



"... providing help -  
creating hope ..."

The Social Services of the  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEWS

Volume Five - Issue 1 - Winter 2005  
Visit us on the web at: [www.catholiccharities.org](http://www.catholiccharities.org)

### 2004 ANNUAL REPORT EDITION



January 2005

Dear Friends in Christ:

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus teaches us when he says, "Give and gifts will be given to you." In one word, Our Lord reminds us of what we are all called to do: *give*. He doesn't tell us to "give love" or "give money", or "give compassion" or "give comfort". He just tells us, simply and beautifully, to *give*. And because no boundaries or limitations are placed on that command, God expects none from us.

The work of our Catholic Charities agencies in the Diocese of Paterson is in response to this challenge before us. For those who work to serve, support and nourish people in need, it is a most special apostolate. Thousands of people come to our Catholic Charities agencies each year looking for hope and leave feeling helped and loved as children of God.

Behind all the charts and graphs, this Annual Report also tells the story of people who volunteer their time, talent and treasure to strengthen our agencies. They give generously of themselves in stewardship. The Church of Paterson owes a debt of gratitude to these men and women because it is with their support that we are able to serve Christ by serving the stranger among us.

Dorothy Day wrote, "It is no use saying that we are born two thousand years too late to give room for Christ. Nor will those who live at the end of the world have been born too late. Christ is always with us, always asking for room in our hearts." Thanks to all those who are committed to our Catholic Charities agencies, we are able to answer "*There is room for you. Welcome.*"

Asking God's blessing on you, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+ *Arthur J. Serratelli*

+ Arthur J. Serratelli, STD, SSL, DD  
Bishop of Paterson

Bishop Serratelli in his message to the left quotes Jesus as recorded in Mark's Gospel, "Give and gifts will be given to you." Such is our lived experience at Catholic Charities in Paterson. As you read this report, try to keep in mind that the graphs and statistics and narrative that you read are very much a story of giving and very importantly they are about the untold story of the gifts that accrue to the giver.



Pictured are Sister Alice Sullivan, SC, Mrs. Cate Poe and Joseph F. Duffy, Chief Executive at Catholic Charities at the 2004 Catholic Charities Caritas Gala. Sr. Alice and Mrs. Poe were recipients of the Caritas Award.

The narratives that follow provide statistics and in some detail, describe how Catholic Charities "gives love, gives money, gives compassion, and gives comfort". So, in reading the report it will be very clear to you how we in Catholic Charities with your assistance fulfill the first part of Jesus' admonition to give as Mark records it. But Mark tells us that Jesus said "Gifts will be given to you", that is, you, and us here at Catholic Charities. And so I would like to share with you a bit as to the gifts that have accrued to us here in Catholic Charities as a result of our giving, and at the same time,

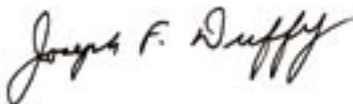
ask you to consider what gifts you have received from your own acts of giving whether it was to Bishop's Appeal, Prepare the Way, directly to Catholic Charities, a Parish project or some private and personal act of kindness.

The most wonderful gift we continue to receive here in Catholic Charities as we give to others is that we become a better Agency. And if our Agency is better, I believe then our staff has become better and continues to become better because they are the Agency. From our daily contacts with clients, family members, supports and each other, we learn more about peoples' needs, and we learn how to better serve them. Perhaps it is from this passage of Mark that the popular saying we frequently hear today, "The gift that keeps giving" came from. It just seems that the more we give, the more we receive and the better we become at what we do.

Another gift we receive is that feeling of warmth inside each time someone thanks us for having helped them. That gift of a warm feeling is especially important because of the theological underpinning of why we do what we do and why it makes us feel warm. The premise for why we give is our understanding of the most basic principle of Catholic Social Teaching – respect for the dignity of every human being. That principle teaches us that as human beings we are all made in the image and likeness of our God, and that being the case, that all life is to be respected and cared for. Our acts of giving through Catholic Charities are acts of respect for life, are acts of kindness directly to the person of Jesus, and so should make us feel warm and good.

The last part of the Annual Report needs to be written by you. When all of you who in any way support the work of Catholic Charities or in any way have given to others through prayer and the gifts of your time, talent or money you receive gifts in return for your acts of giving. So please, after you finish reading this report give some thought to how you have benefited, enjoy that warm feeling, and if you would like, please feel free to give me a call to tell me about it or drop me a note.

Peace,



Joseph F. Duffy, Executive Secretary  
Secretariat for Catholic Charities – Diocese of Paterson



## CATHOLIC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

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### Annual Report 2004

In 2003 our Parent's Place/Club de Padres of the Multi-lingual Center expanded one of our programs that was originally developed as a service to displaced workers following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. As part of our effort to assist 9/11 clients seeking employment and in collaboration with our Congregational Health Ministry personnel, we began sponsoring job fairs. Initially those fairs were offered only to 9/11 clients. But in response to increased unemployment locally we opened the fairs to anyone interested in exploring employment opportunities. In 2004 we hosted two such fairs that served 700 people with 70 employers participating.



Pat Verduin, Director of St. Joseph Children Center, Joseph F. Duffy, Executive Secretary - Catholic Charities and John Victor Machuga Foundation Board members, Albert J. Dahab and Joseph M. Makoujy in the center's computer center donated by the Foundation

2004 was a year of significant change at our Mt. Saint Joseph Children's Center (special school for children with behavioral disabilities). We opened a multi-faith meditation room for staff and students dedicated in honor of long-time supporter, Board member, and friend, Karen Lordi. With support from the Knights of Malta we relocated and completely refurbished our laundry room. Our recreation rooms too were remodeled and expanded. Lighting was improved. The dining room was refurbished and painted. Staff got a much needed break room. MSJ became a member of the NJ Association of Children's Residential facilities.

Last but not least, Patricia Verduin was promoted to the position of Director of MSJ.

In the spirit of subsidiarity, we transitioned the operation of our successful Somos Familia sponsorship program to St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Summit. This program currently sponsors over 200 children in Iztapalapa, Mexico who would not be able to attend school without sponsors. St. Teresa Parish twins with the Parish of St. Martin in Iztapalapa, and so a majority of the sponsors now come from St. Teresa's. Because of the developing relationship between those two Parishes, St. Teresa agreed to take on that program oversight freeing us up to explore the possibility of replicating that program in other countries.

As you read the statistical highlights that follow please take note of the significant increase of 1,192 people (36%) over the prior year that received food from our pantry. While many categories of service were up significantly, this one stands out and should be particularly alarming in this the richest country in the world. A special thank you is in order to the many long-time parish supporters and first-time parishes that conduct food drives for us. We were helped too this year by the Greater Community Bank which plans to support us throughout the year with food and other collections.

Our Paterson Adult Day Center which serves about 20 seniors daily finally got some new furniture to go along with their recently spackled and repainted quarters. It is rumored that some of the recliners, chairs and sofas that were replaced were as old as the Center which celebrates its 29th birthday this year.

Our Friendship Corner Child Care Center expanded beyond its current location at the former St. Joseph's School in Paterson. Friendship Corner leased the former our Lady of Lourdes School in Paterson, and following renovations and repairs over the summer opened five classrooms for 3 & 4 year old children in September, expanding to a total of eight classrooms in December. At the same time, Friendship Corner opened an additional after-school program at Our Lady of Lourdes which currently serves 24 children. Many thanks to Rev. Donald Sella for welcoming us.

Our Legal Services Department was expanded. Attorney George C. Baxter III and 2nd year New York Law student, Michael Forino have joined the Director of Legal Services, Rev. Michael Burke, Esq. and Paralegal, Robert Schumacher.

Our Partnership for Social Services Family Center in Franklin applied for and obtained a license from the State of NJ to be a provider of behavioral

health services. Services include individual and family therapy, and play therapy for children. Support groups and educational seminars are also provided throughout the year.



Clients of Paternership for Social Services Family Center in Franklin gather for the annual Christmas party.

One other statistic of special note that appears in the summary to follow indicates that for a second year in a row, smaller numbers of refugees are being resettled by our Migration and Refugee Department. Prior to September 11 we helped to resettle 12 or more families a month from all over the world. While the need is still great for these services we seldom receive even four families a month. We continue to work with other advocacy groups to reform our immigration policies to a point where we can continue to welcome strangers to our shores while assuring the security of our country. Statistical highlights follow:

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Aging Services:** Our senior residence provided 3,459 days of service for 12 clients; transport services for 300 persons totaling 9,763 trips; 122 adult day care clients received 7,627 days of service; 31,650 congregate meals provided to 362 persons; 38,474 meals on wheels delivered to 365 persons; 57 residents in Paterson senior housing received 1,507 in-home services; and 816 clients received outreach and case management services.

**Legal Services:** 601 families were provided with direct legal representation. Consultations were provided to an additional 1,007 people.

**Emergency Services:** 4,895 people (huge increase) received 35,992 meals; 442 persons received

rental assistance; 530 people received assistance with utility bills; 54 families were provided emergency shelter.

**Marian AIDS Ministry:** 1,340 residential days of care provided to 5 women.

**St. Vincent Pallotti Center:** 2,325 volunteer directories were distributed; 85 public presentations; 50 part-time and 19 full-time placements completed.

#### FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Adoption & Counseling Services:** Counseling caseload of 161; 44 adoptions completed; 2,095 individuals assisted with adoption, counseling information and/or referral services. Continued Adoptive Parents Support Group and our support group for parents adopting internationally; over 3,258 counseling sessions provided.

**Mount St. Joseph Children's Center:** 11,677 days of care and schooling provided to 49 residential/day students.

**Friendship Corner:** 430 children received 83,670 days of day care service; 145 children received 25,679 days of service in our after-school programs; 142 children received 6,390 days of service in our summer program;

**Multi-Lingual Center:** 43 clients received 2,563 hours of vocational services; 3,608 families received parent training and individual advocacy; 48 families received 10,847 episodes of out-of-home respite services; 830 families received case management services.

**Special Programs:** Special Child Health Services/ Early Intervention Program (SCHS/ EIP) provided case management and other services to 3,106 families. Our SPAN Family Resource Specialist provided consultations at the state, county and local levels for 700 families. Our Northeast Regional Early Intervention Evaluation Team completed 3,187 evaluations and Individual Family Service Plans. Our Community



Then newly ordained Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson visits the Parents Place/Club de Padres in August.

Outreach served 528 people. Our Teen Counseling Program provided services to 67 teenagers at risk.

#### MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES

**Italian Catholic Center:** Served a total caseload of 1,785 including 110 new clients.

**Migration & Refugee Department:** 59 refugees were resettled; 86 refugee cases from 2003 continue to receive assistance. Services to these clients include housing, school enrollment, transportation, health care, job development, job placement, ESL, citizenship, driver's license, furniture and clothing. Additionally 760 walk-in clients received help with various needs including green cards, asylum, citizenship and family reunification; assisted 162 persons with adjustment of status.

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#### DEPARTMENT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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#### Annual Report 2004

The Department for Persons with Disabilities' (DPD) philosophy is that all individuals are truly God's gifts. Our foundation is that all human life is sacred. Maintaining the highest standards to provide the maximum quality of life possible for people with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities, is at the apex of the DPD's goals and objectives.



Resident ready to "cut the rug" with a staff member at the Murray House Dinner Dance.

The pride of the DPD is its love and care of the people we serve in exceptionally maintained facilities. The combination of incredibly compassionate and talented staff operate with the highest professional standards.

The DPD is internationally accredited by the New York City based Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children (COA).



DPD staff member assisting a client at the Gruenert Center with a ceramics project.

The COA compared the DPD according to national "best practice" standards for not-for-profit management and developmental disabilities programs. These are the highest standards in the field. The DPD has been continually accredited since 1986.

For every person served by the DPD, a comprehensive individualized service and habilitation plan, with measurable goals and objectives, is developed. These individual plans provide a mechanism where our work is accountable and measured, which ensures the DPD produces appropriate outcomes to each of the clients while keeping in concert with their families, values and standards of Catholic Social Teaching and Traditions, accreditation and governmental agencies. We strive to foster a collaborative work environment, use the many gifts and expertise of staff, volunteers, and stakeholders, and operate in an open and positive environment.

Utilizing the values and principles of our Catholic traditions as its foundation, the Department for Persons with Disabilities has put into practice an environment that excels in enabling spiritual and emotional growth, which permits the preferences of each person to be respected while sharing their gifts and talents with others, thus incorporating the highest quality of services in the field of developmental disabilities and the highest quality of life with dignity and independence for the people we serve.

The DPD is committed to continuous quality improvement, within an environment where everyone takes ownership of the services and where high value is placed on teamwork, collaboration, and communication. Additionally a committee of stakeholders

meets on a regular basis to continually review, evaluate and make recommendations for the improvement and upgrading of the DPD programs. Our program has been presented as a model for other agencies in the field. This state-of-the-art Continuous Quality Improvement System (CQI) includes computerized tracking, reports and other pertinent data that are reviewed and audited by internal and external stakeholders with a constant cycle of improvement and openness to change.

The agency is a leader in the use of technology for managing information in the field of disabilities and has developed "The DPD System", a copyrighted database which is currently being licensed to other non-profit organizations in New Jersey.

Our residential programs include nine group homes: Alexander House, Columbus House and Finnegan House in Oak Ridge; Wehrlen House in West Milford; Fitzpatrick House in Pompton Lakes; Wayne House



DPD resident receiving the Catholic Adult Religious Education (C.A.R.E.) Award of the month.

in Wayne; Calabrese House in Parsippany; Murray House in Clifton; Wallace House in Sparta; and two supervised apartment programs: Basile Apartments in Wayne and Kelleher Apartments in Butler.

The DPD has programs in Morris, Passaic, and Sussex Counties, the geographic area of the Diocese of Paterson, that provide many opportunities for fully integrated community living. With the guidance, supervision and the caring of the professional staff 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, each individual is given the opportunity to participate in all aspects of home life including the preparation of meals, personal responsibilities and recreation. Additionally, an outreach program is accessible to people who are institutionalized, which also provides guidance and support for their families.

The DPD operates the Gruenert Center, a program that serves over 50 individuals with vocational training and employment as well as ancillary services. This year, Dr. Diane Cavanagh, a volunteer and member of the Board of Trustees and Special Education Professor is leading a total reevaluation and reorganization of the operation as a long term project. Staff training and an emphasis on meaningful work experiences and training for the clients is the focus. The Center is implementing the latest best practices for vocational services.

The ever-expanding "People Need Friends" Volunteer Program recruits, trains and supervises over 100 volunteers from around the Diocese. This year they have donated 2,285 hours in service to the DPD. These volunteers include individuals, families, teens and seniors from all backgrounds and walks of life who have one thing in common, valuing human life and dignity. They dedicate their time to share friendships with individuals with disabilities in small groups and on a one-to-one level. Among the many aspects of this program are a Music Program, Bible Study and Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish in Oak Ridge cosponsors a voluntary religious education, spirituality and recreational program that is held monthly for adults with disabilities from our programs and the community. The agency operates 12 programs that serve 52 individuals 5 days a week, 75 individuals 7 days a week, 24 hours a day as well as recreational, social, educational and religious activities throughout the year.

- Alexander House – 3, 256 days of care - 9 residents
- Calabrese House – 1,753 days of care - 5 residents
- Columbus House – 1,823 days of care - 5 residents
- Finnegan House – 3,164 days of care - 9 residents
- Fitzpatrick House – 1,763 days of care - 5 residents
- Murray House – 2,029 days of care - 6 residents
- Wallace House – 2,013 days of care - 6 residents
- Wayne House – 3,126 days of care - 9 residents
- Wehrlen House – 2,138 days of care - 6 residents
- Basile Apts – 2,053 days of care - 6 residents
- Kelleher Apts – 3,108 days of care - 9 residents
- Gruenert Center – 11,716 days of work - 52 persons



**FATHER ENGLISH MULTI-PURPOSE  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

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Father English Center kindergarten children on their annual field trip.

**Annual Report 2004**

The spirit of Father Francis English, who was pastor of St. Boniface Parish until his death in 1974, lives on at the Father English Multi-Purpose Community Center. Father English dreamed of a complex of buildings that would be a center for youth and families living in Paterson. For over a quarter of a century, that dream continues to be lived out each and every day by the people of the community who use one or more of the Center's programs as a resource and for those who are on the staff of the agency. As an agency committed to serving the marginalized in our society, the Father English Multi-Purpose Community Center continues to provide quality, compassionate care always striving to "make a difference" in the lives of the people we serve and to honor the dream of our beloved namesake.

**A Child's World/El Mundo Del Nino:** Opening their doors in 1974, this preschool continues to meet the needs of the community of Paterson. Through an ongoing collaboration with the Paterson Board of Education, this program serves as a qualified ABBOTT site. This affiliation has resulted in an increase of revenue that has allowed for improved services to 75 children and their families throughout the year.

**A World of Colors/El Mundo De Colores:** Since first opening its doors in 1992 A World of Colors Child Care Center has provided full-time educational, social and wraparound (after-school and summer care) services to hundreds of children year around. In 1999 the Center first contracted with the Paterson School District to provide Supreme Court mandated Abbott Preschool Services. The result of our ongoing collaboration with the Paterson Board of Education has meant an increase of funding which has allowed an expansion of educational services provided by a bilingual teaching staff that is state licensed, and/or state certified. One additional component of the Abbott Program is the full-time family worker position. With the hope of building stronger families, the addition of this position has resulted in a coordination of children's health services which include: developmental, vision and dental screenings, parent workshop and training, and family home visits structured to provide parent education and outreach support.

Current program enrollment is 105 multi-ethnic children from primarily low income families residing in Paterson. The program operates year-round, 245 services days, Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily.

Supplemental services include: meal service, before and after school care, summer care, social services referrals, Parents Teaching Parents English/Bilingual Program and Father English Counseling Program.

A world of colors is funded through the Department of Education and the Department of Human Services.



Father English Center  
Parents Teaching Parents English class

**A Child's Time/El Tiempo Del Nino:** Begun in 1986, the program provides a full day kindergarten



FECC teenage computer training program

and quality childcare to 46 multi-ethnic children from primarily low-income families in Paterson and Passaic County. The program evolved in response to the needs of the working parents in our pre-school programs who are working part/full time, or are enrolled in school/training programs and so their children are eligible for priority placement at the kindergarten, which runs from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM year round. This program is vital to working parents who need full day childcare.

Licensed through the New Jersey Department of Human Services, the program's kindergarten curriculum is implemented. The curriculum is geared to provide a safe, healthy environment where children are engaged in activities to enhance their emotional, social, motor and cognitive skills.

Referrals are taken from Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), 4C's, parents and other community based pre-schools.

The program is funded through the Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development, parent fees/sliding fee scale, and fundraising (staff and parent participation).

Supplementary services provided by the program are: meal service (breakfast, lunch and P.M. supplement). A family therapist is available.

For additional information please call Aida Zarate, Program Director at a Child's Time/El Tiempo de Nino at (973) 881-0280, Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

**After School & Summer Camp Child Care Program:** Since the program's inception in 1974, the After School/Summer Camp Child Care Program was designated to reach out to "children at risk" also known as "latch-key" children. The program combined to provide continuous service to approximately 160 children, ages 6 to 11 years old for 245 days of service.

### **TAP After School and Summer Camp**

**Child Care Program:** This quality after school program was conceived as a safe, supervised environment where teens are trained to act as peer counselors with a goal toward becoming productive citizens. Over the course of the past year, 41 teenagers have participated in this program. Both the After School and T.A.P. Programs have benefited from a "Mentoring Ministry". This initiative is an outgrowth of our ongoing covenant with St. Joseph Parish in Mendham. A core of volunteers travels to Paterson 2 days every week and spends 2 hours each day tutoring our children. This is a win/win situation; the children love the care and attention they receive and the adults have a "hands-on" experience in helping a child to learn.

**Child Food Care Program:** The Child Care Food Program, funded through the State of New Jersey Department of Agriculture, provides meal service "in-house" to all children enrolled in the agency's pre-school and school-age programs. For this fiscal year, this on-site Child Nutrition Program provided approximately 180,000 meals including breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon snack to over 300 children ranging in age from 3 to 12 years old. Since its inception in 1975, The Child care Food Program has served millions of meals to thousands of children.

**Project Youth Haven Group Home Runaway Shelter/St. Jude Residence:** Begun in 1974, this residential program for runaway, homeless and abused youth provides 24 hour care and counseling for a maximum of 15 youths. Since its inception, Project Youth Haven has served over 6,700 youngsters in crisis. This year 64 youths were served.

**Passaic Teen Center Emergency Shelter and Group Home:** Begun in 2000, the Passaic Teen Center provides residence for runaway, homeless and abused young men ages 11-17. The goal of this 24 hour program is to reunite youth and families through counseling and service linkages. This year 55 youth were served.

**Senior and Disabled Transportation Program:** Established in 1988, this program provides an invaluable service to seniors and disabled persons in Passaic County. This year, a fleet of 10 vehicles transported 3,425 clients for a total of 39,895 trips to doctor appointments, hospital visits, nutrition sites, recreation for the disabled, education, sheltered workshops, employment and adult day care services.



**Emergency Food Pantry & Clothing “Boutique”:** Begun in 1976, these pantries provide food, clothing, furniture and household items to persons in need. Our Emergency services programs processed a record number of 23,500 clients this year. Over 352,500 items of food were distributed while 11,260 clients were assisted in our clothing “Boutique”.

**Case Management Program:** Working in conjunction with our pantries, this program, also begun in 1988, provides an avenue for clients seeking employment and additional services including referrals to detox programs, immigration concerns and a host of other crisis-centered needs. A total of 657 adults have been served through this program during the past year.

**Work Assistance/Computer Training Program:** Our Work Assistance/Computer Training Program continued to provide beginners and advanced computer training courses for persons seeking these skills for employment opportunities. This year, 89 students completed our Computer Training Courses. A transportation service is provided to assist clients with interviews and travel to jobs. The program also offers guidance and support to foreign students and graduates in the process of getting their credit evaluated for the purpose of work or studies.

**PTP**

**Parents Teaching Parents Literacy Program:** This year, United Way requested that our agency administer this highly successful program. It is offered in conjunction with United Way and provides three 10 week sessions of English classes per year. Each year, the program serves about 500 people from the community by helping them to overcome the challenges and fear they face every day in living and interacting in another language and culture.

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**HISPANIC INFORMATION CENTER OF PASSAIC, INC.**  
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Since its founding in 1972 the mission of the Hispanic Information Center has been a threefold one. HIC seeks to identify and articulate the human service needs of the Passaic community with an emphasis on the Latino population. It advocates on the micro level individually for each of its clients, and on the macro level for more just social structures within the community and neighboring communities. And it seeks out and convenes others to provide services for those in need and to advocate for justice. HIC accomplishes all this with a team of paid and volunteer staff that are both bilingual and bicultural, and as such are particularly sensitive to the pulse of the community served.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Center provides services to low to moderate income families with a variety of resources which provide hope and encouragement toward self-sufficiency. In order to assist people to cope with daily hardships, the Center operates a series of programs through which the Agency becomes an oasis for the lonely senior, the jobless, the troubled teenager, the abused child, the abused spouse, the addicted, those threatened by eviction from their homes and the homeless. Our open door policy allows people to



HIC Seniors Program Members  
enjoying their Christmas lunch & gifts.

visit and bring us situations beyond their control. The Center’s staff listens and advocates on their behalf. The number of community services clients served this year totaled 9,968.

**Health Outreach:** The Center was able to provide the community of the City of Passaic, in collaboration with St. Mary’s Hospital, St. Joseph’s Hospital, and The Commission for the Blind with health orientation and services such as Stress, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Breast, Cervical & Prostate Cancer Orien



HIC Youth Program members happy with their Christmas gifts.

tation, Cholesterol Test, Eye Screening and HIV Testing. In a joint effort with AMERIGROUP of NJ, the Center helps our clients with New Jersey Kid Care referrals and flu shots for our senior clients. A total of 697 were served.

**Homebound Program:** HIC has operated this program for the past 18 years. The main goal continues to be assisting our older clients in maintaining their stability. Many of them are confined to their homes and/or live alone. The cultural sensitivity of our staff make the seniors feel comfortable in calling and visiting the Center. Their needs are heard and attended to in a user-friendly environment. Most see the staff as extended family. Transportation to clinic and government agencies is provided. Also, every year the Center organizes special luncheon functions for Mother's Day and Christmas. For 305 senior members ranging from 55 to 95 years, 1,141 incidents of services were rendered. These services included transportation to clinics, hospitals, doctors, social security office, and interpreting and translation of documents.

**Foster Care Program:** Since 1985, the Hispanic Information Center has operated a Host Family Program which is now known as the Foster Care Unit. This program has the mission of structuring guidelines in recruiting and training private families to offer their homes as a haven for children who suffer a history of neglect/inability to be properly cared for by their natural parents.

The program served 79 unduplicated children in 2004. Kudos to our foster parents who serve our foster care children seven days a week. Fifteen children were reunited with their families; 6 graduated from high school; 4 are attending college; 1 is living independently; and two were aged out.

Due to the success of Foster Care Passaic and Hudson Programs, the Agency was awarded an ad-

ditional \$300,000 to expand its outreach to 10 new slots.

**Youth Program:** This year the program (established in 1975) served 42 unduplicated children providing such services as tutoring, drop-out prevention, recreation, and counseling. These children also participated in different workshops: Circle of Care for Families and Children/Youth Advocacy Group Meeting, Nutrition Class, AIDS Prevention/Health Education/Risk Reduction, Child Safety Project, Art Class, Self-esteem, Crime Prevention, Workshop on Careers.

**Alcohol Program:** This program was established to serve the needs of individuals suffering from the consequences of alcoholism. The program provides a 16-week treatment service. It assists and guides persons toward rehabilitation; helps to reunite and stabilize families; and to secure better job placement. The Center is proud to take into consideration the cultural uniqueness of the Hispanic clients. A total of 56 unduplicated persons were served with two group sessions (Spanish and English), and individual counseling.

**Domestic Violence:** The Center continues its affiliation with the Passaic County Women's Center. Persons with domestic violence situations can call or visit the counselor three days a week – Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm and Thursday 2:00



Members of the HIC Youth Program at the annual Christmas party.

pm – 5:00 pm. This year the program helped 72 persons with referrals and counseling.

**Quality of Life:** HIC in collaboration with the Board of Education continues to provide safety net programming for school children ranging from elementary to

high school students. The Center's outreach worker assists students who feel threatened in a new school environment by language and cultural barriers. Students and families are encouraged and guided to the daily resources for tutoring, counseling and computer literacy classes available within the school buildings staffed with site managers and staff trained to address students' academic weaknesses. The outreach worker assures that low income and immigrant students receive the proper and needed attention to deter them from falling through the cracks. Over 60 were assisted.

**HOPE HOUSE**

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**Annual Report 2004**

Established in 1971, Hope House, a not-for-profit, multi-service agency, is a Catholic Charities agency of the Diocese of Paterson. Located in Dover, New Jersey, it serves individuals residing primarily in Morris, Warren and Sussex Counties, providing professionally based social services, especially for those who are oppressed, powerless or otherwise disenfranchised.

Hope House provides fair and just treatment for all individuals. Our services are delivered without regard to race, gender, personal belief or circumstances and are welcomed by the communities we serve. Our style is warm and welcoming, reflecting personal attention and sensitivity.

Our programs have evolved to meet established community need. Annually, more than four thousand people are assisted by our various direct services and outreach programs.

**The AIDS Center:** Comprehensive services include a Mobile Testing and Counseling van, case management, mental health therapy, substance abuse counseling, housing assistance, support groups, transportation, emergency food pantry, and the development of integrated service delivery plans by our bilingual staff. In 2004, centralized AIDS specific services



New HIV/AIDS mobile counseling and testing van.

served 225 unduplicated clients and their families in Morris, Sussex and Warren counties. The Mobile Testing and Counseling unit will outreach to Morris, Sussex and Warren counties. This new project comes through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of AIDS Prevention and Control. This will be accomplished by two full time HIV Specialists/Drivers and a Program Coordinator.

**Behavioral Health Services:** BHS provides both mental health and substance abuse counseling offering comprehensive adult, family and adolescent therapeutic services; women's and men's anger management groups (the men's group is facilitated in Spanish); prevention programs; substance abuse evaluations and counseling; IDRC/EDG programs; parenting education classes



Presentation at Hope House to a group of Morris Catholic High School students on World AIDS Day 2004.

and play therapy. Counseling is offered by licensed therapists in both English and Spanish. Psychiatric consultation

is available as needed, by appointment. Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, in both English and Spanish, are held weekly at Hope House. BHS is offering the third year of the Strengthening Families Program (SFP) that targets parents with children ages 6-11 with the goal of equipping the entire family with the right tools to manage conflict resolution effectively. BHS served approximately 500 clients in 2004.

**The Hope Connection:** The Hope Connection provides peace of mind to frail, elderly clients (and their families) and/or to people with disabilities. The 24 hour personal, emergency response system allows at-risk clients remain safely in their home. In 2004, 35 low income seniors received the service free and 41 seniors at a discounted rate of \$30.00 per month, significantly less than assessed by other providers. The installation fee is \$10.00.

**Operation Fix-It:** The primary goal of this program is to prevent premature institutionalization and help insure our clients live in a safe and healthy environment. Operation Fix-It provides minor safety and health repairs to low-income seniors and younger disabled individuals. In 2004, 1,154 individuals received assistance in identifying and correcting potential hazards.

**Chore:** The Chore Program provides weekly or bi-weekly service to low-income seniors and younger disabled individuals in Morris County, providing light housekeeping, laundry and shopping services, which helps prevent premature institutionalization. In addition, the Chore attendants are trained to perform ongoing safety assessments, watching for failing health or safety concerns. This is especially important for our clients that are homebound and often have no family. The Chore Program provided more than 9,000 service hours to over 270 individuals.

**Home Sharing:** Home Sharing is a creative alternative in Morris County focusing on establishing home share relationships. Individuals who wish to share



Volunteers paint a senior's home for the CHORE program.

their homes for economic, service or companionship reasons are matched with persons who are unable

to sustain the financial burden of finding affordable housing. In 2004, 52 individuals were matched.

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**STRAIGHT AND NARROW, INC.**

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**Annual Report 2004**

“Celebrating 50 Years of the Recovery of Broken Dreams” – 2004 was a glorious year for Straight & Narrow, marking the 50th anniversary of the agency. Fifty years of service to the community makes us the oldest community-based residential treatment facility for those who are addicted to drugs and alcohol in the United States. Straight & Narrow is also the largest State-funded facility of its kind in the State of New Jersey.

We all know that we are driven by what we love. What we love fuels our ideals, shapes our dreams, determines what we do with our time, what breaks our hearts, what fills us with joy and gratitude, what keeps us focused amid the turmoil of daily life. What is it that has driven Straight & Narrow in the last 50 years, and, God willing, in the next 50?

In the inner core of Straight & Narrow burns the unshakable conviction that we exist for the service of our faith, as well as the service of the poor, which that same faith implies.

It was 1954 when Msgr. William Wall first founded the program that began what is now the agency known as Straight & Narrow. From that single residential treatment program for indigent, male alcoholics grew an agency that now provides residential and outpatient treatment for men, women, some with young children, and juveniles daily; 5 halfway houses; 2 apartment buildings for men and women with HIV/AIDS, totaling 76 units, and numerous support programs for people with HIV/AIDS; 2 child care centers serving more than 400 children daily; and a 20-bed licensed detoxification hospital.

Today, we remember with gratitude the vision of our founder, Msgr. William Wall (1954-1969) and the tremendous work of the other Executive Directors over the years, namely Fr. Charles Greco (1969-1977), Harry Elizarian (1977-1978) and Fr. Norman

O'Connor (1979-2002). Through past and current leadership, Straight & Narrow has evolved into a premier, pace-setting comprehensive social service, health care, and community development agency. With staff now numbering more than 300 comprised of social workers, certified teachers and counselors, physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, accountants, and other professional disciplines, and facilities in Hudson, Bergen and Passaic counties, we serve more than 1,200 clients a day: men, women, adolescents, and children in their multitude of human needs, in different modalities and phases of treatment.



Children at La Vida Child Care Center rush to get in on a group hug with Santa Claus.

### Agency Highlights

- January 2004 marked the beginning of the 50th anniversary year of Straight & Narrow, celebrating the recovery of more than 65,000 men and women over the past 50 years.
- Protecting God's Children training is implemented for all employees. First Aid and CPR training is also offered onsite for Straight & Narrow staff.
- March 4th Dinner & Auction at the Brownstone, Paterson. The first of three events hosted by Straight & Narrow in recognition of the agency's 50th anniversary, the Auction brought out a crowd of more than 300 people to bid on nearly 60 auction items in support of the agency's programs.
- In May of this year, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) gave our methadone clinic their highest rating of a three-year accreditation. Encouraged by this prestigious accreditation, we have decided to embark on an ambitious plan to have the entire Straight & Narrow organization with the totality of its remaining programs also accredited by CARF. CARF committees, which evaluate the agency's operations, such as Health and Safety, Policy and Procedure, Program Evaluation, and Continuous Quality Improvement, are now a standard feature of agency operations.
- On May 8th, clients from the men's residential treat-

ment program participated in Pride in Paterson Day by conducting several clean-up projects at the agency. Later in the year, some of the men also volunteered at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

- The agency's Gospel Choir was reinvigorated. Under the direction of Msgr. Lou Bihr, the Gospel Choir performed at 18 parishes and community gatherings, including a brief witness from two clients at each service reflecting on how their lives were changed because of the recovery program at Straight & Narrow.

- Just Faith began at Straight & Narrow, a program that enables churches to experience a "mini-immersion" program, learning first-

hand how we honor the most basic principle of Catholic Social Teaching, the dignity of the human person.

- In addition to their treatment schedule, clients participated in an array of recreational activities, including sports games, plays, museums, movies and concerts.
- Straight & Narrow La Vida Child Care Center Too received foundation support totaling nearly \$11,000 for the purchase of safety flooring and the purchase and installation of playground equipment for the Center's outdoor play area.
- July 8th the brilliant Gershwin Concert was presented by Catholic Charities' own Fr. Edward Lambro and fellow artists at the Brownstone, Paterson. The 50th anniversary celebrations continued with this concert, co-hosted by Mayor Randy George of North Haledon and Gerry George, a Straight & Narrow program graduate. Both Gerry George and Straight & Narrow were presented with proclamations from the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders by Freeholder Walter Porter.
- In August, the female residents of the residential treatment programs in Paterson and Secaucus received free makeovers, including haircuts, color, and makeup, from Parisian Beauty Academy. Parisian generously donated the time and talents of its students and staff to help the women in their transformation

from a life of addictions to a life of recovery, with the makeovers outwardly reflecting the internal changes that have taken place since the women began their treatment at the agency.

- On September 11th, approximately 350 clients and family members attended Straight & Narrow's Annual Family Day at Lake Alexander in West Milford.
- Staff and clients participated in the Statewide annual residential treatment providers Walk for Recovery in Liberty State Park.
- Also in September, Straight & Narrow entered into several new contracts, including one with the Paterson Public Schools to implement an outpatient treatment program for high school students from Paterson's public high schools. Other contracts include Morris County Department of Human Services for both detoxification and residential treatment services for Morris County residents and the State of New Jersey Department of Health for detoxification services for the Mentally Ill Chemically Addicted (MICA).
- On October 16th, Straight & Narrow was honored with the Catholic Charities Caritas Award for Advocacy at the Caritas 2004 Awards Gala. The award was accepted on behalf of the agency's Board of Trustees, professional staff and clients. It was noted that the award was genuinely reflective of the agency's record of 50 distinguished years of progressive and responsive quality service to the poorest members of our community

- November 9th, Alumni Homecoming celebration at the Brownstone, Paterson. Nearly 200 alumni, friends and family gathered to celebrate the recovery of broken dreams for those who found sobriety through the treatment programs at Straight & Narrow.

- On December 13th, 60 clients and staff joined with other treatment providers from throughout New Jersey to converge in Trenton for Advocacy Day, lobbying for greater support for treatment programs Statewide.

- The 2004 Employee of the Year awards were presented on December 10th during the staff annual Christmas party to Alice Anderson, Director of Main-



Children at La Vida Child Care Center helped to organize some of the many donated books received by the agency this year.

tenance, Luz Caraballo, Director of La Vida Child Care Center Too, Nancy Dimitrovski, Director of Msgr. Wall Social Service Center, Ernie Fina, Director of Food Services, Ray McCutchen, Director of MAP/DCI programs and ATCU, and Reina Rivas, Director of Men's and Juvenile Treatment.

### Current Program Highlights

- 1,057 men and women were admitted for inpatient treatment for substance abuse, as follows: 187 for alcohol, 535 for heroin, 133 for marijuana, and 202 for cocaine. Clients received 97,240 hours of individual and group counseling and didactic sessions.

- 193 men and women were admitted for outpatient treatment and received 18,212 sessions of individual and group counseling.

- 2,426 clients were referred to the Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC) and received 83,256 hours of education, treatment and referral services.

- The Adult Medical Day Care Center provided 13,842 services to adults with HIV/AIDS.

- 188 individuals were provided homeless prevention services and 233 individuals were provided supportive services under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program which S&N administers.



Straight & Narrow staff gather for a group photo after completing the agency's annual training.

vention services and 233 individuals were provided supportive services under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program which S&N administers.

- Early childhood education and care services were provided for 425 infant, toddler and 3 and 4 year old Abbott pre-school children.
- Food Service provided 198,400 meals and 99,200 snacks for the La Vida Child Care Centers, 19,344 meals for the Adult Medical Day Care Center, 216,810 inpatient client meals and 347,200 meals for seniors under the Meals on Wheels program.
- The Recycling Program made 6,704 trips to two communities.

As in 1954, Straight & Narrow remains committed to its partnership with the public, its funding sources, and its clients who endeavor to achieve and maintain sobriety and productivity in their lives. It is our privilege to serve and our duty to provide the highest level of professional care. As we look toward our next 50 years, we pray for the continued success of our programs and our clients. Our history is but a foundation of our future.

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#### CONGREGATIONAL HEALTH MINISTRY PROGRAM

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#### Annual Report 2004

Since 2001, the mission of the Congregational Health Ministry has been to address the health needs of our communities through services that promote, restore and maintain well being. The Congregational Health Ministry Program is a collaborative partnership of St. Mary's Hospital, Passaic, St. Clare's Hospital, Dover, and St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson and Wayne. During 2004, health and wellness ministries at thirty parishes in the Diocese extended their hands in outreach to members of the faith community through health and wellness programs. These ministries, led by volunteers, fill unmet needs within the faith community. Often



Our Lady of Lourdes Fall 2004  
 Health Fair glucose screening.  
 Barbara Koegel, RN

the health ministry includes an outreach component where parish volunteers provide services such as visiting the homebound, running an errand or driving someone to Mass. In addition, health ministry volunteers often help families to navigate the health care system, access care, obtain accurate information for disease management and connect to services for the elderly, chronically ill and medically underserved.

The Congregational Health Liaison provides assistance to new and existing health ministry programs as a consultant, educator and resource person.

The Liaison provides:

- On site consultation for program development
- Survey of health needs
- Volunteer training and continuing education
- Educational speakers
- Resources for special programs e.g. health fairs
- Networking opportunities

Each parish creates a ministry that is unique to its needs and resources. Overall, the presence of a health ministry builds community while bridging the gap between professional health care providers and local community resources. Recipients of these services often relate that the most important benefit is



Disaster Preparedness Seminar August 2004  
 held at the College of St. Elizabeth

the sense of belonging to and being cared for by their faith community.

**Lending a Hand:** Diane Silbernagel, Liaison, facilitates implementation of Congregational Health programs by working closely with faith community members such as the pastor, a leader (usually a nurse) and a volunteer group who are willing to form a health committee. Together a plan for addressing the health concerns of the congregation is developed and implemented. During the initial year of a health ministry, the volunteers describe their mission, establish a structure, and define roles, responsibilities and services. This process of planning and creating a health ministry structure requires the support of the Pastor.

The health ministry team will identify the

health-related interests of the faith community through a parish survey and then plan a calendar of activities such as screenings, education programs or other events. The partnering hospitals of St. Mary's Hospital, Passaic, St. Clare's Hospital, Dover, and St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson and Wayne provide support and resources including speakers, screenings and education materials.

St. Joseph's, Paterson, St. Mary's, Passaic and St. Clare's, Dover bring their resources and staff to health fairs provided by health ministries in the Diocese. Health Fairs are a great opportunity for parishioners to access health information, have their cholesterol, glucose or blood pressure checked. Health Fairs are often held in the spring (Our Lady of Consolation, Wayne) or the fall (Our Lady of Lourdes, Paterson) and are generally very well attended. In addition, most health ministries provide regular blood pressure screenings through out the year, identifying many individuals with hypertension in need of medical referral.

**Assisting Immigrants: Together in Health:**

On May 14th, 2004, The Juntos en Salud Program, a collaborative partnership of St. Mary's Hospital and Catholic Charities Congregational Health Ministry, received special recognition at the New Jersey Hospital Association's 86th annual meeting held at the Hyatt Regency in Princeton. Both, the Juntos en Salud Program and the Homeless

Outreach Mobil Clinic Program of St. Clare's Hospital, received the 2004 HRET Community Outreach Award for reducing healthcare disparities. In addition, the Juntos en Salud Program was featured at the 18th Annual Grainger Westberg International Parish Nursing Conference held in St. Louis, MO in September.

**The Juntos en Salud Program** is a health promotion project serving the Hispanic community at the churches of St. Anthony of Padua, Holy Trinity and at the Hispanic Information Center in Passaic City that was generously funded again for 2005 by the Sisters of Bon Secours International Mission Fund, cosponsored by the Sisters of Charity.

The Juntos en Salud Program brings nursing services and health education to the working poor

at the faith-community sites and the Hispanic Information Center. The Juntos en Salud Program is an outreach program under the auspices of the Caritas Connection, a project of the Community Health Department at St. Mary's Hospital, Passaic. Since 1994, the Caritas Connection has offered many innovative health promotion programs as an outreach to the poor Hispanic population of Passaic city.

**The Caritas Connection** programs have impacted on the quality of life and health of the Hispanic population through the leadership of Sister Alice Sullivan, S. C. and the project staff. In 2004, Sister Alice Sullivan was recognized for her lifetime contributions and service to our Diocese as recipient of the Catholic Charities, Caritas Award for Service.

**Colleagues aiding Colleagues:** Since the early stages of the parish nursing movement in our Diocese, preparing nurses for health ministries has been the cornerstone of outreach efforts. Beginning in 1998, St. Mary's Hospital, Passaic and The College of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, collaborated to develop "Parish Nursing, A Basic Preparation Course for Professional Nurses".

This course continues to be offered each fall through a partnership with The College of St. Elizabeth and the Congregational Health Ministry Program. Today, the curriculum has evolved to include parish nursing outcomes, grant writing and legislative advocacy. Approved by the NJ State Nurses Association

for 32 contact hours, the "Parish Nursing, A Basic Preparation Course" is the only course of its kind offered in New Jersey and continues to be well attended. To date, over 207 participants have completed the certification course. This course also provides a vehicle for nurses to come together for continuing education programs throughout the year. In January of 2004, St. Joseph's Wayne Hospital hosted a parish nursing continuing education program on End of Life Care, called Bridging the Gap. Clinicians from Passaic Valley Hospice, Totowa, and St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, as well as a local funeral director shared their expertise with parish nurses and others who work with parishioners at the end of their lives. In March 2004, 67 participants attended "Integrating Spiritual Care in Health Ministry



Congregational Health Ministry  
Health Parish Nursing Course graduates 2005



Practice”, a Spirituality Program for Health Ministries members.

Through Catholic Charities’ Congregational Health Ministry Program and the collaborating partners of St. Mary’s Hospital, St. Clare’s Hospital, St. Joseph’s Hospital and the College of St. Elizabeth, 2005 promises to be a year of continued support and outreach to the health ministry teams and to the members of the faith communities in our Diocese. The health ministry volunteers form the body of Christ with hands extended in hope and healing to foster mind, body and spirit wellness. If you are interested in starting a health ministry or would like to receive resources for an existing ministry, please contact Diane Silbernagel, the Liaison for Congregational Health Ministry Program, at 973-333-6795.

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**THE MIGRANT MINISTRY COMMUNITY  
of OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

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**Annual Report 2004**

Over the past year the Migrant Ministry has actively expanded its programs and services through the Diocese of Paterson with its own Mission: “To help create communities of faith, welcome,



Migrant Ministry visit from Bishop Serratelli seen here with Father Terry Moran, Father Odel and guests.

and services adapted to the particular needs of sisters and brothers from other countries temporarily working and living in the Diocese of Paterson.”

As people of faith we feel it is our privilege

and our responsibility to welcome brothers and sisters who come to our Diocese from other countries as temporary workers. They come, usually at immense personal sacrifice and risk, seeking work to support their families in their country of origin. Often these sisters and brothers arrive with little knowledge of this country and with few resources available to them here. They are what the Scriptures call “Strangers” (Ex. 23: 9)

They come to work on small farms, restaurants, in landscaping and construction, and often have to work 80 to 90 hours per week just to maintain themselves and be able to send money home to support their families. These migrant workers are very isolated, both from one another and from the normal civil and ecclesiastical structures. They form a type of hidden subculture and are often exploited, especially by employers and landlords.

During 2004, with the support and the generous involvement of priests, religious, and parishioners from St. Joseph (Newton), St. Ann’s and St. Peter’s (Parsippany), St. Anthony’s (Butler), St. Lawrence (Chester), Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha (Sparta), and The Shrine of St. Joseph (Stirling), the Ministry was able to expand its range of service with the community of migrant workers.

The Migrant Ministry would not exist without the selfless generosity of the 100 volunteers who provide incredible services to our migrant sisters and brothers, and who form together with them, the Community of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This year there were 6,818 hours of service provided by these volunteers.

Since 1997 we have been working with the migrant worker population that has come to live in the Diocese of Paterson, bringing to them through the Catholic Church a range of services including: Eucharistic services, pastoral care, spiritual direction, catechesis, evangelization, advocacy, ESL classes, recreational programs, mobile clinic, and information on health and legal matters.

This year we accomplished:

- 144 Masses including the beautiful celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe by Bishop Serratelli on December 12th, 2004 attended by over 800 persons. Fourteen migrants completed the sacraments of initiation receiving First Communion and Confirmation. Holy week, Thanksgiving, and Christmas are also big celebrations among the Migrant Community. A special thanks to Msgr. Kieran McHugh and the staff of Pope John XXIII high school in Sparta for hosting us.

- Nearly 5,900 meals were served after the celebrations throughout the year. We provided transportation for 720 persons in Sparta and Newton to Blessed Kateri and St. Joseph Church; 3,600 were brought from Pine Brook, West Caldwell, and Parsippany to St. Ann's Church; and about 400 persons to The Shrine of St. Joseph for the Christmas celebration.
- 382 ESL classes were held for 110 people, for a total of 791 hours in Newton, Sparta, Chester, Butler, and Parsippany.
- Our mobile clinic, sponsored by St. Clare's Hospital, provided a certified nurse. Volunteers served as translators to provide services for 36 visits (a total of 72 hours) for 79 persons in St. Ann's Church in Parsippany and St. Lawrence in Chester. Many clients were then referred to the clinic in Dover for further treatment. At the Shrine of St. Joseph's in Stirling, two mobile clinics from Overlook Hospital provided



Migrant Ministry team and clients

information on stroke detection and osteoporosis. We also developed The Hot Line 1(877)724-5112 for the area of Newton and Sparta, with information on transportation, clothing, furniture, ESL, Mass schedules. The most important use of the Hot Line is for requesting medical appointments or medical needs. This year 7 volunteers spent 560 hours attending the Hot Line. About 261 people were served; 143 received dental or medical appointments. There were an additional 1,040 hours in transporting our clients and doing follow-up appointments.

- We provided several recreational activities: the participation in a soccer league, 1 basketball tournament, 2 outdoor picnics, 5 dinner dances. We provided 1 retreat for couples and five for spiritual development and leadership. The Jornada Latina was celebrated 12 times in St. Joseph Shrine, Stirling. The Jornada Latina consisted of prayer and reflection, personal,

family and spiritual development.

- Another part of our program's goal is to assist our clients in all their social service needs with ongoing advocacy on behalf of their personal, medical and legal situations. This service includes transportation to all of the activities and celebrations. We also provided transportation to hospital or doctor appointments. At times we assisted our clients in search of bilingual attorneys, and many times needed to appear with them in court as translators or companions.
- On numerous occasions we have been called to visit migrants in jail and offer assistance with legal counsel for legal matters.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the communities of St. Joseph in Newton, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha in Sparta, The Shrine of St. Joseph in Stirling, St. Anthony in Butler, St. Lawrence in Chester, and St. Ann in Parsippany for their warm reception and welcome to all the migrants who have come to their doors to worship God and receive assistance through our Ministry.

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**PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY**

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**Annual Report 2004**

Catholic Social Teaching and Tradition calls parishes to convene, serve, advocate, empower, and love our neighbors in need. This ministry encapsulates a broad range of helpful services and advocacy efforts. The parishes of the Diocese of Paterson have provided caring direct services to thousands of individuals in need of help. Some of these parishes have also become very active in advocating for the rights of others, and upholding the dignities of those persons threatened in our Diocese and around the world.

Our parishes have been involved in a variety of social concern activities this year. A survey was sent to all the parishes to ascertain their involvement in social ministries. The results show active participation by parishes in meeting the direct service needs of the needy, such as: feeding the hungry, clothing

the naked, welcoming the stranger, and comforting those in sorrow. Many parishes continue to help with turkeys for Thanksgiving and presents for the poor at Christmas. Parishes were involved in social issue advocacy of differing types. There was a strong involvement in respect life issues, along with other social justice concerns such as migrant ministry, environmental advocacy, poverty, housing, Haiti, and Kenya to name a few. Our Lady of Fatima, Highland Lakes is involved in housing the homeless through the Sussex County Interfaith Hospitality Network. St. Patrick, Chatham has held many environmental justice trainings and has advocated strongly on behalf of papal and bishop teachings concerning Care for God's creation. St. Theresa, Paterson has been at the forefront of proving aid to the people of Kenya. A "twinning" relationship has developed between St. Therese and a parish in Kenya. Representatives from the parish have traveled to Kenya to meet the parishioners of that parish, while the Kenyan Bishop has visited our Diocese and the parish of St. Therese.

The mantra of the PSM office is the "two feet of social justice", which are service and advocacy. There was a significant legislative advocacy gathering in Trenton this past May. The Catholic Coalition for a Just Budget organized a rally on the steps of the State Capitol for the purpose of advocating for the needs of the poor as related to the inadequate funding of social service programs by the State. A bus load of Catholic advocates from around the Diocese gathered at St. Philip's Church in Clifton to travel to Trenton for the rally. Legislators seemed to hear our message as our concerns were eventually borne out in Governor McGreevey's State Budget priorities. Greater emphasis was placed on services and funding for the poor. The national Catholic Social Justice Gathering was held in February in Washington, D.C. Catholics from our Diocese and Dioceses around the country visited "Capitol Hill" to speak with our Senators and Congressman concerning issues affecting the poor in the United States and around the world. Planning is beginning now for a very important "Legislative Advocacy Evening" to be held in 2006. Our State legislators, covering the Districts within our Diocese, will



Parish Social Ministry program and supporters in Trenton making their views known.

be invited to a legislative dialogue with parishioners to discuss social issues. The evening will be held at a parish within the Diocese of Paterson and will include a chance to rub elbows with the legislators.

Parish Social Ministry is an evolving ministry. Parishes continually see new needs among their people and try to make appropriate responses. Parishes are seeing needs involving: ESL classes, parish nursing; parent training, job skills, community safety, non-violence, immigration, poverty, migrant ministry, transportation for the elderly, bereavement, and senior citizen activity, to offer a sampling. Parish Social Ministry also includes educating parish nurses about Catholic Social Teaching in their advocacy roles with the sick and homebound. The PSM office presented such training this past year at the College of St. Elizabeth. Over 30 parish nurses were trained in the area of health and Catholic social advocacy.

St. Mary's, Pompton Lakes completed its first year of the social justice formation program entitled JustFaith, last June. A group of 18 parishioners participated in that process. Two additional groups totaling 25 adults began their formation through JustFaith this past October. They will complete their formation in June of 2005. This "journey" is a Catholic Charities USA sponsored spirituality / education / action program to enrich

peoples' lives with Jesus' call to "love of neighbor." It is a very committed learning and sharing program, which eventually bears the fruits of more social conscience and social actions on the parts of parishioners and parishes. There is also another JustFaith group up and running at St. Cecilia's parish in Rockaway, with 10 participants.

PSM exists as a support and liaison for social ministry efforts in the parishes. As Director, I visit parishes, attend deanery meetings, and speak with pastoral staffs and interested parishioners, concerning social ministry efforts in the local parish.

If I can assist your parish in establishing a Parish Social Ministry committee or help an existing PSM committee further develop or connect to one of our Diocesan Catholic Charities agencies, please call me anytime.

## DISASTER RESPONSE - PROGRAM 2004

### **September 11th Disaster Response**

Through the generous support of our Diocese and through Catholic Charities USA, our Disaster Response program assisted over 2,709 individuals since 9/11/01. These services have included advocacy, case management, direct financial assistance, resource materials, counseling, job development and job placement. To date, our case management services have helped survivors and families of the deceased as well as displaced workers. These families have received direct financial assistance, counseling, resource referrals and access to job placement/development. In 2004, Our Disaster Response Job Development Program hosted two job fairs for displaced workers which were attended by over 300 individuals at each event.

We continue to receive referrals for assistance, often from displaced workers who have been reluctant to seek assistance. If you know of someone who has a need for financial assistance, job placement, legal services, support group referral, counseling, resource information or immigration assistance, please contact our case managers: Rose Morocho at 973-333-6794 or Sr. Mary Farrell, S.C. at 973-279-7100 extension 15.

### **Going On After Loss**

Currently, we support group counseling programs, memorial events, family gatherings and a very successful children's grief program called GOALS (Going On After Loss) developed by Maureen Underwood and Associates. The Family GOALS Project is a family based art therapy group that meets for two six week sessions (fall and spring). Groups are structured according to age and services are available for children ages 3–18 with babysitting provided for young children. The focus of the groups is on resiliency and coping skills. Through a variety of art based activities families receive the knowledge and understanding that they have the skills and abilities to heal themselves. Since the GOALS program began in the spring of 2003, more than 200 families have participated.

### **Safe Haven East**

Catholic Charities has taken a lead role in organizing the Safe Haven East Project, a coalition of organizations working together to provide a hospitality center for families during the closed circuit telecast of the Zacharias Moussaoui trial anticipated for May, 2005. Zacharias Moussaoui is suspected of being the 20th hijacker in the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001. The Safe Haven East Project, a hospitality center, will provide a secure location for the families of September 11th victims. On site they will have access to food, counseling escorts to the courtroom and other services needed. The primary goal of this program is to minimize the re-traumatization of the victims and survivors who witness the telecast of the Moussaoui trial.

### **Disaster Preparedness**

The mission of the Disaster Preparedness Program is to enable Parishes in the Diocese of Paterson to prepare for and handle any disaster that could impact a faith community. Catholic Charities Disaster Preparedness Coordinator, Deacon Frank Para, offers the following:

- Assistance coordinating disaster preparedness and assess parish needs
- Resource tools to start a Response Team
- Ongoing education and support
- Networking opportunities with other outside agencies such as the Office of Emergency Management and NJ Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

If your faith community would like to organize a team to respond to the community's needs in the event of a local disaster, please contact Deacon Frank Para at 973-333-6796.

## DISASTER RESPONSE CHRONOLOGY 2004

### January 2004

- Attended ongoing meetings with NJ Catholic Charities Consortium for Disaster Response
- Participated in Safe Haven East Hospitality Center development and planning meetings
- Held a luncheon for the parents of WTC victims
- Participated in NJ Family Advocate Program monthly meeting and Quality Assurance subcommittee meeting.
- Attended Bereavement Continuing Education program
- Career fairs to be held at the Gateway Hilton, Newark are being planned for May 5 and October 5
- Continuing individual case management services for displaced workers
- Published and circulated Volume 3, Issue 1 of the WTC Family Newsletter

### February 2004

- Attended NJ VOAD meeting
- Participated in tabletop disaster response exercise at Morris County OEM meeting
- Represented Catholic Charities at Housing Recovery meeting
- Participated in Interfaith Long-term Recovery meeting
- Attended New Jersey Family Advocate Program meeting
- Participated in subcommittee meeting for long-term health insurance needs
- Planning for the May and October career fairs continued
- Ongoing case management services for displaced workers continued

### March 2004

- Initiated 6 week GOALS program for victims' families at Assumption Church in Morristown
- Partnered to expand GOALS program to Bergen and Hudson County
- Held a luncheon for WTC victims' families
- Began planning September 11, 2004 memorial prayer service at the Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling, NJ
- Attended Church World Service Disaster Response Forum in Princeton, NJ
- Participated in Morris County OEM meeting
- Attended continuing education program for trauma and grief recovery
- Displaced workers continued to receive case management services
- May and October career fair plans continued

### April 2004

- Continued to bring cases to the Unmet Needs Committee
- Started two GOALS groups: one in Morris County and one in Bergen County
- Submitted grant application to the Corporation for National Community Service to train disaster preparedness outreach volunteers
- Participated in the NJ Family Advocate Program Quality Assurance monitoring
- Attended long-term recovery meeting
- Started planning for 9/11 remembrance prayer service
- Attended training given by Church World Service on Care for Caregiver, Hillside
- Participated in training in trauma awareness, recovery with the STAR program, New York City
- Continue with preparations for Safe Haven East
- Finalizing career fair planning and implementation

### May 2004

- Hosted a career fair at Newark Gateway Hilton
- Participated in NJ VOAD meeting
- Held a luncheon for parents of WTC victims

- Attended a disaster preparedness conference
- Attended a 2-day seminar given by America's Second Harvest on volunteers and donations
- Participated in Quality Assurance meeting
- Conducting a 7-session Family GOALS programs

#### **June 2004**

- Attended ongoing preparation meetings for Safe Haven East
- Continue to participate in Family Advocate Program meetings/training sessions
- Completed two (6-week) GOALS support groups, and held a GOALS focus group to discuss lessons learned
- Ongoing advocacy and meetings with key people to establish group health insurance program
- Continue to network with other disaster response groups including Passaic and Morris County Human Services, COAD, New Jersey long-term Recovery Interfaith group, New Jersey Catholic Charities Consortium, and Safe Haven East Coalition
- Begun planning for an October 2004 job fair

#### **July 2004**

- Attended Family Advocate meeting to discuss discharge plans of clients
- Ongoing meeting to plan prayer service for September 11, 2004
- Ongoing plans for October 2004 job fair
- Published and circulated Volume 3, Issue 2 of the WTC Family Newsletter

#### **August 2004**

- Provided seminar at St. Elizabeth College for Disaster Preparedness and Faith Community Capacity
- Recognized provider for the American Red Cross - Client Support Network
- Organized 9/11 memorial event prayer service scheduled for September 10th at the Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling
- Preparing for our 3rd job fair scheduled for October 26

#### **September 2004**

- Sponsored September 11th prayer service
- Continue plans for fall job fair on October 26
- Attended St. Thomas More, Convent Station parish meeting on Disaster Preparedness
- Submitted proposal to American Red Cross September 11th Recovery Grants

#### **October 2004**

- Sponsored third job fare for displaced persons
- Prepared for family members' luncheon
- Secured additional funding from Passaic County United Way
- Participated in OEM and VOAD meetings

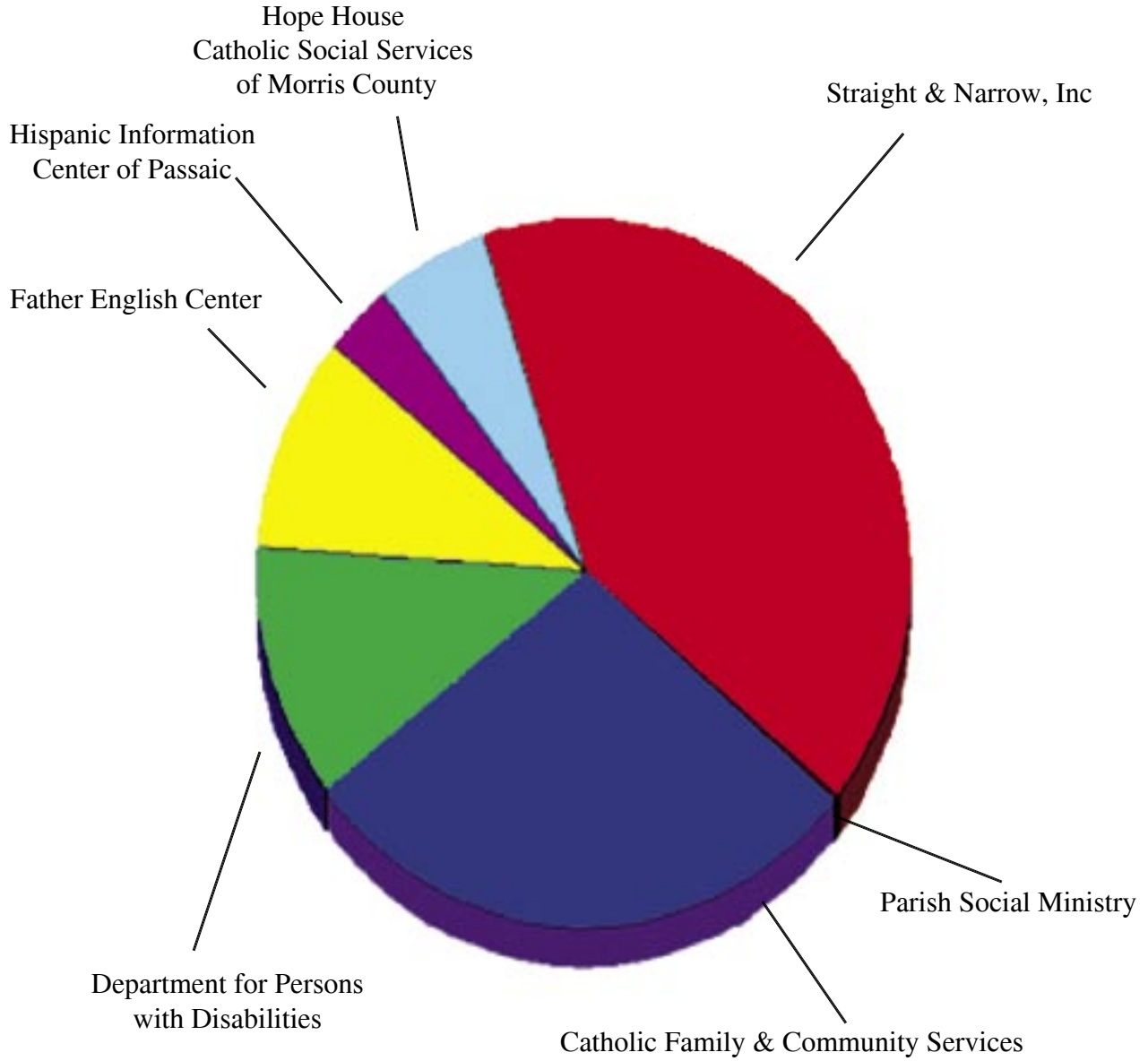
#### **November 2004**

- Participated in multiple VOAD meetings
- Attended New Jersey Family Advocate meeting
- Attended New Jersey Catholic Charities Disaster Response Consortium meeting

#### **December 2004**

- Published and distributed Volume 3, Issue 3 of the WTC Family Newsletter
- Distributed disaster preparedness tool kits to five parishes
- Attended New Jersey Family Advocate meeting and New Jersey Safe Haven East Coalition

SECRETARIAT FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES  
DIOCESE OF PATERSON  
AGENCY BUDGETS - 2004



Catholic Family & Community Services	\$14,867,109
Department for Persons with Disabilities	5,238,773
Father English Center	6,121,403
Hispanic Information Center of Passaic	1,307,928
Hope House	2,216,025
Straight & Narrow, Inc.	16,003,750
Parish Social Ministry	140,595

**Combined Operating Budget for 2004 = \$45,895,583**

*Save the date . . .*



**Saturday evening, October 22, 2005**  
***Catholic Charities Caritas 2005***  
***Gala Dinner & Dance***  
-  
***The Grand Ballroom***  
***Hanover Marriott Hotel***  
***6:30 - 11:00 PM***  
***For information & reservations please call***  
***Fr. Edward Lambro at 973-523-4456***  
  
***Email: [prdev@catholiccharities.org](mailto:prdev@catholiccharities.org)***

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**Remember Catholic Charities Diocese of Paterson  
in your estate planning, planned giving and will.**

**A contribution to the Catholic Charities Endowment Fund  
grows over the years  
and guarantees the continuation of our programs and services.**

**Call Father Edward Lambro at 973-523-4456  
to discuss options that directly help the poor.**



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