As we begin the new year, I am reminded of all we accomplished together last year, and am incredibly hopeful for the future. I have been so inspired not only by our clients who are faced with circumstances many of us could not even imagine, but also by the Catholic Charities staff and their commitment to serving those in need, and lastly, you inspire me. Your friendship and commitment has allowed us to serve thousands and thousands of our most vulnerable neighbors last year, and will allow us to continue that service into the new year. You are an inspiration.

For many of us, regardless of our place in life, the world can seem like a cold and dark place. But together we can bring light. I am so blessed for the light you bring into my life and the light we can bring into the lives of our neighbors who are most vulnerable.

Pope Francis has said, “God will not ask us if we felt righteous indignation, but whether we did some good.” Catholic Charities is doing good, you are doing good. Together we are doing the work of the Gospel. As we embark on this new year, let us remember to be kind to one another and provide a hand to those in need.
Around the Agency

Thanksgiving with Pepco
Once again this year we hosted our annual Thanksgiving Dinner with Pepco. Lines wrapped around the building as homeless guests waited to come in and enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving meal prepared by Catholic Charities Enterprises and served by dozens of volunteers. The 400 guests were given a new winter coat and toiletry package as they left.

Celebrating with Those in Need
The week before Christmas, we welcomed some of the most vulnerable members of the community into our offices to share a meal and celebrate the season. This year more than 250 people joined us for a Christmas Dinner, caroling was led by Deacon Jim Nalls and students from St. Anselm’s, and of course everyone left with a special gift. Our staff decorated the building and volunteers were at the ready to ensure all our guests felt the spirit of the holidays.

More than 250 people joined us for a Christmas feast

Gifts Under the Tree
One of our most popular volunteer events is our Angel Tree. The program ensures that hundreds of kids wake up to something special under the tree on Christmas morning. This year 453 families volunteered to collect and distribute nearly 1,000 gifts to children across the agency. In addition to the gifts, KPMG generously donated books to all of the children.

Our Spanish Catholic Center in DC distributed hundreds of gifts, thoughtfully donated by parishioners of Sacred Heart, to our clients. This meant that even more vulnerable children awoke on Christmas morning to something under the tree.

The Catholic Charities Center in Montgomery County distributed more than 1,000 gifts to local families as part of the Montgomery County Holiday Giving Program. Gifts went to clients of the Center, as well as families within the zip code.

And finally, the Southern Maryland Food Bank was able to provide 174 children who participate in their local school Snack Sak program with Christmas gifts thanks to donations from G. Drew Conway, Obsidian Global, LLC, and FGS, LLC.

Expanding our Expertise
In December, Housing and Homeless Services Executive Director, Amanda Chesney LICSW, LCSW-C was appointed to the Washington DC Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH). This group of cabinet-level leaders inform and guide the District’s strategies and policies for meeting the needs of individuals and families who are experiencing or at imminent risk of experiencing homelessness. Amanda also serves on the Montgomery County ICH.

Denise Capaci, LICSW, LCSW-C, Adult and Children’s Clinical Services Executive Director was appointed to the Council on Accreditation Board of Trustees. The international, independent, nonprofit, accrediting organization partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards. Denise was nominated for this three-year appointment by Catholic Charities USA. Catholic Charities has received this prestigious seal of approval for 10 years.

Reaching Domestic Trafficking Victims
The Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP), which connects trafficking survivors to appropriate transition services, including mental health counseling, medical clinics, shelters, and refugee assistance is now working with both domestic and international trafficking survivors. This new distinction will allow us to serve even more individuals escaping trauma.

Training Begins
Our Green Construction, Bank Teller, and KitchenWork programs began new classes in February. These programs have helped dozens of individuals gain the skills they need for the future, offering the opportunity for a career rather than just a job. This builds confidence and longer-term financial stability.
In December, students in Catholic Charities’ Green Construction program constructed and opened the first two “little libraries” in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood. These libraries were built as part of their curriculum, but also as a way to contribute a valuable resource to the community. The Green Construction program, with classes in English and Spanish, is taught at the Spanish Catholic Center in DC and empowers immigrants and other students who are overcoming challenges by preparing them for careers in construction. Students learn the latest in green building technology and graduates receive a nationally accredited certificate in green construction.

The little libraries hold books for all ages in English and Spanish, which are available for anyone in the community to borrow for free. They can be found in front of the Sacred Heart School, and in front of the Spanish Catholic Center in DC. Students will build more little libraries in the future and place them in areas of the city where they are needed most.

For more information about the Green Construction Program, visit: www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/greenconstruction

Catholic Charities Welcomes New Board Chair and Four New Board Members

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Trone as our new Chairman of the Board. Mr. Trone, co-founder of Total Wine & More, succeeds R. Scott Pastrick. Mr. Pastrick will now serve as a member of the Catholic Charities Foundation Board.

In addition to Mr. Trone, the Catholic Charities Board welcomes Cecilia Bergoglio, The Honorable Michael Steele, John Veihmeyer, and John Whalen. These four will join the distinguished group of community leaders who make up our Board of Directors, and will each serve a three-year term.

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At any given time, the art group ranges between 9-13 participants. The environment fosters exploring new and unknown talent in a supportive network and the program hopes to continue to make successful transitions for consumers from long-term inpatient hospitalizations into the community.

Little Libraries Come to the Neighborhood

Recreational Art Therapy
“Creating a New Image”

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This October, we opened our new **Angel's Watch** shelter for individuals and families fleeing domestic violence, chronic homelessness, and substance abuse in Southern Maryland. There is often a direct link between domestic violence and housing; it is often cited as an ongoing, precipitating factor of homelessness.

The cycle of violence can leave many dependent on their abuser for housing and financial resources, forcing the victim to remain with their abuser or face homelessness and financial crisis. With wrap around services including case management and counseling, Angel's Watch offers safety, comfort, dignity, and a chance to both recover and rebuild.

The new state-of-the-art building replaces the previous location, and increases the shelter’s capacity by 50 percent. The new space allows us to serve more clients than ever, including larger families. The bigger space also provides added amenities including a community room, dining room, computer room, library, fitness area, and a secure outdoor playground.

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the building was designed to create a more home-like environment for families including private bedrooms and bathrooms.

**With a 50% capacity increase Angel's Watch will be able to serve more clients including larger families in Southern MD**

Operating since 1989, Angel's Watch has connected otherwise isolated women and families with community supports and much needed social services. The new facility is in close proximity to vital basic services provided through Charles County including the sheriff's and fire departments, medical and dental services, social service agencies, and public transportation. Residents still have access to a full range of social services onsite at Angel's Watch through Catholic Charities and other community partners to assist them on their path to self-sufficiency. The new facility is a culmination of more than a year of planning, construction, and coordination with local and state partners. After an initial groundbreaking in October 2017, dozens of residents and their children moved into the new facility this past fall.

The shelter is open to individuals & families including male children up to 17 years of age. Residents work one-on-one with specially-trained staff and case managers who help guide them to an independent life. The shelter's location remains undisclosed for the safety and security of all residents.

Angel's Watch continues to be a beacon of hope for strong, resilient women and their children and empowers them to pursue independent lives, free from abuse and addiction.

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**Catholic Charities**
**Spring Gala**

**Marriott Marquis**
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001

Please join us for an evening of dinner and dancing to **White Ford Bronco** to celebrate the work of Catholic Charities. Co-chaired by Karen & Chris Donatelli, April & John Delaney, and Anna & Robert Trone. This year’s theme is **Roots of Faith, Branches of Hope**.

For more information on sponsoring or attending please contact Kimani Superville at: Kimani.Superville@cc-dc.org or visit [www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/gala](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/gala)
Announcing New Funding Partners

Catholic Charities is excited to collaborate with the following new institutional partners in 2019:

Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)

OVC will partner with Catholic Charities in building institutional capacity of our Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (TVAP). This program increases the quality and quantity of services available to survivors of sex and labor trafficking in the Washington DC metropolitan region. Over the course of the three-year grant period, Catholic Charities will provide comprehensive services to 150 domestic trafficking survivors and conduct 20 community outreach efforts for 300 participants per year.

Department of Treasury’s Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

The IRS will provide funding in support of our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program that serves low-income individuals in the Washington DC region. Tax returns are prepared by IRS qualified volunteers and reviewed by volunteer tax professionals. Catholic Charities’ VITA program aims to complete 750 tax returns with the help of 100 volunteers during the 2019 tax season.

Prince George’s County Council

Catholic Charities’ Welcome Home Reentry Program assists men and women in reacclimatizing to their home communities after incarceration by providing case management services and matching clients with trained volunteer mentors. Prince George’s County Council will help support this critical program in 2019. Catholic Charities will create and sustain 50 mentee-mentor matches which include comprehensive care such as mental health and substance abuse counseling and assisting with housing, and employment needs. This important program reduces recidivism and increases safety.

The Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities

The Raskob Foundation will collaborate with Catholic Charities’ Refugee Services Center to assist the refugee and asylee populations in the District of Columbia to regain their independence through job development and employment placement services. We expect to serve 180 clients during a one-year grant period.

Double Your Impact

Donate for Our Challenge Grant.

Everyone loves a challenge, and we at Catholic Charities are no different, especially when we know it will have a direct impact on the lives of others.

We are excited to announce that the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities has announced a challenge grant of $25,000 to support our Refugee Services Center. Our Refugee Services Center allows us to provide individuals and families with an array of employment and supportive services, including case management, job development and placement services, and workplace English instruction.

All gifts donated to this special challenge during the month of February, up to $25,000, will be matched 100%. We are so grateful for the incredible support we have received so far - we’re only $12,000 short from hitting our goal and securing this challenge grant.

Please help out and donate by visiting www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/refugeecenter
Thank you!
Beyond his work with clients, Jim has been a trusted advisor to generations of attorneys in the Washington area. He has generously offered his expertise to other legal service organizations including the Multi-Door Resolution Division of the District of Columbia Superior Court’s Family Division.

“It is such a pleasure to work with, and learn from Jim” said Kelly Thompson, staff attorney with CCLN. “His dedication to the people who seek legal services inspires me not only to be a better lawyer, but also a better person. Jim puts his entire self into his job, which is much more than a job to him; it is a calling, a ministry.”

This calling is evidenced through the people he has helped over the course of his 25-year tenure. Though there are thousands of examples of his commitment and care, Kelly recalled a specific case that illustrated Jim’s special dedication to his clients.

“I remember one client, sick with advanced-stage cancer, who fled an abusive relationship,” Kelly remembered. “The compassion that Jim showed to her, the listening ear he lent, is something I won’t forget.”

In 2014, Jim was recognized by the DC Bar Foundation when he was awarded the 2014 Scoutt Prize. This highly-respected honor is awarded annually to “an attorney who has worked for a significant portion of his or her career at a nonprofit organization providing direct hands-on legal services to the needy in the District of Columbia; has demonstrated compassionate concern for his or her clients; and has exhibited a high degree of skill on their behalf.”

“Jim Bishop is an unsung hero of our pro bono community and a deserving recipient of the Scoutt Prize,” said DCBF Advisory Committee Member and Prize Committee Chair Fred T. Goldberg, Jr., of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP.

He has received some of the legal community's highest honors including the Bar Association of the District of Columbia’s Suzanne V. Richards Award, The John Carroll Society Medal, The Archdiocese of Washington's 75th Anniversary Cardinal's Award, and Catholic Charities' Griffin Award.

This year, our very own Jim Bishop, Director of the Catholic Charities Legal Network (CCLN) celebrates his 25th anniversary working for Catholic Charities!

A brilliant legal mind, an innovator, a compassionate counselor, and a man of faith, Jim has been an invaluable part of our agency for more than two decades. He has dedicated his life and career to helping the most vulnerable, while also becoming a beloved leader in the local legal community.

Under his leadership, CCLN has become a model for other organizations across the country. In the mid 1990's, he was responsible for creating one of the first telephone intake lines for any legal aid organization nationwide. This innovative approach has streamlined the client intake process, making it easier and more efficient for volunteer law firms to screen potential clients over the phone.

Jim’s dedication and expertise have helped grow the network to 700 volunteer attorneys and 40 law firms across the region. During Jim’s tenure, CCLN has provided an astounding $2.5 million in pro bono legal services. In addition, he has assembled an outstanding advisory board featuring representatives from some of the most prestigious law firms in the country.

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The **In the Name of the Mother Golf Tournament** teed off last September at Blue Mash Golf Course with more than 100 golfers. The annual event is hosted by former board member **Kevin McConville** and Co-Chair **Kevin Carey**. Their tireless planning and enthusiasm make this special event what it is every year. Held in honor of **Megan McConville**, who passed away in 2004, all funds raised support those diagnosed with breast cancer at Catholic Charities and their families.

The **2018 Spanish Catholic Center Gala**, chaired by **Jean Marie** and **Raul Fernandez** was attended by more than 350 guests and raised more than $750,000. The annual event raises money for vital services provided by the center including medical and dental care, immigration services, a food pantry, job training classes, and more. Thank you to **Total Wine & More** for generously donating the wine, beer, and spirits for the Gala.

A special thank you to all of the volunteers who served more than 650 **Thanksgiving** and **Christmas** meals. Your hard work and compassion made the holidays truly special for those in need. We are also grateful to the volunteers who helped extend our gratitude to numerous donors by joining us in our inaugural “Thank You Phone-a-Thon.”

A special mass and reception were held in November to at **Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle** in Washington DC to honor and thank the many donors who have generously given to Catholic Charities in their lifetime. More than 50 individuals, families, and foundations were inducted into our **Lifetime Giving Societies**, which recognize cumulative philanthropy of $500,000 or more.

For more information on these societies please visit: [www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/lifetime-giving-societies](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/lifetime-giving-societies)
Cup of Joe
Packing Party

Our Lady of Grace
Leisure World Silver Spring, MD

We invite residents of Leisure World in Silver Spring, Maryland to join us for an afternoon of giving back. We will host this unique service project where residents can meet and mingle with one another while packing Cup of Joe bags. Fr. John and a special guest speaker will join us to discuss health, wellness, and poverty challenges.

For more information please contact Olivia Gorman at Bernadette.Gorman@cc-dc.org