



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE DIOCESE OF GALLUP

Happy those concerned for the lowly and poor—
Ps. 41

Volume 3 Issue 2
WINTER 2011

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ...



Dear Friends,

The New Year brought us the president's State of the Union; the governor's State of the State and now the director's State of Catholic Charities of Gallup. I promise it will be short and honest.

The Governing Board approved our 2010 audit at its December meeting. Our income breakdown is as follows: 60% from grants and contracts; 19% from donated goods and services and 9% from contributions. Our expenses break down is 23% for community services; 23% for emergency assistance and 11% for transitional living. I am delighted to report that again this

year our audit showed that eighty-one cents (\$.81) of every dollar went to the direct service of our clients even though we saw a loss in federal and state grants. The full audit can be seen on our website – catholiccharitiesgallup.com. In 2011 we will continue to see a decrease in our federal and state grants.

Among the six agencies we have seen about a 20% increase in the number of persons seeking assistance. With our combined unemployment rate at about 9.5%, we continue to see many new persons falling into poverty and seeking assistance for the first time.

Compassionate, Respectful Direct service - Advocacy for social justice!

This is our Mission.

Poverty is our problem. Our six agencies reach out to provide compassionate, respectful support to individuals in their time of hardship. This is the part of our work that gets the most attention and is the most rewarding.

Advocacy for social

justice is our long-term struggle – to be the voice for the voiceless and for those to whom no one will listen. We work daily for justice and confront the political, social and economic structures that have caused the problems and keep our people in poverty.

We advocate with our local and state and national representative on issues that include clean water, uranium contamination/ mining, funding for children, youth and family services and a host of other issues. We advocate, keeping the voice of persons who are poor before our lawmakers.

We are steadfast in living our Gospel value of Charity and in being a prophetic voice for building a more just society.

I am amazed at how much direct service and advocacy is accomplished by our staff, volunteers and donors of Catholic Charities of Gallup. Thank you all for what you do for God's poor and vulnerable.

*Sister Kathleen Driscoll DC
Executive Director*

Christmas in Round Rock Community

While much of the world was quietly preparing for its own Christmas celebration that was only a matter of hours away, Talbot House in conjunction with the Chinle Navajo Police Department prepared and distributed food boxes to people on the Reservation.

Lieutenant Tulley Jim, Sr. and Officer Carlton Jim, Sr.

delivered the needed supplies in the increasingly cold and wet weather on Dec. 23.

Some of the recipients were too shy to have their pictures taken; others were happy to be seen receiving the boxes from the two officers. On page four of this edition of the newsletter we share some of those pictures with you as a way of letting you know

about the good work being done in your name in Arizona and New Mexico.

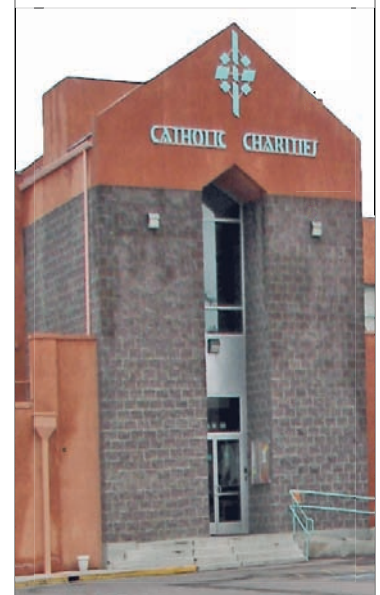
Thank you for your support and thank you to the workers and volunteers at Talbot House and particularly to the Chinle Navajo Police Department who exemplify the true meaning of "To Protect and Serve."

Inside this issue:

Christmas in San Juan County and Gardens in Grants 2

Homelessness in Holbrook and the White Mountain areas 3

Financial report of Catholic Charities — Gallup 4





SAN JUAN CC: Drexel House Christmas



Our Christmas tree at Drexel House surrounded by gifts for residents thanks to the generous support of so many.

Angela's eyes were bright as she tore open the Christmas gift. Inside the festive paper was a Barbie Tea Set. She held up the present and exclaimed: "I have wanted this all my life!" Special words coming from a four-year-old. Angela and her brother Zeke are two of the eight children who live in Drexel House.

All of our residents celebrated a Merry Christmas thanks to our generous patrons. Each of our families was adopted by a business or family. Wish lists were exchanged and on Dec. 23 we had our Christmas

party. Si Senior, a local restaurant, donated our dinner. It was a memorable event.

San Juan Catholic Charities has been blessed with so many generous donations. We received approximately 1,500 pounds of food from the Police Association and San Juan County Attorney's Office; another 2,400 pounds from the food drive at Sacred Heart Church; and another 1,200 pounds of food donated by individuals and small groups interested in giving to those in need.

We received hat and glove sets from the children at Sacred Heart School; new coats,

sweatshirts and sweaters from a couple who called to inquire about our needs, blankets from another agency and new shoes and socks.

Parents, desperate for their children to have a little Christmas, were seeking assistance. We were able to provide a complete Christmas dinner for 15 families and gave food assistance to 37 other families. We were also able to provide gifts for several of the children in these families. Each person, each family, eyes as bright as Angela's — those are the eyes of God. Those are the people we serve

GARDENS IN WINTER

By Sister Francine Schuster, ASC Administrator, Casa San Jose Grants

Gardens in winter are bare. In mine, a few weeds still grow. But all looks like there is no life. However, even with the gray skies and cold weather, there is life beneath the soil and a promise for the Spring. Whether your garden is vegetable or flower, you know how to nurture it to grow and that is what CASA wants to do for the youth who come to us.

Our gardens at CASA have such a promise of growth. Crissy is graduating in May. She is getting her nurse's aide certification before then. She is excited about finding her own apartment and furnishing it. She is close to emancipation at age 17 and she has no family to care for her. She will be off juvenile probation very soon and is getting her driver's license so she can buy the car her foster parents are selling to her. And best of all, she has a son who is blooming under her care. Crissy reads to him a lot and he loves to color and help with his "vacuum".

Kelly is in her own apartment with her two children. She is continuing to go to school and hopes to finish soon. She has moved beyond her "homies" and "bros" and is showing us all how it is done. She was given the tools at CASA and now is learning to live on her own. She and her children are growing together as a family.

Our little two-year-old Bella has Duane's Syndrome, which causes difficulty seeing without turning her head and she possibly is partially deaf in one ear. Her "Mommy" continues to work with her and her words are becoming clearer. She walks, climbs and is on the go totally until she conks out for a nap. CASA has helped with all the new doctors' appointments, follow-ups and new learning skills, but it is Mommy who planted the seeds and is making sure they grow.

CASA SAN JOSE needs your help to continue planting the seeds, in weeding, in nurturing the soil, and in teaching how to pick the fruits, vegetables and flowers.

With seven residents and eight children and one expected any day, CASA needs any help you can give us. For example, talk to Governor Martinez about how ours is the only teen-parent program in the state and how some of the funding was cut in December and how this garden saves the State of New Mexico by: preventing incarceration; preventing separation of mother and child that result in life-long abandonment issues and CYFD involvement; in preventing homelessness; in preventing the youth thinking that another child is the answer to their needs; in preventing truancy and failure at school; and in preventing child abuse and neglect.

Just a quote from Shawn Vestal from the *Seattle Spokesman Review*: "We're a pathetic lot if our only substantial response to abuse is to fill up our jail cells."



Si Senior provided Christmas dinner for residents of Drexel House.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink — Matt 25:35



Casa San Jose in Grants



WHITE MOUNTAIN CC

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) has taken off in the last three months. We have helped 22 households remain in their homes and an additional 10 households that were literally homeless have been housed. This is a total of 32 households consisting of 76 people that now have a chance to get back on their feet in spite of today's economy. HPRP has taken much of the everyday stress away for these families and

is allowing them to concentrate on finding employment, fixing credit, saving towards purchasing transportation, or just a rainy day.

One family is especially grateful for this program...the family in question is made up of three generation – mom, two teenagers, and grandma. Mom was employed as a live-in caregiver for grandma, who was on social security. This family was well on their way to exiting the program when the unexpected happened and

grandma passed away just 10 days before Christmas. Not only did this family lose a beloved member, they have lost all income. HPRP and WMCC will continue to assist this family with rent and utilities until "mom" can find gainful employment and the family is self-sustaining.

Please keep all our families in your prayers.

Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me. — Matt 25:40

We at Catholic Charities salute you, our volunteers and donors ...

Here are just a few of the ways we have ministered in your name. . .

Drop-In Center; for seven months we served a hot breakfast and for three months we served a hot lunch for a total of 13,081 meals served.

Our Thrift Store, run by our full time volunteer Vera, saw 13,693 individuals come through the doors and raised \$20,869. This money raised goes to our emergency assistance pro-

gram and some to stipends for the Sisters.

Tax Help New Mexico filed 500 returns for elderly and low income clients, saving over \$30,000 in filing fees plus hundred of thousands of dollars returned.

Emergency Services saw 2,258 individuals assisted with rent, food, utilities, and an odd and ends of other items such as medicine, diapers, etc.

One Nation Walking

Together on Dec. 6 and Jan. 13 sent a two ton truck filled with new Christmas Gifts, blankets and gently used clothing and later some 30,000 pounds of donated items – clothing, furniture, toys, books, blankets, bedding, coats/jackets, household items and shoes.

Donors from across the country have sent us coats, jackets, gloves, scarves, homemade knitted/ crocheted item all of which have gone to warm our clients.



HOLBROOK : the need continues ...

By Sister Bernard
Director

This past Christmas season was a busy one for Catholic Charities in Holbrook. Thanks in a special way to SWIF of Gallup, we were able to provide 50 Native Americans with Christmas food boxes. In addition, we also helped some 25 others receive special food boxes for Christmas. This special seasonal work was in addition to the 24 families who receive regular food boxes thanks to your generous support.

The work goes on . . .



This past Christmas season, Good Shepherd Center provided 75 food boxes for the holidays and offers help to 24 families on a regular basis.

Now that the holidays are over, there are still many people seeking assistance with their rent and utilities. Sixteen families

have asked for help and we have been able to provide.

Catholic Charities in Holbrook helped a young mother move into her own apartment with her son after they found it difficult to remain where they were living. Now, thanks to the support of so many, this young lady is situated in her own place and can attend college classes on a full-time basis. We are very proud of her and wish her lots of luck.

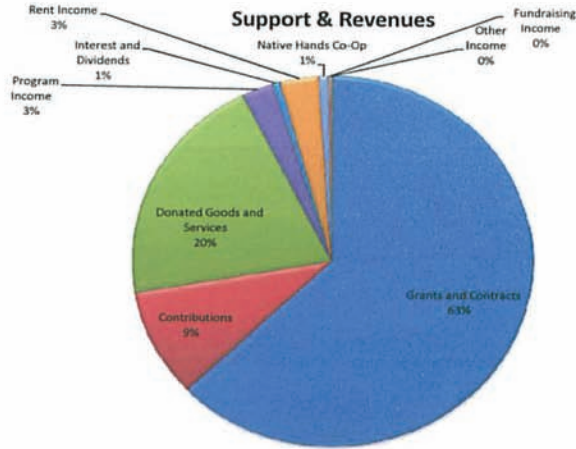


We had our annual Christmas holiday luncheon on Dec. 23, 2010. A lot of people from all walks of life came and ate here with us.



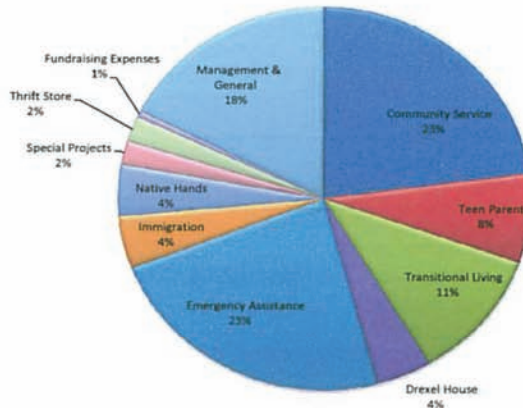
Catholic Charities of Gallup, Inc.
Graphic Representations of Support & Revenues, and Expenses
For the Year Ended June 30, 2010

Support and Revenues:	
Grants and Contracts	\$ 1,083,068
Contributions	162,788
Donated Goods and Services	351,347
Program Income	44,980
Interest and Dividends	11,021
Rent Income	53,253
Native Hands Co-Op	13,910
Fundraising Income	2,724
Other Income	2,369
Total	\$ 1,725,460



Expenses:	
Program Expenses:	
Community Service	\$ 389,999
Teen Parent	128,278
Transitional Living	189,622
Drexel House	72,963
Emergency Assistance	396,470
Immigration	75,259
Native Hands	74,052
Special Projects	33,689
Thrift Store	36,531
Fundraising Expenses	9,582
Management & General	297,898
Total Expenses	\$ 1,704,343

Functional Expenses



The pie chart above shows the financial picture of Catholic Charities of Gallup, Inc. for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2010. Full details of the financial audit can be found on our web site: catholiccharitiesgallup.org.



Congratulations to our Jubilarian: Sister Mary Thurlough, DC

Daughter of Charity Sister Mary Thurlough celebrated 50 years as a religious sister. Sister Mary who serves as assistant director of Catholic Charities in Gallup, is seen here with Bishop James S. Wall of Gallup. A Mass to honor all four religious sisters who are marking anniversaries in 2011 was celebrated by Bishop Wall at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Feb 5.



CHRISTMAS FOOD DELIVERIES IN ROUND ROCK COMMUNITY



The first recipient to receive a Gift of Food was Mr. Reed McKinley, a Vietnam Veteran, whose home housed three adults and seven children and grandchildren. With the large family, Mr. McKinley was also given a side of ham.



Ms. Alice Benally, was surprised to see two police personnel on her doorstep, then gratefully accepts a Gift of Food box for her family of five.



Mr. Byron James, another Vietnam Veteran, receives his Gift of Food box and a ham from Lieutenant Jim and Officer Carlton Jim with quiet and humble gratitude.

(PHOTOS COURTESY OF NAVAJO POLICE, CHINLE)



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Published by
Catholic Charities of Gallup, Inc.



Online:
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Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Gallup, NM
Permit no. 1040

REV. KING'S LEGACY LIVES ON

By Sr. Rose Marie Cecchini

"Let There Be Love,
Peace & Unity in Family & Our
Community."

With this theme,
Gallup paid tribute to the life and
legacy of Rev. Martin Luther
King Jr. on January 17, 2011,
marking the twenty-fifth anniver-
sary of the National Holiday in
Rev. King's honor.

About 150 people,
including many youth, gathered
outdoors at the Multicultural
Center for the Interfaith Prayer
Circle which began the day's
commemoration. Representa-
tives from the Baha'i, Christian,
Muslim, Jewish and Native
American faith communities
offered prayers for Peace from
their tradition. Rev. Ruth Gil-
bert, pastor at Howard Chapel,

read a selection from Rev. King's
1967 Riverside Church speech,
"The Inner Truth." One of the
participants commented, "Every
year this is the special time in
Gallup when we can see people
of so many cultures, races and
religions all gathered together to
pray and renew our efforts for
peace and unity."

Under blue skies, the
enthusiastic crowd of people
made their way along Historic
Highway 66 for the March of
Unity, walking two miles to the
Gallup Community Service Cen-
ter. Many of the marchers held
up placards of Rev. King or
homemade signs. A fire engine
and city sanitation truck served
as escorts for the march, re-
minding participants that King
was in Memphis, Tenn. to sup-
port a sanitation workers' strike

when he was assassinated, April
4, 1968. The afternoon pro-
gram at the Service Center in-
cluded lively music from a local
Gospel choir, refreshments and
a panel of speakers who shared
how Rev. King had influenced
their lives.

*Did not God choose those who are
poor in the world to be rich in faith
and heirs of the kingdom that he
promised to those who love him? –
James 2:5*



*Sr. Rose Marie Cecchini, MM
Director of the Office of Peace, Life,
Justice and Creation Stewardship of
Catholic Charities of Gallup.*