Can you imagine being chosen to be a bishop when you are only nine years a priest? After spending time in your native hometown of Chicago and being transferred to Belleville, IL, you were then plucked from that diocese and moved to Atlanta where you served for 14 years. You would think that at 71 years old, that would be your final assignment. Not to be! In April 2019, Pope Francis reached out to Archbishop Wilton Gregory and asked him to be the next Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Washington.

That is the life of a shepherd of the church. In Chicago, Belleville, and Atlanta, our very personable new Archbishop made many new friends whom he left behind to accept his new post. We are so grateful that Pope Francis chose a man of such humility and love for the Lord to be our new leader, and that he said yes. I am personally thrilled that he has already visited Catholic Charities on three occasions since his arrival in Washington in April: the day after the announcement of his new appointment, his first visit here in Washington was to Catholic Charities, just before his installation, he spent time with a hundred of our special friends who have contributed generously to us over the last year and just few weeks back, he gave the keynote address at our annual staff retreat at Catholic University of America.

Each time I am with him, I realize what a great priest he is. My sense is that Wilton Gregory prefers the everyday life of being a wonderful priest in the image of Jesus himself. Our archdiocese has been hurting for over a year and now the healing process has begun. I continue to pray for the people of our archdiocese and now I've added my prayers for Archbishop Gregory as well. I pray that the pain and the hurt of the last year may diminish as our new shepherd leads us to greater heights. What a gift to have someone who cares so deeply about Catholic Charities and our work for the poor. What a gift to have an African American as our new Archbishop. I can already feel the sense of pride in our black brothers and sisters who have longed for the representation and inspiration that he provides to all of us.

The Archbishop has given a resounding yes to the call of Pope Francis. We are blessed to have him here. May we work and pray together for our church and the broader community as he begins his new role here in Washington.

Msgr. John Enzler
President and CEO
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington
Summer Interns- Our Future
This summer, Catholic Charities is excited to host more than 20 dedicated interns who have been placed in roles throughout the agency. Not only do these **add critical support to our program staff**, but they will come away from their time at the agency with a hands-on, rewarding experience that will have a direct impact on the community. This summer’s class of interns represent areas including Maryland, Pennsylvania, and even Canada and schools as diverse as Catholic University, Marquette University, Boston College, Georgetown University, among many others. We’re excited for the contributions these interns will make this summer!

Graduations- New Beginnings
Early summer was graduation season here at Catholic Charities! We were proud to see four special students graduate from the **Kennedy School** this June in a ceremony attended by Father John as well as special guest, Tim Shriver. Shriver, Chairman of Special Olympics, has a special connection to the school, which is named after his uncle, Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy. Each graduate had attended the school for more than five years and have secured employment at various government agencies.

In addition to the stellar achievements of our Kennedy School grads, this summer 22 **English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)** learners celebrated completing their courses in the winter and spring academic cycle. One of the graduates, Ronald Faustino, gave the student address, which emphasized the importance of learning English to pursue better employment opportunities. All participants in the ESOL program are encouraged to continue developing their skills and received referrals to Community Colleges and job fairs for future growth opportunities.

**Solar Array- Caring for the Environment**
As part of Catholic Charities ongoing efforts to heed **Pope Francis’s call to action to fight climate change**, the agency announced that it will construct one of the area’s largest solar arrays in Northeast DC. The project is expected to offset thousands of tons of CO2 emissions per year and help lower energy costs, freeing up funds that can be redirected to support client-focused services. The array will be constructed on a five-acre site that also houses the Gift of Peace Home, operated by the Missionaries of Charity. The project is expected to be completed in early 2020.

Jim Bishop’s Latest Achievement
Catholic Charities Legal Network’s Jim Bishop received the **Equal Justice Award** from the University of the District of Columbia’s David A. Clarke School of Law earlier this spring. In his address, he reminded the crowd of the 65th anniversary of the Brown vs. Board of Education landmark case, and he discussed his family’s role in helping a related case, Bolling vs. Sharpe, make its way to the Supreme Court of the United States. After 25 years of devoted service, Jim continues to make the agency proud and exemplifies our “Say Yes” philosophy. Congratulations, Jim!

Mid-Maryland Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic and Health Equity Festival (Sept 12-14)
University of Maryland Xfinity Center
8500 Paint Branch Dr
College Park, MD 20742
Over one thousand low-income and homeless adults will receive over $1 million in free dental care from hundreds of volunteer dentists and hygienists.

For more information on sponsoring and volunteering visit [www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/MOM](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/MOM)
Summer of Service

It’s officially Summer, so that means beach getaways, barbeques, and spending lots of time outside with friends and family.

But for those of us at Catholic Charities, we recognize that need doesn’t get to take a vacation. Thousands of people throughout the District and Maryland still need our help. We are lucky because each year we have thousands of dedicated volunteers that amplify our work, allowing us to continue to “Say Yes” to those in need. However, summer often means we see less of these volunteers who enjoy some well-deserved time off.

To combat this traditional decrease in volunteer activity, in 2017 we developed the Summer of Service campaign to encourage existing volunteers to continue to give back and to invite new volunteers to join us in improving the lives of the most vulnerable in our community. While the last two years have focused on general volunteering, this year we want to highlight the important work of the volunteers who contribute their professional skills to the agency. Catholic Charities has hundreds of professional volunteers including attorneys, doctors, dentists, nurses, dental hygienists, pharmacists, and even financial advisors. In 2018 alone, these providers donated more than $20 million worth of critically-needed pro bono services directly to our clients. These providers literally change clients’ lives.

Throughout the summer, we’ll be sharing stories of service and celebrating these unique volunteers who enable the agency to help more than 142,000 people each year. We’ll feature people like David Cleveland, an attorney with our Immigration Legal Services team who has been a full-time volunteer with us for more than 20-years. David’s dedication and service has helped the lives of countless clients seeking asylum, guiding them through the immigration process. There are also stories like Dr. James Goedart’s, who has been volunteering in the Medication Clinic at Anchor for the past two years. As a volunteer physician, Dr. Goedart has been dogged in ensuring the vulnerable populations he serves have access to vital healthcare services. His commitment to his patients has helped create new and innovative processes to ensure patients are getting the comprehensive care they need.

Stay tuned to our blog, as well as our social channels to get to know some of these special volunteers and how their work empowers our clients. If you have a story to share, please contact Alex.Schauffler@cc-dc.org so that we can celebrate your service by featuring your experience!

For more information about volunteering, visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer

Endodontics Day

For the second year, Catholic Charities partnered with RCT Endodontics to provide deserving patients with free root canals. Known as “Endo Day,” the occasion marked the 13th annual Root Canal Awareness Week, which aims to curb fear and educate patients about new technologies that make the common procedure virtually pain-free.

This year 25 patients in need from Catholic Charities’ Spanish Catholic Center were selected to receive root canals free of charge, a life-changing procedure they would otherwise not have access to due to cost.

In addition to treating patients, Endo Day gave staff from Catholic Charities’ dental clinics the opportunity to shadow endodontists to learn more about emerging technologies used in the procedure.

14th Annual In the Name of the Mother Golf Outing

Blue Mash Golf Course
5821 Olney Laytonsville Rd, Laytonsville, MD 20882

In honor of his late wife Megan McConville, former Catholic Charities board member Kevin McConville established this event to provide financial support to mothers diagnosed with cancer. Please join us for a fun day of golf while supporting a great cause!

For more information on sponsoring or attending please contact Kimani Superville at Kimani.Superville@cc-dc.org or visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/inmgolf
Foundation and Corporate Donors Join Us for our Program Fair
In our continuing efforts to thank our partners and foster closer relationships, we had the pleasure of hosting several of our institutional giving donors at Catholic Charities’ Program Fair. This annual all-staff event gave donors a more intimate connection to and understanding of the services Catholic Charities offers and how their support helps change hundreds of thousands of lives each year. We were honored to have representatives from the William S. Abell Foundation, the Crimsonbridge Foundation, Prevent Cancer Foundation, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, and Comcast in attendance for the event.

The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
Catholic Charities is extremely grateful for The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation’s (Cafritz Foundation) long-time support of our life-changing work. The Cafritz Foundation is partnering with Catholic Charities again this year with a grant that helps improve accessibility to high-quality, affordable oral health care to low-income, uninsured members of the Hispanic and immigrant communities in the Washington DC area. Catholic Charities is one of the only community health clinics in the region that provides complex dental procedures for patients directly on-site. This funding from the Cafritz Foundation will ensure that Catholic Charities’ DC Dental Clinic continues to provide access to essential preventative, diagnostic, emergency, and restorative oral health services to the most vulnerable in our community.

Crimsonbridge Foundation and Dollar General Literacy Foundation
The Crimsonbridge Foundation and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation (DGLF) have both made generous grants in support of Catholic Charities’ English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. Launched in 1993, the ESOL program increases the English literacy skills of low-income, limited English proficient members of Montgomery County, Maryland’s Hispanic and immigrant communities. By utilizing best practices, providing strong training for instructors, and delivering consistent one-on-one follow up services, the program supports students as they take critical steps towards attaining self-sufficiency and full participation in their community, including securing employment in the U.S. workforce. The funding we received from the Crimsonbridge Foundation and DGLF will help support the ESOL program as we launch a pilot hybrid class model for high-level students, with one class per week taught online and the remaining class instruction taught in-person.

The Wawa Foundation and Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
Launched in 2010, Catholic Charities’ Southern Maryland Food Bank’s Snack Sak and Senior Sak programs address the high level of food insecurity in the Southern Maryland region. The two programs partner with various public schools (Snack Sak) and senior living facilities (Senior Sak) to reach children and elderly individuals in need of food assistance. Referred clients receive discreet bags full of nutritious food on a weekly basis (for school children) or twice a month (for senior citizens), ensuring access to critical food items.

Generous support from both The Wawa Foundation and the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation will allow Catholic Charities to institute new initiatives to the Snack Sak and Senior Sak programs. In addition to providing healthy food items to clients, we will also distribute educational games and information to increase our clients’ nutritional awareness. Topics

Enzler Society BBQ
St. Bartholomew Catholic Church
6900 River Road Bethesda, MD 20817
Hosted by Fr. John and the founding members of Enzler Society. This event serves as a thank you to all the Enzler Society members for their continued generosity, commitment to the Youth Transitional Program and all those we serve and for their continued outreach.

Please visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/enzlersociety to learn more about the Enzler Society.
covered by informational items will include strategies to maintain a healthy lifestyle, meal preparation ideas, and helpful tips for taking medication with food.

Celebrating the Circle of Hope and Welcoming Archbishop Gregory

In celebration of the generosity of our incredible community, Beth and John Veihmeyer hosted a special reception to thank hundreds of donors for their unparalleled commitment to Catholic Charities and giving back to those in need. Incoming Archbishop Gregory was also on hand to thank guests for their support and the impact they are making across the region. The reception marked the Archbishop’s first event meeting with donors since his arrival in Washington and illustrated his enthusiasm for and commitment to Catholic Charities.

Providing the Most Important Meal

Earlier this spring, we were so grateful to residents of Leisure World and their guests for generously donating their time to assemble ‘Cup of Joe’ bags at the Our Lady of Grace Church. The bags they packed helped ensure that hundreds of residents of our shelters in the District and Maryland would have access to breakfast, a meal that isn’t provided in these shelters. More than 30 very enthusiastic volunteers participated in this event, and even learned more about the importance of volunteerism from Dr. Paul Melluzzo, a consulting physician at the Catholic Charities’ Spanish Catholic Center.

In addition, our longtime partners at Pepco kindly hosted two ‘Cup of Joe’ bagging events as part of their Employee Engagement Month in April. More than 100 volunteers at various levels of the company participated, compiling more than 1,000 bags to make sure homeless residents can begin their day with full stomachs. Participants enjoyed the activity so much that they recommended it to the staff at Children’s National Hospital who also packed 1,000 bags in June!

If you would like to host a ‘Cup of Joe’ bagging event, please reach out to volunteers@cc-dc.org.

Saint Mary’s College Alumnae at Angel’s Watch

Longtime Catholic Charities champion, Beth Veihmeyer, joined fellow members of the local Saint Mary’s College alumnae chapter to raise critical funds and supplies for the Angel’s Watch shelter for victims of domestic violence. Together, they raised an incredible $15,000! Their efforts helped stock the shelves of the facility’s library with hundreds of books for children of all ages; decorated the library, making it a warm and inviting space for residents; donated books for residents to keep as they enter and leave the shelter; and sponsored the food pantry for the summer, ensuring that the shelves are always stocked with healthy necessities that residents use every day. We thank Beth for taking on this incredible challenge and for supporting these families in transition!

Making News with Comcast

Our wonderful partners at Comcast have provided us a unique ongoing opportunity to feature our programs and experts on their show, Comcast Newsmakers. Comcast Newsmakers is the longest-running news and public affairs platform of any cable operator in the country. Centrally focused on issue-based conversations, Comcast Newsmakers welcomes regional and national trailblazers to discuss ideas, assess community challenges and progress, and inspire meaningful action. This outlet will help us directly reach audiences in DC, Prince George’s County and Southern Maryland to raise awareness about the programs and services we offer in those areas.

Catholic Charities Legal Network (CCLN) 16th Annual Golf Tournament

Belle Haven Country Club
6023 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22307
Catholic Charities Legal Network will host their 16th annual Golf Tournament at Belle Haven Country Club. Join us for a round of golf while enjoying food, drink, and a silent auction.

For more information on sponsoring or attending please contact Kelly Thompson at: Kelly.Thompson@cc-dc.org or visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/CCLNGolf
May 6th was the first day of our week-long mission at the improvised Salvation Army shelter in Yuma, AZ. Catholic Community Services, a faith-based nonprofit, through their staff and volunteers, coordinates the family reunification efforts for the migrant families arriving at the shelter so they can reach their final destination in the U.S. after being released from immigration detention.

The story I would like to share with you is about a particular family whose struggle was at the center of our hearts during that week.

As day one went by at the shelter, the staff trained us on how to coordinate reunification efforts by reviewing the intake notes from each of the one hundred plus families with children that were staying at the shelter. The goal was for us to reach their families in the U.S. by phone so they could help them make arrangement for their trips either by bus or by plane. Because the space at the shelter was limited, it was important to expedite reunification efforts to make room for many more waiting to get in.

I came across a particular intake that had a yellow sticky note that read “mother waiting for missing 4-year-old daughter who got lost while crossing the border”. Yes, I read that again, and then again. I sorted through the intake to see what else I could learn about this family. As it turns out, Maria, the mom, had made the trek from Guatemala with her three daughters ages 2, 4, and 8. Juanita, the 4-year-old, was missing.

Through my work in the immigration legal services program of Catholic Charities in Washington, I have had contact with families of children that the government separated from their parents between 2017 and 2018; however, this cruel practice had stopped.

The case of Maria and Juanita was different. I called Maria through intercom at the shelter and she quickly came running with her two other daughters. As I saw her approaching, I noticed a smile on her face. It dawned on me that she probably thought that her daughter Juanita had arrived and that’s why she was being called.

I sat down with Maria to try to get the details of the separation. To my surprise, I could not communicate very much with Maria due to a language barrier. She spoke a native dialect, K’iche, one spoken in a small region of the Guatemalan highlands. She did not speak Spanish.

While I searched among shelter residents for suitable interpreters, I noticed how Maria held her two daughters closer and would not leave them out of her sight. I cannot describe to all of you the look in their eyes. Even the 2-year-old looked sad.

After several failed attempts to find an interpreter that spoke that same dialect as Maria, we got a match. I started asking Maria about her journey to get as much information as possible since I suspected the...
Catholic Charities’ Enzler Society
Why I Give Back

“My parents taught me, at an early age, that it’s important to give back to those less fortunate than you and I watched them support Catholic Charities throughout my life. It’s an organization that has always been close to my heart and now that I’m older, I can see firsthand the value in their programs and their care for others (no matter their background), and I believe in their innovative vision on how to support those in need in the coming years. Their variety of programs allows individuals to give back no matter what stage of life you’re in – from spending your Saturday with the Youth Transitional Program clients or serving meals before work via St. Maria's Meals, to simply buying a gala ticket or donating money to support a certain initiative. You can always support Catholic Charities – however big or small your effort is – and everything helps.”

Caitlin McNamara Chalke,
Co-Chair Enzler Society

2019 Spring Gala-
Roots of Faith Branches of Hope

On Friday, April 5th, Catholic Charities hosted the 34th Annual Catholic Charities Gala at the Washington Marriott Marquis. Under the leadership of chairs Karen and Chris Donatelli, and honorary co-chairs April McClain-Delaney, the Honorable John Delaney, and Anna and Robert Trone, the black-tie event was an astounding success having raised more than $2.1 million to support the agency’s various programs.

Nearly 1,000 guests attended this year’s gala, which featured a cocktail reception, a seated dinner program, and an evening of dancing. Guests enjoyed wine, beer, and Spirits generously donated by Total Wine & More and Reyes Holdings, INC.

The program included a compelling video focused on the incredible work being done by Sister Romana Uzodimma and the volunteer doctors who provide critical specialty medical services to patients in need through the Catholic Charities Healthcare Network.

The evening closed with a performance by D.C.’s favorite 90's cover band, White Ford Bronco, sponsored through fundraising efforts by the dedicated members of the Enzler Society.

We thank everyone who attended for making this year’s event such an amazing success. We look forward to seeing you again in 2020!

Catholic Charities Spring Gala

Washington Hilton
1919 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009

Please save the date for our annual spring gala on Saturday April 4th, 2020.

For more information on sponsoring or attending please contact Carmen Joya at: events@cc-dc.org
interpreter would depart the shelter without much notice leaving us with no way to communicate further.

Maria shared that she was climbing a wall from the Mexican side into the U.S. with her three children and held her 2-year-old while the other two daughters were helped by other travelers. Then, the details got confusing. In part, because Maria was too traumatized by the separation that she found it difficult to retell the story. She cried and begged for help finding Juanita.

On day 2, I arrived at the shelter and was faced with a pile of phone calls to make. I was also faced with a dilemma: should I start making all those calls or should I try finding Juanita? If so, where do I start? I only had her name and date of birth, not even a picture. Did she make it to the U.S.-side or did she get stuck in Mexico? Does the U.S. government have her?

And then one bigger question and fear: Did someone else take her?

I carried on with making calls. Day 3 arrived. I had placed a call to the Guatemalan Consulate to alert them about the situation and ask them for help on behalf of Maria, but I got very little hope. That day, I met again with Maria, who was clear that she did not want to leave the shelter without Juanita. I knew that chances that Juanita would be brought to the shelter, if found, were slim. Maria then came to the realization that she would have to leave the shelter without Juanita and it broke her. It broke me too.

That night, I went to a small chapel nearby and prayed. I talked to God and asked him for his guidance. I gently reminded him that I was not originally scheduled to join that mission and that the call came in at the last minute due to a colleague falling ill, so, if HE had brought me there that week was for a reason.

That same night I sent an email to a government contact in Washington. My email was short and had a desperate tone. The next morning, day 4, I had received an email confirming that Juanita was at a U.S. government children's shelter in Michigan, some 2000 miles away.

I ran to the shelter that morning so Maria could speak with Juanita over the phone. Juanita was crying, in distress. Maria was happy to hear her daughter had been found and was safe.

Day 5 arrived. It was May 10th. It was Mother’s Day celebration for Mexico and other Central American countries, including Guatemala. Our last day, also Maria’s last day at the shelter. Her family had made arrangements for her to travel to Tennessee, where she would be expecting Juanita in just a few weeks after completing some required government paperwork.

Maria and her daughters were smiling, wore new clothes, had new backpacks with supplies for their long bus journey and most importantly: had a whole lot of hope. It was their hope to reunify with Juanita soon and be a family again, it was their hope for new beginnings and opportunities.