

## WORK CAMP MAKES IMPACT IN WEBSTER SPRINGS



This summer, a large group of adults and teens made the 5-hour journey from Charles Town, West Virginia, to Webster Springs to help repair homes of families in need. St. James Catholic Church in Charles Town has been making an annual trip to Webster Springs for many years, providing a valuable service for those who do not have the resources to have major home repairs done on their own.

While in town, the work camp group of over 60 people stays at the Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) office in Webster Springs. Their sleeping arrangements consist of bunk beds, cots, air mattresses and even some sleeping bags for their week-long visit.

During the day, the volunteers are broken into smaller groups and assigned to local homes. At the end of the day, the hard-working volunteers return to the office full of laughter and joy about what they were able to accomplish together. Local volunteers cook dinners for the work camps, and the group gathers together to share their experiences of how they were affected by their work with these families in need. Many are quick to say that they get more out of doing these jobs than the families who are receiving the help.

The group was willing to help wherever needed; with their trip occurring just after the June flooding in West Virginia, some of the volunteers were able to help at one of the flood recovery centers as well. CCWVa staff said they are grateful for this volunteer group and for Deacon Dave Galvin who coordinates it each year.



## 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.

### REGIONAL ASSISTANCE

#### April 2016 – June 2016

Elkins			
Food	837 Households	1,990 Individuals	
Emergency Assistance	24 Households	76 Individuals	
Webster Springs			
Food	298 Households	601 Individuals	
Emergency Assistance	23 Households	63 Individuals	

### VOLUNTEER SERVICE

#### April 2016 – June 2016

	Elkins	Webster Springs
Number of Volunteers	50	6
Service Hours	693	694



Summer 2016

**WESTON REGION**  
 Elkins + Webster Springs

Serving Braxton, Gilmer, Lewis, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, Tucker, Upshur and Webster Counties

**Elkins (304) 636-4875**

**Webster Springs (304) 847-7416**

## COMMUNITY GROUPS UNITE AGAINST HUNGER

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.

In the Elkins area, Common Ground Café is a collaboration of organizations and individuals who work together to serve a free lunch every Saturday at Woodford Memorial United Methodist Church. The participating organizations, civic groups, congregations, student groups and individuals take turns facilitating a Saturday lunch feeding around 100 people in the Randolph County area.

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) AmeriCorps member Sharell Harmon organized a Common Ground Café lunch in early June. With the help of Mary-Ann Baxter and Rev. Douglas Lewis, Sharell coordinated a meal that served 70 individuals in the area.

CCWVa works to alleviate poverty, distress and injustice in West Virginia by providing comprehensive social services to the poor and vulnerable, and by calling all people of good will to service. Participating in a collaboration such as Common Ground Café is one of many ways CCWVa is working toward its mission.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Thrift Store Volunteer  
(Webster Springs)

Host a Drive for:  
Food, Personal Hygiene Items, or Cleaning Supplies

### Needed Supplies

Personal Hygiene Items,  
Laundry Soap,  
Cleaning Supplies

### Needed Foods

Corn, Whole Wheat Pasta,  
Low Sodium Canned Food

Donations can be delivered to:

1513 Harrison Ave.  
Suite C10  
Elkins, WV 26241  
or  
113 North Main St.  
Webster Springs,  
WV 26288

or made online by credit card at

CatholicCharitiesWV.org  
1-888-900-2989




## Rachel's Vineyard

### A Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing

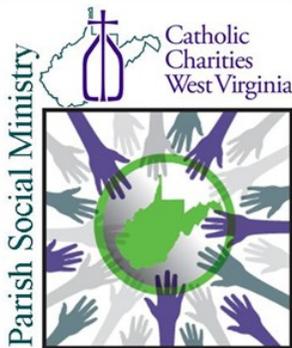
**Nov. 4-6, 2016**  
Charleston, WV

**Beginning Friday 6:00 pm**  
**Concluding Sunday 4:30 pm**

 Catholic Charities West Virginia

For information visit  
[www.ccwva.org](http://www.ccwva.org)  
or call 304-905-9860, ext. 2022  
or email [rachelsvineyardwv@comcast.net](mailto:rachelsvineyardwv@comcast.net)

## 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](mailto:kkosydar@ccwva.org) or at 304-622-4532. Together, we can be "merciful like the Father!"



## WESTON REGION STAFF

### Regional Office (Elkins)

Regional Director, Teresa Wymer; Program Assistant, Dee Oldaker; AmeriCorps, Sharell Harmon and Jessica Marsh

### Webster Springs Outreach Office

Outreach Coordinator, Tina Cogar; AmeriCorps, Emily Harris

**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.