



CATHOLIC CHARITIES TOP 10 FAQ'S

(What you always wanted to know.....)

- 1. What does Catholic Charities of Harrisburg do?** Established in 1938, Catholic Charities is the social mission of the Catholic Church and provides an array of health and human services, ranging from a shelter for homeless families, maternity care for unwed mothers, residential programming and schools for youth in need and more. Catholic Charities provides services and care to over 5,000 people a year.
- 2. What does "Catholic" have to do with these services?** Ministering to those in need has its roots in the scriptures and has been an integral part of the Catholic Church for 2,000 years. Our origins trace back to 1727 when the French Ursuline Sisters opened an orphanage in New Orleans.
- 3. What makes Catholic Charities different from others?** Fundamental to the teachings of the Catholic Church is the belief in life and the dignity of the human person, the central role of family in society and the responsibility to care for those in need, vulnerable and at risk among us. We provide services **free of charge** to those who do not have the ability to pay.
- 4. How are you funded?** 94% from government funding, United Way contributions, fees for some services, grants, special events, and community support through individuals, businesses, civic organizations, and faith based community associations. 6% from the Diocese of Harrisburg.
- 5. Do you have to be Catholic to receive assistance?** **No-** 85% of those we help are non-Catholic.
- 6. Do you preach?** **No-** we focus on the needs of the person and the conditions for service. Government funding, which is a large part, of our operating revenue, does not allow us to preach or proselytize.
- 7. How does my company/organization benefit from supporting Catholic Charities?** Helping those in need benefits not only the people you help, but those doing the helping. You are supporting the community and helping those who cannot help themselves. With an administrative overhead of only 7%, the rest is going directly to those who need the help, with outcomes that are easy to measure and see. Wherever and whenever possible, Catholic Charities will recognize your company, organization and gifts and let the community know what a valuable and generous partner you are to us.
- 8. What are your programs?**
 - Counseling services-** individual, marital and family
 - Evergreen House-** residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation program for homeless women
 - Family Based Mental Health Services-** therapy, crisis management, and more to help children and adolescents with emotional disturbances.
 - Hope House –** residential care for those homeless individuals living with HIV/AIDS
 - Intensive Family Services Program-**for children at risk of being placed out of the home or school
 - Intensive Day Treatment Program –** program which serves at-risk youth with significant emotional, behavioral and educational needs
 - Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families –** Central PA's **only** shelter where homeless families stay together, not apart
 - Lourdeshouse Maternity Home-** residential program for homeless, pregnant women struggling to make sound decisions for themselves and their unborn child(ren)
 - Paradise School for Boys-** residential treatment for at-risk and adjudicated youth ages 12-17
 - Immigration and Refugee Services –** resettlement program for **legal** refugees and those who fled their countries due to religious and personal persecution, war, and other events. Includes ESL, employment help, temporary housing and legal services
 - Adoption Services –** provides the opportunity for couples to become parents and a family through infant, special needs, or international adoptions.
 - Specialized Foster Care-** provides temporary and/or permanent homes for abused and neglected children
- 9. How can I/we help?** Time, talent and treasure. Volunteer some **time** for a program or a special event. Lend your **talents** in landscaping or helping to plan an event or activity at some of the residential programs. Provide a **treasure** (financial support) to one of the programs.
- 10. How do I/we contribute financially?** Your tax deductible contributions, payable to Catholic Charities, may be sent to Catholic Charities, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111. Please call 717-657-4804, ext. 272 for more information. Credit card donations may be done via website through www.hbgdiocese.org, click on the Giving/Development tab; MC/VISA accepted