

A WORD FROM THE CEO...



Vincent W. Colonna

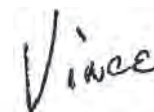
Thank you for taking the time to read our latest issue of CC Works. There has been a lot happening at Catholic Charities over the past few months, and we've highlighted a few programs and services. You'll see articles about our partnership with Siena College engaging the next generation of non-profit leaders; a piece about our important annual fund, which kicks off its major appeal in the fall; program highlights such as the Alternatives to Incarceration program, which helps steer people into meaningful community service; and the introduction of three of our new Executive Directors.

About two months ago the offices of Catholic Charities' Housing program, and the sister Diocesan sponsored DePaul Housing Management (which focuses on senior housing), suffered a devastating building fire. Luckily nobody was injured but the building will need extensive renovations – and meanwhile our resilient

staff is continuing to serve clients in need from other locations throughout the area. They didn't miss a beat. This "Can Do" attitude from our staff and volunteers is what makes Catholic Charities such a great part of our community. They really do put their clients first!

Finally, we're excited to start planning some celebratory events for Catholic Charities' 100th Anniversary in 2017. Mark your calendars for Night at the Museum and keep an eye out for other events during our centennial of Caring Beyond Belief. Thanks again for everything you do to support our work. Catholic Charities couldn't meet our mission without the crucial support of people like you!

Take Care,



A big "thank you" to volunteers like the Do-Gooders, who came to help at our Senior and Caregiver Support Services agency this summer.



Catholic Charities will be celebrating 100 years of Caring Beyond Belief in 2017. See page 6 for upcoming events to commemorate this centennial anniversary!



Meet three of our new Executive Directors – Stephanie Lao (pictured here); Erin Reale; and Maureen Petrie – Page 2

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE - JOE HANLON

By Mary Pat Hickey



Joe Hanlon

Throughout his 30+ years in public accounting, currently as a partner with Teal, Becker & Chiamonte, Joe Hanlon has worked with a number of for-profits and non-profits. He has learned that the most successful

organizations have very active boards with diverse expertise. Catholic Charities is a great example of this, Joe believes. When he was approached 2 years ago to fill an accounting/finance need, Joe saw an opportunity to volunteer with an organization that helps a large number of people. He currently chairs the Board of Trustee Audit Committee and is a member of the Finance and Nominating Committees. What Joe appreciates most about the board is that, "Catholic Charities' Trustees really listen; they're willing to face challenges head on and they're strong enough to not back away from anything."

Joe has worked on a lot of low-income housing audits in his career and understands the need for safe, affordable places to call home, so he especially values the work of Catholic Charities Housing. During a recent visit to Sunnyside Center, a child care/after school/summer camp program of Tri-County Services, Joe was particularly inspired by his conversations with staff. One long-term, passionate employee had just resigned his position to move on to a better financial opportunity. Joe recognizes that one of the greatest financial challenges facing non-profits today is salary limitations, and Catholic Charities is not an exception.

Joe grew up in Rhode Island. As a child, his family spent summers in the Adirondacks where it was a little cooler and a little less humid. That worked well for Joe so he decided to relocate to this area after college. He and Kathaleen, his wife of 30 years, are the proud parents of two daughters who are in college studying Speech Pathology and Nutrition. Clearly, this family's commitment to service continues.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WELCOMES THREE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

By Grit Carotenuto



Erin Reale – United Tenants. When Erin Reale met Roger Markovics in the fall of 2005 while a student at The College of Saint Rose, she understood the impact he had on tenant issues in Albany and the countless contributions he and his wife Maria had made. She never dreamed that she would follow in the Markovics' footsteps one day by becoming the Executive Director of United Tenants of Albany (UTA). United Tenants advocates for tenant rights, fair housing, and offers housing counseling in Albany County. Starting with an internship and followed by her employment at the agency since 2007, Erin learned how to work with individual clients as well as how to influence public policy decisions (locally and statewide) on housing issues.

While the Markovics had a profound impact on these issues in Albany, Erin knows that there is more work that needs to be done. The agency will continue to focus on community organizing by participating in initiatives like the *Housing for All* Campaign. At the same time Erin and her staff are working on expanding direct services to clients. They know that currently more people need the help of UTA than there is staff time and funding available. So Erin and her colleagues will work on exploring new funding streams and expanding on current contracts, which are just two ideas on a very long to-do list on her desk.

Stephanie Lao - Catholic Charities Care Coordination.

When Stephanie Lao entered the human services field many years ago, she could not have pictured how stormy the Medicaid waters might be in 2016. When she joined the agency in 2010 as a site manager in Schenectady, the focus was on providing services to people affected by HIV and AIDS. But it was quickly understood that case management is helpful for people living with a variety of chronic health conditions. So Schenectady became one of the first counties in the state to transition to a new service delivery model, where case coordinators work with clients to make sure they're receiving the medical care and support they need. When she became the Associate Executive Director in 2013, Stephanie began shaping this transition across multiple counties in the Diocese both within her agency as well as outside by participating on a variety of community-wide committees. She currently is the chair of two project committees in Albany and Otsego Counties, where she has become an integral member of the local human services community and is sought out for her input and guidance. It is easy to understand why – Stephanie's skills and experience make her the right person to lead Care Coordination Services into its next chapter!



Maureen Petrie – Catholic Charities of Herkimer County.

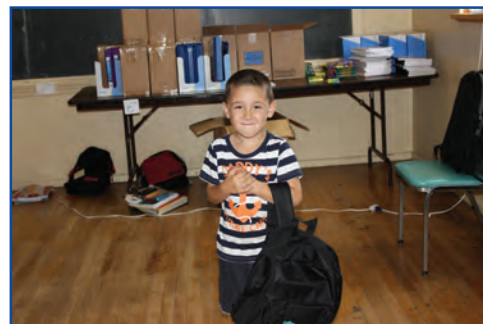
Maureen Petrie, a 16 year veteran with Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, took the reins as the Executive Director in September. Maureen is a lifelong resident of Ilion and has been the Director of Prevention Education with the Herkimer County Prevention Council of Catholic Charities for the past 5 years. She has been active in numerous endeavors in Herkimer County including the formation of the local coalition the "Community Partnership." Maureen has received several awards for her work in the community, and was the recipient of the Commissioner's Service Award in Prevention this past year.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OPENS TWO NEW OFFICES

By Eileen Spath

Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego and Schoharie Counties opened its newest office in Sidney this July. Sidney, a rural village in Delaware County, has no public transportation and limited access to programs and services. The new site, located in the Village's Civic Center, is easily accessed by many residents. Lynn Glueckert, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego and Schoharie Counties, and Sidney case manager Diana Halstead note the new location has increased the number of Delaware County residents the office assists.

In the village of Catskill, residents are also benefiting from a new Catholic Charities site. The office has moved to a more central location and celebrated with a ribbon cutting in June. Vanessa Vogel, Director of Community Services for Catholic Charities of Columbia and Greene Counties, notes the improved location is "accessible to people living in and walking from downtown Catskill." The office itself is "more welcoming" and is home to several new programs, including a food pantry.



An excited student picks up his backpack and school supplies at the new Catholic Charities office in Sidney!

ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION

By Kathryn Hubly

One program, three counties, and more than sixty-five young adults are annually given a chance to make restitution for community violations rather than serve time in prison. This winning combination is the foundation for the Alternatives to Incarceration program, a service provided by Catholic Charities in Delaware, Otsego and Schoharie counties. The program, made up of primarily 18 to 24-year-old participants, allows non-violent offenders (commonly cited for drug, alcohol, or disorderly conduct violations) the opportunity to participate in community service as restitution for harm caused by their actions and in lieu of incarceration. It's a proactive and positive option of restorative justice for the local town and village courts that participate.

"What might not start as a positive experience ends with many taking something positive away," said Christy Houck, program director for the Otsego branch, explaining that participants often don't realize the potential for real transformation

when they first enter the program. This transformation occurs when caseworkers collaborate with participants to match their interests, talents, and hobbies with the needs of non-profit or government service sites, such as equine therapy farms, Salvation Army thrift stores, city parks, and public transportation services. Once placed at a site, program participants have a direct impact on the success or failure of the collaboration.

The results speak for themselves: with a 90-95 percent completion rate at the Otsego branch, organizations and participants alike find the experience to be a positive one, Ms. Houck said. Participants leave their assignments equipped with professional networking relationships, references for future job opportunities, and, oftentimes, offers of employment from the organizations themselves, as well as a renewed sense of self-esteem in having given back to the community they harmed. Likewise, the counties utilizing the program receive benefits. Due to the program's

high completion rate, successful reporting, and surpassing of target goals, counties are able to receive some funding from the state for administrative costs associated with the program.

The Alternatives to Incarceration program offers a proactive alternative to jail sentencing, creates positive relationships within local communities, and serves as a valuable resource to town and village courts and magistrates.



Community Service is a positive alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders

ACE COMES TO CC By Sr. Betsy Van Deusen

If we were playing cards, we would love to have an “ace in the hole.” Last spring Catholic Charities began a partnership with **ACE – Academic Community Engagement** at Siena College and we are certain we have several aces in our agencies now! The ACE Office was established in 2008 with the vision of connecting Siena faculty and students with non-profit organizations, creating community development programs and experiential learning for the students.

The hope for students who are Bonner Service Leaders is that they will be with the agency for their entire college career. The students serve 8-10 hours a week and have a weekly meeting on campus for team building, networking and learning. Students are from every discipline, and as a result of their “Bonner learning,” graduate with a Certificate in Community Development in addition to their degree. Typically sixteen students begin the program each fall.

Catholic Charities began with two students and now has four. The goal is to create a student team at one of our agencies. **Kristin Ludwicki** from New Jersey served last spring at Mercy House. **Shayla Encarnacion** from the Bronx served in the Community Partnerships Office. Shayla has returned this fall and has clearly stepped up as a leader in the group. **Maya Gentile** from Albany and **Andrew Tessman** from Norwich, CT are serving with Catholic Charities Housing. **Kylie Gilbride** from Rockland County is serving with Catholic Charities Tri-County Services at the two sites of the Sister Maureen Joyce Center (soup kitchen and food pantry). We are so blessed to have these four young people who are passionate, engaged, desiring to serve and they are already making a difference!

Over the summer we had a Summer Service Scholar, **Sonja Vasovic** from Serbia, who served in our Human Resources Department. Sonja was with us from early June to early August. The final program that we are involved in is the NEXT Consulting Program. The team of students is assisting us with our FOCAS (Family Opportunity Collaborative at Sunnyside) to demonstrate with data the effectiveness of this new initiative to engage with two generations of a family.

Aces are often part of a winning hand and there is no doubt that these students, with their willingness to risk and experiment and to “go for it!” are making that true for the system of Charities!

Bonner Service Leaders
(from Left to Right)
Maya Gentile, Shayla
Encarnacion, Kylie Gilbride,
Andrew Tessman



ANNUAL GIVING By Kate Qualters

Nearly everybody I speak with about Catholic Charities can name a favorite program or service that we provide. For some, it’s the homeless shelters and soup kitchens that help those most in need. For others, it’s the programs to help young mothers like Community Maternity Services and nutrition programs. And for some donors, Catholic Charities programs that help senior citizens, those with disabilities, or those with chronic health conditions are the ones that touch their hearts. Whatever your area of interest, Catholic Charities is likely to have a program or service that helps the people who are important to you.



Kate Qualters

The one way you can directly impact those we serve is with a donation to the Catholic Charities Annual Fund. Your annual fund gift helps all of our services by giving us the financial ability to provide funding where it’s needed most. In turn, you are supporting the poor and vulnerable from the Albany Diocese who benefit from our more than 95 programs.

A monthly recurring gift of just \$5 or \$10 is a great way to spread out your giving over the year and still make a difference in someone else’s life. I invite you to learn more about our online recurring gift program at www.ccrda.org. Take a look to see if this type of convenient giving is right for you.

Finally, to all of our generous donors who continuously renew their giving this time of year, thank you! Your donations are so important in helping reach thousands of New Yorkers in need right here in our Diocese. Last year over \$370,000 was raised through the Annual Fund, and that money went to help food pantries, soup kitchens, housing programs, and so many other critical services. Thank you for your generosity!

Kate Qualters

Visit ccrda.org to make a gift.



HOLIDAY BASKET WISH LIST

Catholic Charities Agencies throughout the diocese will be putting together Holiday Baskets this year, in order to provide dinners to the poor and vulnerable throughout the area. Please see the list below for information on how you can donate and get involved!

Care Coordination | 100 Slingerland St., Albany, NY
Contact: Susan Caponera, (518) 449-3581 ext. 100

Gift Cards (*Walmart, Price Chopper or Hannaford*)

Needed By: 12/ 12

Disabilities Services | 1 Park Pl. Suite 200, Albany, NY*
Contacts: Marissa VanDenburgh, (518) 724-1857 and
Kathy Pivacek, (518) 724-1853

Gift Cards or Supermarket Cards
Monetary Donations
(*We will do the shopping for the family.*)

Needed By: 12/5

*We will also gladly pick up donations.

**Catholic Charities Housing -
St. Charles Lwanga Center Men's Shelter**
115 Grand St., Albany, NY
Contact: Stephen Archer, (518) 465-4973

Bus Passes
Toiletries
Shower Shoes (*flip flops*)
Towels and Wash Cloths
Socks and Underwear

Catholic Charities Housing - Mercy House Women's Shelter
12 St Joseph's Terrace, Albany, NY
Contact: Frances Fox, (518) 434-3531

Bus Passes	Personal Care Items
Planners	Towels and Wash Cloths
Body Spray	Envelopes, Paper and Pens
Socks, Underwear	Combs and Brushes
(<i>sizes 5-9</i>) and Bras	Head Bands and Ponytail
(<i>sizes 32A-44D</i>)	Holders
	Personal Hand Sanitizer



Catholic Charities Housing - Single Room Occupancies
35 North Main Ave., Albany, NY
Contact: Tia Wright, (518) 462-6829, ext. 10

Fruit Juice (<i>apple, grape or cranberry</i>)	Gravy (<i>turkey or chicken</i>)
Green Beans, Peas, Corn, Yams, and Fruit (<i>canned</i>)	Chicken Broth (<i>canned</i>)
Fresh Produce	Cranberry Sauce
Rice	Loaves of Bread
Stuffing Mix	Cake and Brownie Mix
Instant Mashed Potatoes (<i>large box</i>)	Jell-O and Pudding
	Cookies, Nuts or Crackers
	Coffee, Tea or Hot Chocolate
	Turkey or Ham

For those interested in baking, we are also accepting donations of homemade pies for the Holidays.
Needed By: 11/22

Tri-County Services | 50 Herrick St., Rensselaer, NY
Contact: Justine Carroll, (518) 512-3577

Holiday Gifts (<i>gifts for teenagers</i>)	Laundry Detergent
Gift Cards	Toilet Paper
AA Batteries	Turkey or Ham
Personal Care Items (<i>soap, shampoo, deodorant, razors, toothpaste, feminine products</i>)	Canned Fruits and Vegetables
	Jelly
	Soups

Needed By: 11/15

Delaware, Otsego & Schoharie Counties
489 West Main St., Cobleskill, NY
Contact: Liz Tessarzik, (518) 234-3581

Turkeys
Pies
Butter

Needed By 11/18

Saratoga, Warren & Washington Counties
142 Regent St., Saratoga Springs, NY and 35 Broad St., Glens Falls, NY
Contact: Main Offices 518-587-5000 518-793-6212

Gift Cards (*Price Chopper, Target, Walmart, etc.*)

In addition to providing Holiday Baskets, some of our agencies are running Holiday Adoption Programs, allowing people to adopt a family/individual for the holiday season. For information on these programs, please reach out to one of the contacts below.

Housing Office | Contact: Saretha Sotomayor, (518) 462-6829 ext. 16

Care Coordination | Contact: Susan Caponera, (518) 449-3581 ext. 100

Disabilities Services | Contact: Marissa VanDenburgh, (518) 724-1857 and Kathy Pivacek, (518) 724-1853

Columbia & Greene Counties | Contact: Samantha Peek, (518) 828-8660

CC WORKS

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Committed to Active Witness*

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
VINCENT W. COLONNO

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
PAUL MCAVOY

EDITORIAL BOARD:
GRIT CAROTENUTO
MARY PAT HICKEY
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DESIGNER: FORT ORANGE PRESS

PHONE: (518) 453-6650
WWW.CCRCDA.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at www.ccrda.org for more details on these and other upcoming events!

Hope for the Homeless Breakfast

November 3, 2016. Wolfert's Roost Club, Albany, NY

Dining Out for Others

November in Columbia and Greene Counties

Festival of Trees

December, Saratoga Springs City Center

Sister Maureen Joyce Center Dinner

February 28, 2017 (Mardi Gras). Century House, Latham, NY

Golf For Good

August 21, 2017. Schuyler Meadows Club, Loudonville, NY.

As Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany prepares to celebrate our 100th anniversary in 2017, mark your calendars for these special events:



100th Anniversary Liturgy

Cathedral of The Immaculate Conception, Albany
June 4, 2017

Night at the Museum

NY State Museum, Albany
June 22nd, 2017

**Stay tuned for more events and information as we celebrate
100 years of helping our neighbors in need in the Albany Diocese!**