much as their physical well-being. Our goal is to support the whole person."

LONG-TERM FLOOD RECOVERY EFFORTS BEGIN

The June 22nd flooding in West Virginia is being called a 1,000 year flood. Recovery from the devastation is expected to take more than five years.

Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) Disaster Recovery Services focus on long-term recovery for individuals and communities, which typically starts 4-5 months after a disaster and can last for years. To prepare for this phase, CCWVa staff have been participating in WV-VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) planning meetings, attending county Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) meetings, developing partnerships with local and state organizations, and coordinating resources with parishes and groups providing help.

"We are committed to serving those affected by this tragedy for the long-term and ensuring people affected by the disaster return to a safe, secure, and stable living situation," said Mark Sliter, Executive Director of CCWVa.



CCWVa Work Camp Volunteers Assist a Victim of the June Flooding

INSTANCES OF SERVICE

April 2016 – June 2016

Morgantown	
615	Number of People Served
\$16,209	Value of Services Provided
Grafton	
147	Number of People Served
\$3,602	Value of Services Provided
Kingwood	
1,195	Number of People Served
\$45,276	Value of Services Provided



UNITED WAY SUPPORT

Catholic Charities West Virginia is open to all people regardless of their race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, marital or family status.

Needed Items

Cereal, canned meats, flour, sugar, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mix, pancake syrup, dried beans, soups, crackers, coffee, tea, pasta, pasta sauce, dairy products, mayonnaise, personal care items, cleaning supplies

Needed for WellnessWorks

Low-sodium products, sugar free products, gluten-free items, whole grain pastas, canned fruits in light syrup, vegetarian options, fresh produce, frozen meats

Deliver donations to 827 Fairmont Road, Morgantown, WV 26505 or by credit card online at CatholicCharitiesWV.org 1-888-900-2989

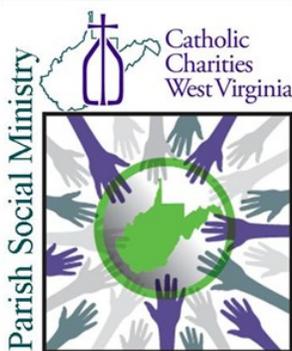


Over 4,500 generous community donors entrust United Way of the Monongalia and Preston Counties to invest funds donated to the Community Impact Fund in health and human service programs across the community. These dollars help nonprofit organizations provide services to those who are most vulnerable. In 2015, United Way invested in 49 programs throughout the community to support services covering education, income and health.

For several years, United Way has supported Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) Raymond Wolfe Center in Kingwood. For the past two years, the organization has also been supporting the CCWVa Morgantown Outreach Office. United Way provides significant financial support for the WellnessWorks food pantry, and also assists by connecting volunteers with CCWVa's current needs.

"Our partnerships with United Way agencies are critical to our accurate assessment of community needs, and for us to be part of the local communities' effort to alleviate poverty," said Patti Phillips, Director of Development and Marketing for CCWVa.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY PACKETS AVAILABLE



To open the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis wrote,

It is my burning desire that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty. [15]

Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) mission is "to alleviate poverty, distress, and injustice." We do this, in part, by "calling all people of good will, especially those of the Church, to service." To that end, and to celebrate the Jubilee of Mercy in a concrete way, CCWVa Parish Social Ministry invites the parishes of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to reach out to their brothers and sisters. We will offer resource materials and guidance as parishes seek to establish or enhance their social ministries.

On Ash Wednesday 2016, CCWVa released the first of a three-part series which aims to enable parishes to Learn, Plan, and Proceed on outreach opportunities in their communities. We have since released part 2 – Plan – and part 3 is in the works. If you are interested in receiving these materials, please contact Kate at kkosydar@ccwva.org or at 304-622-4532. Together, we can be "merciful like the Father"!



JUBILEE OF MERCY

CENTRAL REGION STAFF

Regional Director, (Vacant); Morgantown and Grafton Program Assistant, Mara Skidmore; Raymond Wolfe Center Outreach Worker, Alix Evans; LifeBridge AmeriCorps Members, Kita Taylor (Morgantown) and Don Maleta (Raymond Wolfe Center)

Our Mission is to alleviate poverty, distress, and injustice by providing comprehensive social services to the poor and vulnerable, advocating for social justice, and calling all people of good will, especially those of the Church, to service.

Rachel's Vineyard
A Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing
Nov. 4-6, 2016
Charleston, WV
Beginning Friday 6:00 pm
Concluding Sunday 4:30 pm
For information visit www.ccwva.org or call 304-905-9860, ext. 2022 or email rachelvineyardwv@comcast.net