



ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

- Catholic Charities, which includes the Spanish Catholic Center, serves more than 100,000 people annually regardless of religion
 - Spanish Catholic Center (a division of Catholic Charities) provides medical/dental, legal aid, employment, job training and other services to nearly 40,000 immigrants annually
 - Victory Housing operates 21 affordable communities with 1,200 rental units for seniors and families in Washington, DC, and suburban Maryland
-

One of the largest social service providers in the region, the Archdiocese of Washington brings hope to more than 100,000 people every year through its social service agencies, such as Catholic Charities, Victory Housing and St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home. Even more, parishioners open their hearts and share their resources with thousands of people, whether it is providing a warm coat or meal, teaching English as a Second Language, hosting an addiction recovery program or more.

Catholic Charities: Meeting the Needs Community-Wide

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington provides comprehensive services to more than 100,000 people in need each year, regardless of their religion. This includes shelter, nutrition, medical and legal care, counseling, job placement, mental health services, services for the developmentally disabled, immigration and refugee assistance, adoptions, foster care and more. Examples:

- \$8 million in free legal aid and \$4 million in free healthcare through legal and healthcare networks
- Over 4,000 new patients receive medical care each year at Spanish Catholic Center medical clinics in Washington, DC, and Langley Park, MD, and more than 2,000 receive dental care
- SHARE Food Network provides nearly 170,000 packages of food to more than 300 distribution sites and/or directly to clients
- Southern Maryland Food Bank provides nearly 290,000 pounds of food to food pantries throughout the Archdiocese of Washington

Victory Housing: Making a Home a Reality

The staff of Victory Housing, the Archdiocese's affordable housing entity, knows the importance of providing a safe, clean home. Through successful public-private partnerships, Victory Housing has built or renovated more than 18 rental communities for nearly 1,200 seniors and families in Washington, DC, and suburban Maryland.

The latest development is Victory Heights, affordable independent living for seniors in the heart of the revitalizing Columbia Heights neighborhood in Washington, DC. When the 75-unit project was announced (pre-construction), nearly 1,000 people inquired and 250 participated in a lottery for the apartments.

Getting a New Start for Kids and Moms

St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home has been caring for children since it was first chartered in the mid-19th century. Today, 330 abused, abandoned or neglected children are lovingly cared for each year while new mothers

can continue their education at an accredited high school, and begin a new life of responsibility through St. Ann's transitional living program.

Honoring Pope Benedict XVI through Service

The *Hunger to Hope* food drive—which honors Pope Benedict XVI's visit by sharing in his concern for the poor—will fill the pantries of the Capital Area Food Bank, the Southern Maryland Food Bank and the 60 food pantries at parishes in the Archdiocese. One hundred thousand bags featuring the archdiocesan logo for the Papal visit will be distributed to parishes and schools the week beginning March 31, which parishioners and students will fill with canned goods, juice, pastas and sauces, cereal, ready meals and dried fruits and nuts.

Parishes and Schools: Helping Close to Home

The heart of the Church is the parish. Each year, thousands of parishioners reach out in small and large ways to help their neighbor. Some examples from our schools and parishes:

- *Archbishop Carroll High School (Washington, DC)*: Students collect and deliver over 40,000 pounds of food for families in need every Thanksgiving
- *Sacred Heart (Washington, DC)*: In partnership with Catholic Charities, provides the homeless with free haircuts, meals and shelter in the winter months; and also has an active youth program for over 200 teenagers to keep them off the streets.
- *St. Luke's Parish (Washington, DC)*: Hosts a prison ministry mentor training program and houses a federal program that provides computer training for parolees.
- *St. Martin of Tours (Gaithersburg, MD)*: Hosts a soup kitchen Monday-Saturday and distributes winter clothing to the needy throughout the season. The parish also participates in the Welcome Home program for former prisoners.
- *St. Elizabeth (Rockville, MD)*: Maintains a "Local Needy Fund" that assists the poor who need assistance paying rent and utility bills.
- *Annunciation (Washington, DC)*: An "Apartment Ministry" in Washington, DC, helps homeless individuals get back into a stable living environment.
- *St. Ann's Parish (Washington, DC)*: Provides 12 mothers in need with rent and funds for medical care every year through the Gabriel Project.

The National Picture

Catholic Charities USA is one of the nation's largest social service networks. More than 240,000 volunteers and staff faithfully support the Catholic Charities network, which touches the lives of more than 7.8 million people of all faiths each year. Ninety cents of every dollar donated to Catholic Charities agencies goes directly to programs and services, making the Catholic Charities network one of the most efficient in the country.