

SOWING SEEDS OF SUPPORT

The Catholic Charities West Virginia Western Regional Advisory Council invites you to the annual non-event fundraiser, the “Stay at Home” Garden Party. Invitations will be delivered to parishes the last week of March and will be ready for distribution by the first weekend of April.

This fundraiser is unique in that it puts donors in control of the size of their contribution and encourages donors to choose the amount of time they wish to invest.

People wishing to “attend” the Garden Party may receive an invitation from an usher, it may be inserted in your bulletin, or you may simply pick one up as you are leaving church on Sunday. Invitations include a remittance envelope for you to place a monetary donation of your choosing. Remittance envelopes can be mailed back to our Charleston office.

All monies collected will stay in the Western Region and will support both our basic needs and poverty-reduction programs. The invitation also includes a small pack of flowers as our gift to you for remembering Catholic Charities West Virginia and valuing the work we do in the region.



Catholic Charities West Virginia
Western Regional Advisory Council
Invites you to join them for a

Stay At Home Garden Party

Saturday, April 1, 2017

At Your Leisure | In Your Own Garden

Choose a participation level from the chart below.

Checks are payable to:
Catholic Charities West Virginia Western Region.

Your donation is 100% tax deductible.

Calla Lilly	\$1,000
Orchid	\$500
Rose	\$250
Lilac	\$100
Tulip	\$50
Daisy	\$20
Your Favorite Flower	\$ _____



Plant Smiles 🌸 Grow Laughter 🌸 Harvest Love



Spring 2017

Charleston + Whitesville + Huntington
WESTERN REGION

KEEPING CHRIST IN

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we partner with other faith organizations, secular organizations, and the state and federal government. But what does it mean to be “Catholic” when so many of our staff, volunteers, partners and clients do not identify as such? Most importantly, we are guided by the teaching of the Church; we are called to *do* certain things, and *prohibited* from doing others. More generally, and on a day-to-day basis, we use the following values as our measuring stick. We invite you, our supporters, to join us in reflecting on these values.

Dignity	How do I show my family, friends, clients and colleagues that I honor them?
Justice	In what ways do I work for justice within my role in my family and in society?
Compassion	The root of the word compassion means to “suffer with.” How do I care for those around me in such a way that shows my acceptance of their suffering as if it was my own?
Hope	What hope am I able to offer? What hope do I receive from others?
Charity	Charity is love. In what ways do I show generous charity to everyone I encounter?
Quality	How do I use and expand my knowledge, skills, and talents to carry out my responsibility to my neighbors?

So often, people involved in the mission of CCWVa are asked whether we serve non-Catholics. The answer is: OF COURSE! At CCWVa, our Catholic identity is *why* we serve, and has no bearing on *who* we serve. The root of the word “Catholic” is “Universal” --- and we strive to live this fully!

Working to reduce poverty in Boone, Cabell, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Putnam and Wayne Counties

Charleston (304) 380-0162 Whitesville (304) 854-1043 Huntington (304) 650-3514

TASK FORCE FIGHTS HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN WEST VIRGINIA

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 Supplies

Household Supplies:

Toilet paper
Paper towels
Bleach
Detergent

Personal supplies:

Deodorant
Shampoo
Soap
Toothpaste
Razors

Deliver donations to

1116 Kanawha
Boulevard East
Charleston, WV
25301

or by credit card
online at

CatholicCharitiesWV.org
1-888-900-2989



Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) Migration and Refugee Services is part of a new collaboration of organizations working together in their efforts to combat human trafficking in West Virginia.

The Human Trafficking/Civil Rights Task Force of the State Police/U.S. Attorneys Offices is a coalition of government and law enforcement agencies, nonprofit organizations, social service providers, and other interested parties. The task force is working to improve the statewide response to human trafficking.

"Our goal is to educate, train and raise awareness of the prevalence of human trafficking in today's society, and particularly how we are addressing these needs in the state of West Virginia," said Wuela Heceta, West Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force Coordinator.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, human trafficking involves the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for the purposes of forced labor or sexual exploitation through means of force, fraud, or coercion.

The newly formed West Virginia task force is identifying available services, compiling resources, providing training, and raising awareness of human trafficking. Heceta said the task force is taking a survivor centered approach. She said the group will work together to identify, protect and stabilize trafficking survivors, as well as prepare for the investigation and successful prosecution of these trafficking crimes.

"We want to provide as much help as we can for survivors of human trafficking, which is a growing problem in West Virginia," said Elizabeth Ramsey, CCWVa Refugee Case Manager/Outreach Worker. "This task force is forming a broad network of resources, and working to get systems in place to help recognize and support survivors of human trafficking."

FACILITATING GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Families face poverty for multiple reasons, and there is no single solution. Because of this, helping families get out of poverty is complicated. Telling people in poverty to make better decisions, and penalizing them when they don't, is ineffective. At the same time, simply providing money to meet their basic needs is not a long-term solution either.

However, when supportive relationships are enhanced by information, resources and skill development, families have a much greater chance of improving their lives. This is what Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) provides through case management services.

Case management services help families improve their circumstances, become more self-sufficient and obtain financial independence. Case managers meet with individuals to identify strengths and weaknesses; individuals then set goals for themselves and regularly meet with their case manager to work on steps to meet those goals. Individuals' progress is measured on a Goal Attainment Scale, which allows them to rate their level of functioning in a variety of areas, such as income, housing, employment, transportation and education.

Recently, a woman named Georgia arrived at CCWVa after finding herself alone with two children, no place to live, no job and little job experience. At first, she was distraught and felt that there was nothing she could do. One of CCWVa's case managers, Kathie, began working with Georgia to set goals and prioritize action steps. With Kathie's support and guidance, Georgia has been able to obtain two part-time jobs and find housing for her family. She is now better able to handle challenges and work toward solutions. CCWVa case management services enable people to find their strengths and make changes they never thought possible.

Recovery from the June 2016 Flooding Continues

For updates on our efforts, follow us on Facebook or visit our website at CatholicCharitiesWV.org

WESTERN REGION STAFF

Regional Director, Emily Robinson; Case Manager, Fredericka White; Title V Program Assistant, Brenda Brandon; AmeriCorps Member, Lori Thompkins; Whitesville Outreach Coordinator, Sue Pauley; Center for Community Learning and Advancement Instructor, Erica Gilkerson; Navigator, Chris Hale

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.