

## LONG-TERM FLOOD RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE

West Virginia is continuing long-term flood recovery efforts, and coordination of recovery cases is imperative to reaching every survivor and ensuring resources are available for the duration. There are eight county-wide Long-Term Recovery Committees (LTRCs), which work to ensure that recovery efforts are coordinated and collaborative. CCWVa is a partner agency of several of the LTRCs, and as such, staff sit on the LTRC and help with the coordination of case information and disaster case management. In addition, as the LTRCs are beginning to assign volunteer work teams to cases, CCWVa is providing seed funds to the LTRCs to use for building supplies for the work teams to complete their assigned job.



*Students from the University of Notre Dame hang drywall in a home in Richwood that was damaged by the June flood*



*Volunteers work under a damaged mobile home to restore its foundation blocks and replace insulation*

As long-term recovery advances, more intensive disaster case management is crucial. LTRC partner agencies Disaster Case Managers (DCM) are assigned to cases by the LTRC. The DCMs work with the survivors to develop their plan to recovery. They walk with the survivors throughout the recovery process and help with volunteer labor and funding for building materials, personal property replacements (e.g. appliances), and contractors when projects require more skilled labor.

CCWVa is well-positioned to help people in the long-term, and the agency is committed to ensuring that all of the flood-affected areas throughout the state receive the help they need for recovery.

## PROVIDING FOOD, TOYS AND HOPE FOR CHRISTMAS

Each year at Christmas, the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center works with area churches, schools, and many other organizations to make the holiday merrier for those in need. This year, we will be providing special Christmas food baskets to over 350 families. In addition, we will coordinate the donation of Christmas gifts for area children, and over 200 children will receive Christmas gifts courtesy of the generous Wheeling area community. During our special Christmas gift distribution days, when parents can come to the Neighborhood Center to pick up the gifts donated by the community, we create a festive environment, complete with Christmas music, cookies, and hot chocolate.

Our regular Neighborhood Center clients are included in the gift-giving as well. Each year we provide special gifts to our meal delivery clients who are homebound as well as those who eat meals on-site and those who use our day shelter. Last year one of our meal delivery recipients called the Neighborhood Center crying with appreciation, saying that the gift we gave her was the first Christmas gift she had received in three years.

The gifts we coordinate and give are one way we can affirm the dignity of those we serve. During this holiday season, please join us in praying for all those who are less fortunate in our community.

### HOW WE ASSIST

**August — October 2016**

Utility Assistance:	166 Families
Meals On-Site:	7,253 Meals Served
Food Pantry:	Avg. 472 Families per Month
Delivered Meals:	181 Households (Daily)

**Working to reduce poverty in** Marshall, Ohio, Brooke, and Hancock Counties in WV, plus Belmont County, OH

**Wheeling [CCNC]: (304) 232-7157**

**Hancock/Brooke Counties: (304) 830-2410**

## SUPPORTING THOSE IN CRISIS

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

### Volunteer Opportunities

Meal Delivery Drivers  
Cleaning Crew  
Data Entry  
Kitchen Crew  
Receptionist  
Hospitality Ministers  
Donation pick-ups

Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator for more information on these and other volunteer opportunities.

Mail donations to:  
P.O. Box 6176  
Wheeling, WV  
26003

or by credit card  
online at

[CatholicCharitiesWV.org](http://CatholicCharitiesWV.org)  
1-888-900-2989



So many people turn to Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) for one-time assistance to help them through a difficult point in their lives. Sometimes they are behind on their utility bill for the first time, suffer an illness that drains their finances, or lose their jobs. Other times the loss of an appliance or vehicle is enough to put their lives into turmoil.

Recently a young couple called our Northern Regional Office requesting assistance. The husband was a person with a substance misuse problem, and he was only able to find sporadic work, while the wife had sustained an injury and had been out of work for several weeks. They used all of their SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as Food Stamps) benefits to purchase enough food to last through the end of the month. However, their refrigerator broke and they lost all of their refrigerated and frozen food. They were hungry and turned to CCWVa for help.

Our case manager quickly found someone to donate a used refrigerator to the family, and she gave them a large box of food to replace what they had lost. With this temporary help, they were able to stabilize until the wife returned to work. The couple is now doing well and is so appreciative of the way CCWVa was able to assist them during their crisis.



## UNITED WAY PARTNERSHIPS INTEGRAL TO CCWVA

Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) services that aim to alleviate, prevent and reduce poverty in West Virginia rely on many partnerships and collaborations to ensure it is addressing the real and unique issues and needs of a particular local community. CCWVa local outreach staff and United Way agencies throughout the state work in partnership with other community stakeholders to identify broad community needs, develop networks of assistance to improve the lives of the people in each community and look to affect lasting change for the better.

These partnerships create opportunities for CCWVa to build comprehensive service networks that make the most of resources by linking clients to other assistance partners that may be able to address the sometimes complex and varied needs of those seeking assistance. In addition, CCWVa enjoys being a funded partner with eight United Way agencies for 14 counties. These grant funds provide valuable resources for specific and localized CCWVa programs and services. Lastly, annual donor-designated charitable gift payroll deductions that are available to employees of United Way corporate partners offer both localized funding and broad or greatest need funding for CCWVa.

CCWVa sees partnerships as an integral part of ensuring that resources, both human and fiscal, are maximized, and that programs are addressing the complex and specific needs of the people in rural and populated communities throughout the state. CCWVa enjoys great partnerships with United Way agencies in the local communities and with the larger agency to ensure needs are met, and the relationships endure.

## NORTHERN REGION STAFF

**Regional Director:** Andrea Staron, MPP; **Neighborhood Center Coordinator:** Diana Bell, LSW;  
**Regional Case Manager:** Kelly Pizzoferrato; **Regional Program Assistant:** Grant Coleman; **Outreach Worker:** Susan Hollis;  
**Kitchen Manager:** Betty Simeth; **Maintenance:** Kevin Simeth; **AmeriCorps Members:** Ted Allen and Lee Williams

**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.