

WEBSTER SPRINGS OFFICE RECEIVES MAJOR DONATION

In late June, the office of Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) in Webster county received a generous donation which came together through a partnership between CCWVa and St. James Catholic Church in Charles Town. Deacon Dave Galvin of St. James Catholic Church had been working with an upscale department store that wished to donate its returned merchandise. Deacon Dave facilitated this donation from the department store, which wishes to remain anonymous, and the CCWVa Webster Springs thrift store.

The first shipment contained over 100 lamps and more than 50 living room and dining room chairs. The shipment also included upscale ottomans, headboards, coffee tables, end tables, and more. The CCWVa staff closed the Webster Springs thrift store for a day in order to manage the event. The generous department store made an additional donation of \$1,000 to compensate for the lack of income from the thrift store on that day.

“This is really a game changing event,” said Tina Cogar, CCWVa Outreach Coordinator. “We have always been able to offer wonderful, gently used clothing for the entire family, but now we have so much more to offer.”

The relationship between CCWVa and St. James Catholic Church was strengthened through CCWVa Parish Social Ministry, which helps build effective partnerships in order to help organize and carry out works of charity in local communities.

“Building relationships is so important to the mission of Catholic Charities and to our mission as disciples of Jesus,” said Kate Kosydar, CCWVa Parish Social Ministry Coordinator. “This is a great example of a community of people coming together to strengthen their relationships with their brothers and sisters in Christ. It’s not an empty hand out, but rather we are setting the stage for loving one another as God loves us.”



Upscale home furniture and décor were donated



Summer 2015

WORK CAMP SEASON UNDERWAY IN WEBSTER COUNTY

The Webster Springs office works closely with several work camps throughout the summer months. The St. James Catholic Church in Charles Town has consistently participated year after year, with a group led by Deacon Dave Galvin. Over the last 11 years, 600-700 volunteers (many of them returning each year) have volunteered over 26,000 hours of their summer vacation to reach out to the poor.

This year the group had over 50 volunteers who worked at 12 different job sites. Jobs included work on three different roofs, a handicap accessible ramp, a floor underpinning, many windows, and a ceramic tile floor. The group also helped with the demolition of a house and a vacation bible school that had burned down at a low income housing complex.

These volunteers take vacation hours from their jobs, and the students sacrifice a week of their summer vacation to do God’s work. Every morning after breakfast and prayer, the volunteers divide into their groups and head out to their job site. Volunteers do more than just repair a family’s house; they also become a part of that family’s life for that week by interacting with them, listening to them, and offering prayers for them. Not only is it a wonderful experience for the families who receive the help, but also for the volunteers who feel more spiritually fulfilled after their week of work.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

April – June 2015

	Elkins	Webster Springs
Electric	39 Households	36 Households
Water	15 Households	5 Households
Gas	22 Households	2 Households
Prescription	1 Households	2 Households
Emergency Lodging		1 Household
Food	531 Households	194 Households

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

April – June 2015

	Elkins	Webster Springs
Number of Volunteers	27	14
Service Hours	1,052	917

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

Elkins (304) 636-4875

Webster Springs (304) 847-7416

WESTON REGION
 Elkins + Webster Springs

NEW ELKINS OFFICE PROVIDES BETTER CLIENT EXPERIENCE

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.

The Elkins office of Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) has moved! Thanks to the generous contribution of Craig Phillips at CGP Development Co. Inc., we were able to move into a facility that is much larger, handicapped accessible, and provides plenty of parking for clients as well as volunteers. Craig Phillips provided a nonprofit rate for us to rent the space, and he donated numerous construction and labor hours to designing and building an optimal floor plan for us. The new facility is able to house a much larger food pantry, two private interview rooms for intakes, three offices, a food storage room, a freezer room, a conference room/classroom, and a kitchen for volunteers and for future cooking classes.



Clients walk through the food pantry with volunteers

The new location allows clients to safely park close to the building, which they were not able to do at our previous location. Our new location is also handicapped accessible, which is very important for our clients, as disabilities cross generational lines. Also, with our larger food pantry, we are able to walk through the pantry with clients and let them choose different items and discuss dietary needs as they "shop." Furthermore, the new classroom/conference room and kitchen will allow us to provide budgeting and cooking classes on site.

Our new location is a blessing for our clients as well as our volunteers and staff.

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



Catholic Charities West Virginia's

Fifth Annual
Autumn Gathering

October 23, 2015



Keynote: Kevin Concannon

Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, USDA

Mass begins at 5:30 p.m. at

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

Reception, dinner and presentation immediately following Mass at the Embassy Suites

301 Court Street, Charleston, WV

www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org

WORKING WITH DAVIS AND ELKINS

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) and Davis and Elkins College (D&E) have developed a wonderful relationship that benefits both organizations. Recently, the Elkins office of CCWVa collaborated with D&E College to assist two interns, Lauren Panell and Haylee Murry, in completing the field experience they needed for their program.

The interns worked in the Elkins office, providing direct service through the WellnessWorks Food Pantry. They also created a bulletin board display comparing the amounts of sugar in several common drinks. The bulletin board is posted in the office lobby. Several clients and volunteers have remarked about how the display helped them become more aware of how much sugar they are consuming from their drinks alone. Some have even been inspired to completely eliminate sugary drinks from their diet after seeing the display.

The students made an impact on CCWVa clients, while completing the requirements they needed for their program at D&E. Invaluable opportunities are created when organizations work together, and CCWVa is grateful to be continuing to create these opportunities with D&E.

WESTON REGION STAFF

Regional Office (Elkins)

Regional Director, Teresa Wymer; Program Assistant, (Vacant); AmeriCorps, Mandy Warner

Webster Springs Outreach Office

Outreach Coordinator, Tina Cogar; AmeriCorps, Dawn Gebard

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.