

# Thank you for YOUR part in keeping hope alive!



*John J. Enzler*

**Msgr. John J. Enzler**  
President & CEO

The lives of thousands of families were touched by the work of Catholic Charities during the year. One family reminded us so aptly of the great difference our work makes to others.

"It is the first time that I have received help from you," Iris wrote to us in June. Like many others, her family turned to Catholic Charities when faced with the devastating economic impact of the pandemic. Iris, her husband and children received food from our distribution. She was moved to send a note of thanks along with a photo of the food in her kitchen. "Thank you for the food," she wrote. "Bless you greatly for the help you give. ❤️"

Catholic Charities was a lifeline for Iris' family and so many others this year.



*Robert Trone*

**Robert Trone**  
Chairman of the Board

We also heard from a young supporter, who reminded us that "the darkest times bring out the best in people." This certainly was true of our staff, who rose from their own challenges in the pandemic to help others. And it was true of our donors and volunteers.

More than **8,500 people** made contributions this year, which allowed us to provide food, shelter, medical care and other services to almost **193,000 people** — an increase of **more than 34 percent** over last year — during one of the most challenging times in our agency's history.

As the young supporter so appropriately said, "Hope is still alive."

Almost **193,000** people in Washington, D.C., and five Maryland counties were served last year by five divisions of service:



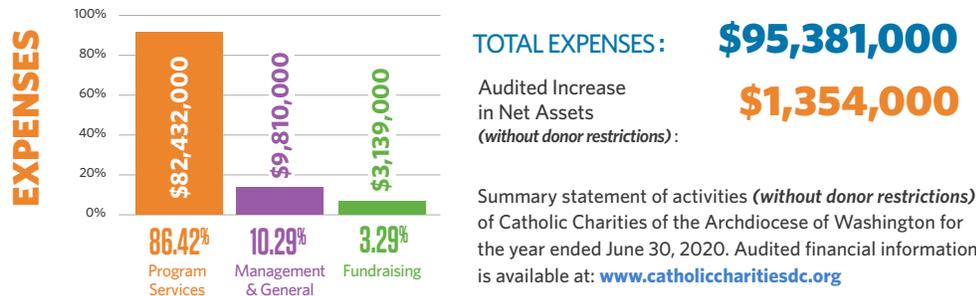
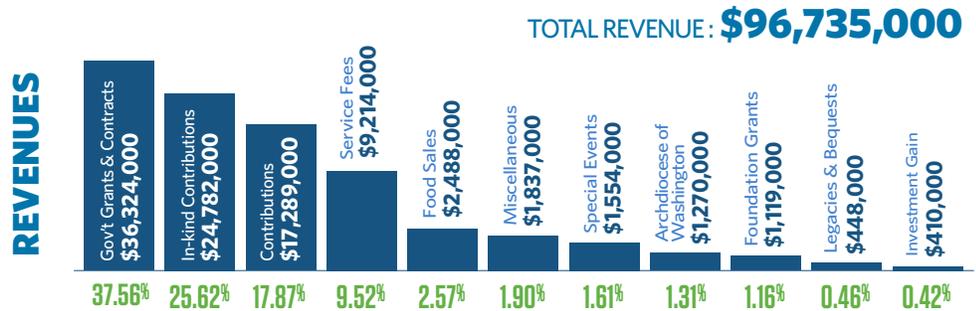
# FOR EVERY \$1 DONATED, MORE THAN 86¢ WENT DIRECTLY TO HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY

- **3.5 million meals** were served to the hungry and food insecure
- **1,451 clients** received employment support and job training
- **7,862 people** were provided with medical and dental assistance

## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

- **8,517 individuals** made donations
- **110,000 volunteer hours** were contributed by 6,852 people
- **\$24.8 million** in pro bono services were provided to clients



## 2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

9 large-scale

community food distributions served the food insecure.



980,584 pounds of food —

the equivalent of 1.2 million meals — were distributed by the Southern Maryland Food Bank.



2,524 people

were assisted by the Spanish Catholic Center food pantry.



87,785

SHARE Food Network packages were given to people in need.



18,417 people

received food, diapers, financial assistance and referral services from the Montgomery County Family Center.



## COMPASS

### HELPS MAN NAVIGATE THE PATH TO FINDING A HOME

More than anything, Deon Brown wanted a place to call home.

The lifelong D.C. resident lost transitional housing after a kidney transplant and the inability to work put him behind on the rent. He fell on hard times. But having a home was central to his commitment to his daughter. So, when Sister Mary Louise Wessell of Catholic Charities referred him to the COMPASS program, he went all in.

COMPASS is a neighborhood-based team of social workers and social work interns who, through the transformative power of relationship-building, help residents of the District's Wards 7 and 8 reach their goals.

For Brown, his goal was clear: find affordable senior housing.

To reach that goal, Brown and his COMPASS partner met once a week — and often more — to set short-term goals and track accomplishments. "It gave me a sense of hope," he says.

"It allowed me to know that my life would change."

After determining which neighborhoods he preferred, he worked to identify potential apartment complexes, filled out housing applications, toured possibilities and talked with property managers.

"Affordable housing, it seems like a simple task. But it's very hard to find affordable housing now," says Bi'Anncha Andrews, Brown's COMPASS partner.

Being a part of COMPASS, Brown says, is "a family kind of gathering. We all work together. You have to do your part; they do their part. We come together as a team, and we strive for our goals. In doing so, it's not always easy. **But you hang in there and keep the faith that it will work out.**"

Brown was diligent in completing tasks, even taking an eight-hour course to receive an inclusionary zoning certificate from the Department of Housing and Community Development's affordable housing program. "He did the work. He put forth his best effort. He stayed dedicated," Andrews says.

Just as he turned 62 earlier this year, Brown — who had over the years battled health problems, experienced homelessness and sought a true place to call home — moved into a one-bedroom apartment in Northeast D.C.

As he looks out over the balcony of an eighth-floor apartment that he calls a small palace, Brown feels a sense of gratitude and gratefulness. "I've been through a lot. I worked through some ups and downs," he says, adding that his success came from "being patient, believing in God and knowing that everything's going to be OK."

"It means the world to me to be in my own bed and be able to have my daughter come over to talk and have dinner."



## Join us in recognizing our generous community.

Visit [catholiccharitiesdc.org/20192020annualreport](https://catholiccharitiesdc.org/20192020annualreport) for the full report and list of donors.

## Give the gift of HOPE

Combined Federal Campaign # 83997 | United Way # 8054

For Help

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To Help

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