

A WORD FROM THE CEO...



Vincent W. Colunno

We are excited to bring you this special 100th anniversary edition of CC Works! It's hard to believe that Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany is 100 years old this year. Though we started as an organization focused on serving families in and around Albany, we have expanded to serve people from all faiths and backgrounds, and all walks of life, throughout our 14 county Diocese.

There are several Catholic Charities organizations throughout New York State celebrating their centennial anniversary this year. It's been a good reminder for us to take a look at our services and mission and make sure we are doing everything we can to help the poor and vulnerable. I'm proud to say that our work is reaching people in ways that our founders could hardly have imagined one hundred years ago. Today, Catholic Charities has expanded to meet needs in

healthcare, homelessness, food insecurity, family stability, and numerous other areas – and we're not done yet. We are currently working on some exciting plans to address local challenges in affordable housing, emergency assistance, and client service coordination. You will be hearing more about these initiatives this fall. All of this is possible because of the support of donors, volunteers, and staff members who work tirelessly for our mission.

Take a look at the timeline in this issue – you can see how far we've come! We hope you can join us for Night at the Museum, our centennial celebration, and keep an eye out for other local events during our centennial year. Here's to another 100 years of Caring Beyond Belief!

Take Care,

Vince



We've come a long way in 100 years! Take a look at Catholic Charities' historical timeline, inside



Catholic Charities is honoring 100 people and organizations with Centennial Medallions as we celebrate our 100th Anniversary (Page 3)



The Ladies of Charity celebrate 400 years of service, and are honorees at this year's Night at the Museum (page 2)

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE - GINNY O'BRIEN

By Mary Pat Hickey



Ginny O'Brien

Ginny O'Brien has always been interested in Social Justice. Her passion for helping the communities in which she has lived can be seen through her 25 years in public office, her work for Albany

County Social Services, her involvement with the Parish Council and Social Justice Committee at her parish (St. Michael's in Troy), and her many years of sitting on local boards. Mike, her husband of 49 years has been by her side through it all.

Children have always been a special part of Ginny's life. In addition to her own children, now grown, Ginny worked for Catholic Charities' Seton Daycare years ago. That's where she met Sisters Serena and Maureen, whom she deeply respected. While President of Catholic Charities' Caregiver & Support Services Board, Ginny learned the inner workings of a local board. Ginny has felt her newest role as Trustee has been the most eye opening and touching experience for her. The board's visits to the programs of local agencies allow her to witness first hand Caring Beyond Belief. "It is not just a slogan!" she is quick to remark.

While Ginny believes the 100th Anniversary speaks to the stability and reputation Catholic Charities has in the community, she wishes there would be no need for CC in the future. But as long as we are here, she is confident the hard working and dedicated staff and inspiring commitment of the board will continue to keep the organization strong and successful in serving the most vulnerable among us.

ROARKE CENTER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

By Eileen Spath



As Catholic Charities celebrates its 100th anniversary, The Roarke Center in Troy marks its own milestone of 20 years of service. The Center was established in 1997 by the Daughters of Charity, providing emergency assistance to individuals facing financial hardships. In 2008, it became a part of Catholic Charities of the

Diocese of Albany, and continues to offer emergency assistance today. The Roarke Center has grown over the past two decades, now offering a food pantry, a reentry program for those leaving incarceration, and a creative arts program. The Center's goal is to improve the quality of life of all its members through social support and services.

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, The Roarke Center hosted an open house in May. The day included tours of the Center and remarks from community supporters. Sister Loretta Hoag and Sister Marian Hamwey, Daughters of Charity and long-time employees at the Center, were both recognized for their dedication to Roarke and its mission. The day highlighted the achievements of the Roarke Center over the past two decades, as well as its continuing work in Rensselaer County.

100 YEARS: A TIMELINE



Catholic Charities becomes the name of the growing agency. Sunnyside Child Development Center opens.

Camp Scully opens.

1917

1920

1925

1926

Prior to 1917, Seton Catholic Family and Community Services and the Catholic AID Association of Albany served the area.

Bishop Thomas Cusack establishes Catholic Charities, including Masterson Child Development Center and Albany Catholic Family and Community Services.

Camp Tekakwitha is envisioned.

During the next 19 years, Catholic Charities works through the difficult period of the Depression and WWII.

THE LADIES OF CHARITY CELEBRATE 400 YEARS OF SERVICE

By Katie Hubly

The Ladies of Charity in Albany are not only one of this year’s honorees at the annual Night at the Museum, they are also celebrating their 400th anniversary. Founded in 1617 by St. Vincent de Paul, the Ladies of Charity are a volunteer organization of lay members dedicated to providing service to the poor. They are one of the oldest, continuously functioning organizations of their kind. Since being founded in Albany in 1970, they have proven to be a vibrant presence throughout the Capital Region.



The Newest Members of the Ladies of Charity in Albany

The services provided by the Ladies are extensive. When they are not distributing diapers, clothing and formula for families at Mary’s Corner, they can be found assisting the homeless at the Sister Maureen Joyce Center, with the retired Daughters of Charity creating care packages for service members and children fighting cancer, or distributing hundreds of coats during their annual Coats for the Community drive. Even when determining how to celebrate their anniversary, the Ladies of Charity focused on others, organizing an offertory collection to benefit the Daughters of Charity Border Ministries.

Their mission attracts growth. “When you have that spirit of service you naturally share it. Growth happens organically — we simply invite others to share in our work,” said Kim Witko Seitz, president of the Albany Association. Having attracted twenty-two new members just this year, it is clear that the work of the Ladies of Charity continues to inspire others to pursue a life of service to the poor in the Capital Region.

DEVELOPMENT PLANNED GIVING –

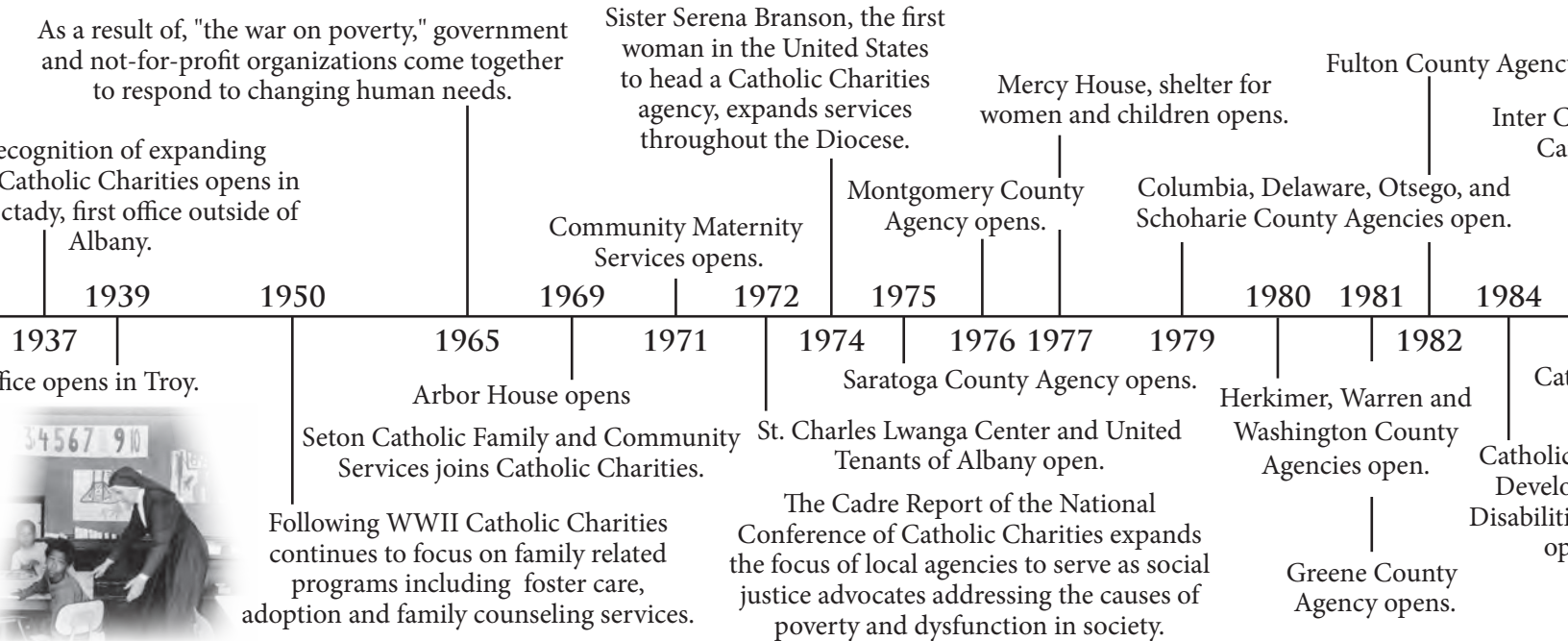
In keeping with the centennial celebrations of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany this year, we are proud to announce the establishment of our **1917 Legacy Society**.

The **1917 Legacy Society** has been created to celebrate and thank those individuals who have chosen to make a charitable gift to Catholic Charities in a lasting way. We gratefully recognize those who have or wish to make a planned, future gift to ensure the continuation of our mission. If you have remembered Catholic Charities in your will and trusts, I invite you to contact me so we may recognize you and thank you for your generosity.

If you would like to explore how you can give to others in a lasting way, I invite you to explore these giving options:

• Bequest or Estate Gifts

In writing a will or living trust, you may designate a portion of your estate to benefit Catholic Charities.



ENT CORNER: - LEAVING A LEGACY

• Charitable Gift Annuity

A charitable gift annuity is a contract between you and Catholic Charities. Transfer securities or real property in exchange for a partial tax deduction and receive a lifetime stream of annual income from Catholic Charities. Upon your death, the remaining principal is available to support Catholic Charities.

"Including Catholic Charities in my will is a way for me to ensure that I can help others in their time of need and make a difference to the poor and vulnerable in our Diocese – so low-income children can attend summer camp, more seniors can benefit from our transportation programs, and more families can be served from our food pantries."

– Mary T., Saratoga

To learn more about planned giving contact **Kate Qualters** at 518-453-6677 kate.qualters@rcda.org

CENTENNIAL MEDALLION

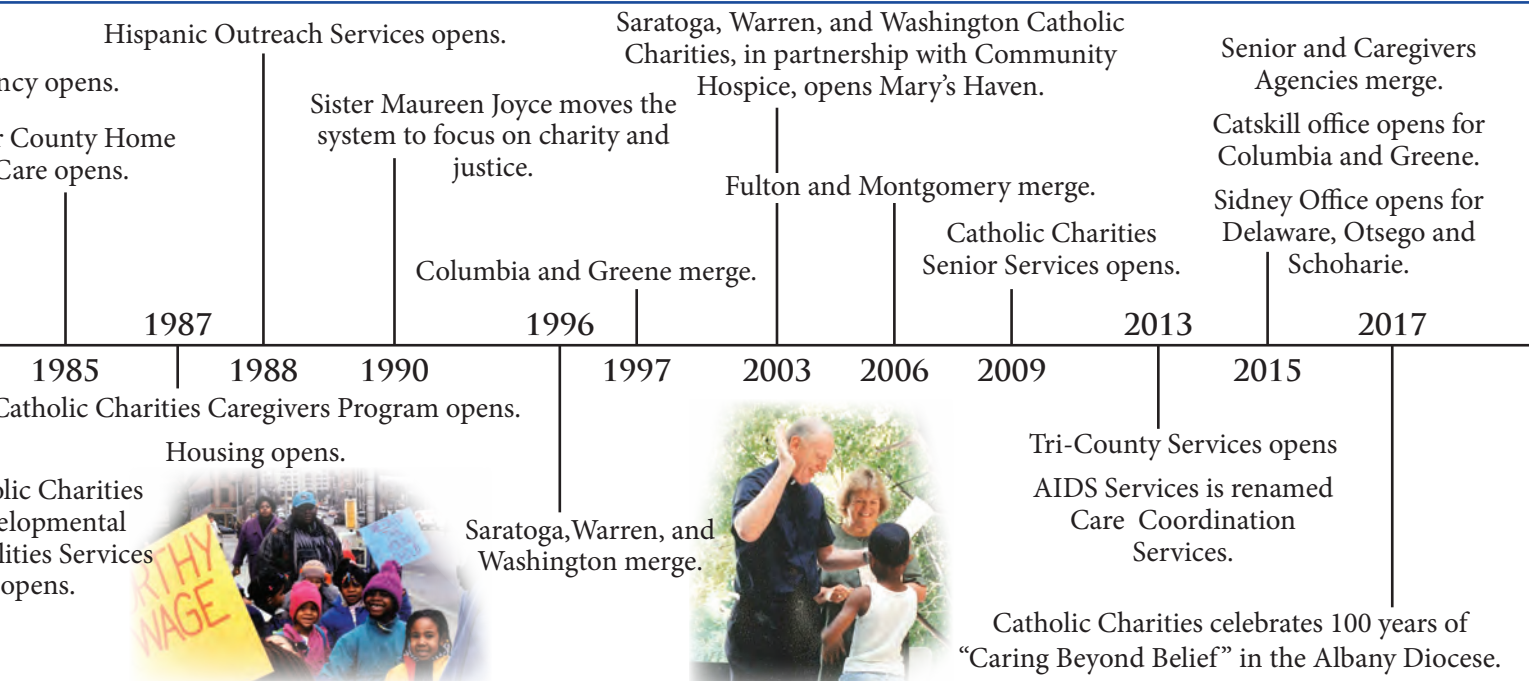
The Centennial Medallion, a symbol, was chosen to celebrate Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany's one hundredth Anniversary. How does an organization that has been blessed beyond



measure – with tens of thousands of people over one hundred years – acknowledge those contributions? It is an honor for Catholic Charities to offer a small gesture of gratitude for the commitment, generosity and passion shared throughout these decades of service.

Criteria were established and nomination forms were widely distributed to staff, volunteers and the Board of Trustees. Present staff members were not eligible for this honor but former staff, community partners, committee members, contributors, and Board members were considered. The committee had a huge challenge in making the final determination as the gifts shared and the blessings received have been countless.

The Centennial Medallions are being given throughout the 14 counties of the Catholic Charities system at events that our agencies sponsor. On the actual anniversary of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany, May 25, a number of Medallions were given at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. We bestow these Medallions with deep gratitude and humility knowing that everyone nominated (and hundreds more) uphold, cherish, share and live the mission of Catholic Charities in our world today!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES'

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017, 5:30 P.M.

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM | 260 MADISON AVENUE, ALBANY

HONORING

REV. JOHN J. BRADLEY & THE LADIES OF CHARITY

Our Signature Event to Benefit Emergency Assistance Programs

Catering by Mazzone | Italian Getaway Raffle | Silent Auction | Live Music | Carousel Rides & more!

Tickets are \$125 and available at www.ccrda.org/NAM or 518-453-6650

Presented By



Title Sponsor:



Win a trip for two to *Tuscany* 5 Nights at the Villa Casagrande Resort & Spa

\$5,000 Value!

Enjoy this 14th century Villa that offers a wide range of amenities, including two upscale restaurants, cooking classes, a wellness spa, wine cellar, and historical farm!

Package includes: \$1500 toward airfare, welcome dinner featuring local wine, Tuscan style standard room, daily breakfast, and six day car rental.

Visit ccrda.org for full details.

To benefit clients served by Catholic Charities. Winner to be drawn at the **Night at the Museum** fundraiser on June 22, 2017. Entrants need not be present to win.

\$30 for one ticket
\$50 for two tickets

Call (518) 453-6650 for tickets.



CC WORKS

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Committed to Active Witness*

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES THROUGH THE YEARS



**100 YEARS OF
CARING BEYOND
BELIEF**

