



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF HARRISBURG FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Catholic Charities?

Catholic Charities is dedicated to responding to the human services needs of all people throughout the 15 counties of the Diocese of Harrisburg regardless of age, race, gender, religious affiliation, or ability to pay. Since its inception in 1938, the agency has responded to the emerging needs of our communities by providing the highest quality in social services and the most comprehensive array of programs available in our service areas.

What does Catholic Charities do?

Each day, Catholic Charities provides help and creates hope in an efficient and compassionate manner through our youth, behavioral health, and specialized residential programs.

YOUTH

Intensive Family Services – for children at risk of being placed out of the home or school

Adoption Services – provides the opportunity for couples to become parents through infant, special needs, or international adoptions

Specialized Foster Care – places children in supporting homes

Paradise School for Boys – a comprehensive residential/day treatment for at-risk youth ages 12-17

Intensive Day Treatment – serving at-risk youth with significant emotional, behavioral, and educational needs

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Behavioral Health Counseling – for individuals, married couples, and families

Family-Based Mental Health Services – therapy, crisis management, and more to help children and adolescents with emotional disturbances

SPECIALIZED RESIDENCES

Evergreen House – a residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation program for women

Hope House – providing residential care for individuals living with HIV / AIDS

Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families – the only homeless shelter in the tri-county area where homeless families stay together, not apart

Immigration and Refugee Services – resettlement program for legal aliens and those who fled their countries due to religious, political, and personal persecution, war, and other events. Includes ESL, employment help, temporary housing, and legal services

Lourdeshouse Maternity Home – a residential program for homeless pregnant women struggling to make sound decisions for themselves and their unborn children

Who does Catholic Charities serve?

Children, youth, adults, and families are helped by Catholic Charities. Programs are designed to respect the individual decisions of clients as program partners and to respect their inherent dignity. Last year, the agency helped more than 6,000 clients.

Do I need to be Catholic to receive assistance?

No. Catholic Charities focuses on the belief in life and the dignity of the human person, the central role of family in society, and the responsibility to assist those who are vulnerable or at risk. Our services are available to anyone regardless of religion or ability to pay. The agency does not preach or proselytize. **More than 85% of those we help are not Catholic.**

How is Catholic Charities funded?

Catholic Charities relies on the generosity of individuals who financially support us as well as the help of the Diocese of Harrisburg, businesses, religious organizations, and civic/community groups. Additional funding is provided by government agencies, the United Way, grant awards, fees for services, and special events. **For each dollar we receive, 93% is used to directly help those we serve.**

What can I do to help?

Donate your **time** by volunteering at a program or special event, your **talent** by offering your services to support one of our activities, and/or your **treasure** by making a charitable gift. All gifts, regardless of amount, are welcome and appreciated.

How do I make a charitable gift?

BY MAIL (please make check payable to Catholic Charities)
Catholic Charities
4800 Union Deposit Rd.
Harrisburg, PA 17111

BY PHONE
717-657-4804

ONLINE (Visa or MasterCard accepted)
<https://hbgdiocese.org/cart/donations.aspx>

Gifts can be undesignated (used where the need is greatest) or may be designated for a particular program. Catholic Charities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization – donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

What types of gifts are accepted?

In addition to cash, check, or credit card gifts, in-kind donations (clothing, food, furniture, gift cards, professional services, etc) are also welcome. Many donors also take advantage of matching gift opportunities provided by their employer. Gifts of stocks and other financial securities are accepted. Automobiles can also be gifted through our Vehicle Donation Program.

How can I learn more?

For more information, contact Christopher Meehan, Director of Development, by phone at 717-657-4804, by email at cmeehan@hbgdiocese.org, or visit www.hbgdiocese.org