

- Serving Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wetzel, Wirt and Wood Counties •

New Martinsville Office Remodel Provides Greater Service



The New Martinsville Outreach office, located at St. Vincent de Paul Church, New Martinsville has had a recent facelift in order to provide improved service to visitors. With the assistance of the parish, the office space has been divided into two separate spaces that now allow for more privacy for those who come for assistance with food and utilities. The changes make the space more handicapped accessible and aid in the receipt of food from Mountaineer Food Bank. The main room provides a comfortable waiting area for both adults and children. A Kids Corner has been established to occupy children while the adults meet with staff. The second room is the food pantry area, complete with open access shelving, a freezer, and a refrigerator to assist in providing fresh produce and other perishables.

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) continues to be involved with larger community needs as well. Agency staff joined New Martinsville United Methodist Church and other local churches and businesses on August 6th to provide more than 300 backpacks filled with school supplies during the annual Back to School Bash. It was a great event for local families in need that included fun foods, games, and entertainment.

A training for eight new volunteers was also recently provided. The volunteers will assist with food pantry requests so that staff can continue to be available to provide assistance with utility terminations, prescriptions, and other emergency needs. Additional volunteer trainings are being planned so the current hours for the food pantry can be expanded.

Santa has also already begun planning with CCWVa so that the New Martinsville Outreach office can provide Christmas gifts for the children of Wetzel County. Staff and volunteers will once again coordinate the churches, businesses, and community organizations to assure children, newborn through 17 years old, have a merry Christmas. Parents and guardians will have the opportunity to register children during the month of October. CCWVa Program Assistant, Mara Capati, can be contacted at (304) 917-4486 for information on how to apply for the program or for gift donations.

How We Assist

June 2017—August 2017

Utility Assistance:	38 Families, 106 Individuals
Food Pantry:	514 Families 1,068 Individuals
Stone Soup	1,320 Individuals
Kitchen Meals:	

The New Martinsville office is currently open on Mondays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Additional days and times will be added for the food pantry as the volunteer staff increases. For more information on the services offered or how to volunteer you may contact the office at (304) 455-9740 or (304) 917-4486.

Catholic Charities Responds to Wetzel County Flood Needs



Hundred, West Virginia and the surrounding area were severely damaged in July by flash flooding not once, but twice. The first flooding occurred the week of July 16th. Many businesses and homeowners cleaned up and replaced appliances, furniture, and equipment only to be flooded again the following week.

Catholic Charities' New Martinsville office and Disaster Services program have been involved in the early response and assessment of the flood damage in this small community of 299 residents. Cleaning supplies collected by St. Vincent de Paul were delivered and staff participated in the training for the community's Long Term Recovery Committee.

The area has now been declared a natural disaster which allows businesses and homeowners directly impacted by the flooding to be eligible for federal assistance for loss and damages. Two hundred fourteen applications had been submitted to FEMA for assistance as of September 13th.

St. Marys Correctional Center Provides Produce

Those who have driven Route 2 through Pleasants County during the growing season may have observed splashes of color across the fields at the St. Marys Correctional Center. If you look closely you will see rows of cucumbers, peppers, zucchini and tomatoes surrounded by masses of zinnias and other annuals. The gardens are maintained by inmates who work the many plots located on the grounds of the prison. For a second year, Catholic Charities' Parkersburg Region was the recipient of the inmates' hard work. More than 2,000 pounds of fresh produce were given to CCWV's food pantries and the Stone Soup Kitchen to distribute in seven counties. The produce is also used by the correctional center and distributed to other local food pantries. The gardens are a win-win project and allow inmates to learn new skills to gain employment with garden centers and landscaping companies upon their release.



Third annual Drive For Hope a Success!



While the rain poured at times, the weather could not dampen the players' spirits at the third annual Drive for Hope Golf Scramble. The scramble was held July 22nd at Worthington Golf Club in Parkersburg. Fifty-two golfers took to the links to raise more than \$10,000 in support of the programs offered through CCWV's Parkersburg Region. Our deepest appreciation is given to our sponsors.

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Parkersburg: 304-917-4486 • New Martinsville: 304-455-9740 • Mobile Outreach: 304-989-4511

Working To Reduce Poverty in West Virginia

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.

www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org

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