

# CC WORKS



SUMMER 2018

## A WORD FROM THE CEO



Vincent W. Colonno

As these summer days draw to a close, I'm reminded of how lucky we are to have so many people working and supporting the mission of Catholic Charities. Summer is a great time of year for some relaxation and reflection – and this year I spent some time thinking about how all of us are playing an important part in serving the poor and vulnerable through Catholic Charities. No matter what our job title or donor level, thousands of people are working together to help the less fortunate in our corner of New York, and it is wonderful to be a part of this organization.

You'll see a particular theme in this issue of CC Works – change is always happening! This summer has seen some significant changes as some of our long-time agency directors have stepped down to enjoy a well-earned retirement. With that we are thrilled to welcome new employees who

will bring their energy and enthusiasm to our mission. You will also read about our summer programs, like Camp Scully; get an update on our Campaign; and find out about some upcoming events.

Thank you for your commitment to Catholic Charities – your prayers, financial support, friendship, and volunteering; all work to help make life better for the over 83,000 people we serve in our Diocese. Thanks to you, Catholic Charities continues to be a living example of *Caring Beyond Belief*.

Take Care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Vince'.

## IN THIS ISSUE...



**Campaign Update:** Recently purchased apartments expand affordable family housing in Ilion.



Each summer, Machaela Lantz spends her time teaching counselors and campers the Camp Scully values.



As we say goodbye to old friends, we're proud to introduce the newest leaders of Catholic Charities.

# BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

By Mary Pat Hickey



**Scott Houghtaling** was fortunate to be able to spend a lot of time with his grandmother, Helen Crosier, when he was very young. It was with her that Scott first experienced what it meant to give back. Together they

dropped off food and clothing to seniors and shut-ins throughout their community. When he was seven, his parents bought the local general store and the importance of community responsibility was further instilled in Scott and his brothers. He went on to serve for twelve years on the Town Board of New Scotland (two as Deputy Supervisor); on the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer's Association; and currently is on the Board of Directors for the Center for Economic Growth. Scott is also a member of the Development and Space Planning Committees at Albany Medical Center.

It was former Trustee, fellow banker, friend and mentor Bob Curley who suggested that Scott meet with Vince Colonno to learn more about Catholic Charities. Two hours later, he was hooked! Scott was drawn to the mission and wide reach of CC and has a special affinity for the programs and services for children. Today he serves as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees and Co-Chair of the Finance Committee.

Scott is Executive Vice President of Commercial Banking at Berkshire Bank. While he has responsibilities in NY, NJ and Eastern PA, he still managed to make most of the 38 Finance Committee meetings held last year. Scott is committed to helping the CC agencies balance resources of people, time, and money to meet the ever-changing and growing needs of the communities served. His goal is simple: to keep CC on solid financial ground so it can serve its mission for another 100 years!

Scott and his wife Lori have been married for 25 years and are the very proud parents of their two children, Tim and Kate, who are both in college.

## GOODBYES AND NEW BEGINNINGS

By Grit Carotenuto



Mary Olsen



Deborah Damm O'Brien



John Nasso

The last few months here at Catholic Charities have been filled with several good byes and new beginnings. Having accumulated a combined 93 years of service to Catholic Charities, three key staff members have decided that it is time to enjoy their well-deserved retirement. **Mary Olsen**, Director of Disaster Response (as well as Catholic Campaign for Human Development and Catholic Relief Services liaison) and **Deborah Damm O'Brien**, Executive Director of Catholic Charities Housing Office (as well as DePaul Housing Management and McCloskey Community Service Corporation), bid us a fond farewell as of June 30, 2018. **John Nasso**, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery Counties will follow suit in September. While different in personality and style, their dedication to our mission and the clients we serve, their can-do attitude, and their willingness to go above and beyond is what unites all three of them.

Catholic Charities Disabilities Services (CCDS) is proud to announce **Aaron Howland** as the agency's new Executive Director. This position opens a new chapter for him, and he describes the move like a homecoming. He has worked for most of his career with people with disabilities, including being on the Board of CCDS for five years prior to employment as Catholic Charities' Corporate Compliance Officer. **Sondra Young** has been appointed the new Executive Director for our CC Housing Office, beginning September 10th. Sondra possesses a wide range of experience in the housing environment, from managing properties to working in the areas of Section 8 Housing, Affordable Housing, Public Housing, and Rural Property Development. **David Covey** has re-joined our team, this time as the new Executive Director for our Fulton/Montgomery agency. David has extensive experience in the health and human services sector serving in state government and with local community services agencies. David is already known to Catholic Charities as he served as Associate Executive Director of Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services.

A warm welcome to Aaron, Sondra, and David!



# Dayhaven ADULT DAY SERVICES



Dayhaven is a social model adult day program for individuals with short and long-term physical and/or cognitive impairments. The program provides an interactive, safe, and secure place for individuals to make new friends, share a meal, exercise their brain, learn new activities, and connect with others. Dayhaven allows caregivers peace of mind knowing their loved one is being taken care of in a safe, secure environment.

**Open Enrollment - Call Today!**  
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## SUMMER AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES!

June 21, 2018 | Night at the Museum



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July 21 | Color Run for Catholic Charities of  
Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties



August | Mural Painting at  
Camp Scully



## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

By Sister Betsy Van Deusen

Look what's been happening...

We purchased and are preparing four family apartments in Ilion that should be ready for tenants in early fall. These permanent housing solutions will be offered at 60% of the AMI (area median income) which means the working poor will be able to live there in dignity and safety. Our goal is to develop affordable housing throughout the 14 counties of the Diocese with the emphasis on areas that have fewer housing options.

We have "Spruced Up" at the Heery Center, a residence of Catholic Charities Community Maternity Services for pregnant young women and children. We have replaced cabin roofs at Camp Scully, our children's summer camp on Snyder's Lake. We are updating the office in Cobleskill with a fresh coat of paint and some new carpeting.

We have project plans before Planning Boards in several more municipalities for approval and go ahead. Sometimes this process is controversial because there is sense of NIMBYism (Not in My Back Yard) that goes on when there is a conversation about people who struggle to make ends meet. However, our projects are always aimed towards helping the people who are in the communities we serve, and who are struggling to afford safe housing there. Many of our neighbors and friends have been supportive of these efforts, and for that we are very grateful!

We are working in western Fulton and Montgomery Counties to hear from the community what is most needed as we implement "No Wrong Door," which strengthens service delivery and serves as a hub for case management services in places where there are few other not for profits to meet the growing needs in our rural diocese.



Family housing purchased in Ilion, NY will soon be ready for tenants.

## DEVELOPMENT CORNER: SUSTAINING GIFTS, SUSTAINING COMMUNITIES

By Kate Qualters

Martin, from Queensbury, has been giving to the Catholic Charities Annual Fund each month for more than seven years. "I give to Catholic Charities because it's a good organization and I want to help people. Giving monthly fits into my budget easily and allows me to contribute more each year than if I gave a one-time gift. I know Catholic Charities will use my contributions well." Martin has given for 94 months in a row and, over that time, he has helped hundreds of people in need right here in our local communities.

Like Martin, many donors find it easier to set up automatic, recurring monthly gifts to Catholic Charities. These gifts are made with a credit card or directly debited from their bank account and happen automatically on the schedule that works best for them. Sustaining support like this means Catholic Charities can continue to provide food, shelter, and emergency assistance to those most in need in our community because we have regular donor support we can count on.

And, as Martin said, when you give monthly, your support adds up. For example: **\$5 per month** can provide a set of twin bedding for a person in a homeless shelter, **\$10 per month** can provide a month's worth of diapers to a family in need and **\$50 per month** can feed a family of four for one month at one of Catholic Charities' 10 food pantries.

**Making a recurring donation** is easy and can be set up in a matter of minutes:

- To make your monthly gift online, go to [rcda.thankyou4caring.org/ccrcda/](http://rcda.thankyou4caring.org/ccrcda/).
- Select Monthly Gift in the Additional Information section of the giving form.
- Select either the 1st or the 15th of the month for scheduled payments.
- Automatically charge your gift to your credit card or select the direct debit option. Your gift will be automatically deducted from your bank account each month.

You can also make a recurring gift by contacting:

**Kate Jankowski, Development Manager** at  
(518) 641-6831 or [kate.jankowski@ccrcda.org](mailto:kate.jankowski@ccrcda.org).



# CAMP SCULLY: BUILT ON VALUES

By Eileen Spath

Machaela Lantz started working at Camp Scully five years ago as a day camp counselor. Now in her sixth year, she continues to work as the Day Camp Director, overseeing counselors and children throughout the summer. During the school year, Lantz is a special education teacher, but returns without fail every June. What keeps her coming back, year after year? When asked, Lantz replied with a smile, “camp magic.”

Walking on the grounds of Camp Scully, that magic is hard to miss. It's the faint smell of sunscreen in the air, a lazy summer breeze, mixed with the cheers and laughter of campers as they splash in the lake. “It's a total change of pace,” Lantz observes. “It's the friends that you have, it's the kids. There are kids that I've watched grow up here. There are kids that I know their parents. It's the connection with the kids, the parents and the staff. They become like your family. It makes you want to come back.”

Camp Scully, run by Catholic Charities Tri-County Services and located on Snyder's Lake in Wynantskill, NY, offers its own particular brand of camp magic. Typical camp traditions of canoeing and camp fires intermingle with a broader mission of community to create a truly unique experience for campers. Counselors and staff alike focus on six core values, spelled out in Camp Scully's name: Service, Caring, Understanding, Love, Loyalty, and Youthfulness.



In her role as Day Camp Director, Lantz instills these values in the counselors she oversees.

“You get to watch them grow. [For] some of them this is their first job. You go through staff training, and then the kids come,” Lantz observes, “and we're in to week five and it's smooth sailing. It's fun to watch that progression... That's one of my favorite parts - seeing the counselors come out of [their] shell and be these really awesome people that care about all these kids.”

In turn, the counselors teach their campers those same values. The result is something beyond “camp magic.” It's summer camp at its finest, a caring and understanding community, with a healthy dose of summer fun.



As Day Camp Director, Machaela Lantz (left) works closely with camp counselors and staff.

## ABOUT CAMP SCULLY

**Camp Scully** is a co-ed, day and overnight summer camp for children and teens aged 5 to 16 accredited by the American Camp Association. It is located on Snyder's Lake in North Greenbush approximately 10 miles from Albany and Troy. We believe every child deserves an incredible summer, regardless of income. Financial Aid is available. Visit the website below for more information.

**Registration for 2019** will be open in December 2018. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to email us at [campscully@ccalbany.org](mailto:campscully@ccalbany.org) or give us a call at (518) 512-3577.

Visit <http://www.campscully.camp> for more details.





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*A Catholic Charities Quarterly  
Committed to Active Witness*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us for one of these fantastic events to support Catholic Charities!

### WINDOW OF HOPE

**September 20** Join Catholic Charities of Herkimer County at the Window of Hope Awards Luncheon, honoring individuals and organizations who work to assist those in need in Herkimer County. This year, Lydia Sexton, Friends of Rachel Club and The Community Foundation of Oneida and Herkimer Counties will all be honored with the award. Contact Maureen Petrie at (315) 894-9917 for more information.

### CELEBRATION OF LIFE

**October 18** Catholic Charities Community Maternity Services will hold its annual dinner at Wolfert's Roost Country Club in Menands, honoring Father Michael A. Farano as he celebrates his Golden Jubilee. The proceeds of this event will be used to support the programs and services of Community Maternity Services, designed to empower our clients and strengthen families. For more information on sponsorships or tickets please email: [annemarie@cccms.org](mailto:annemarie@cccms.org) or visit [ccrcda.org/events](http://ccrcda.org/events).

### HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS

**November 8** Hope for the Homeless is an annual fundraising breakfast to end homelessness and benefit Catholic Charities Housing programs. This year's breakfast will honor St. Thomas the Apostle Church and School in Delmar, in recognition of their work to assist those facing homelessness in our community. Visit [ccrcda.org/events](http://ccrcda.org/events) for tickets.