



CHARITY | *Generous to Neighbor*

Catholic Charities served over 63,500 of our brothers and sisters in need last year through four core programs: Emergency Assistance, Parish and Community Engagement, Counseling, and Family Support Services. The impact of their work is sometimes visible, but just as often it is quietly improving the quality of your neighbors' lives. Here are just a few examples...

Catholic Charities' Work is Widespread

While the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps to fund Catholic Charities' many headline-catching emergency services— such as flood relief from a hurricane along the NC Coastline, or from too much rain (as in Chapel Hill this summer)—their work is widespread across our Diocese...

- assisting families recovering from domestic violence
- enabling the elderly to purchase much needed medicine
- assisting families to establish good budgeting practices
- supporting families throughout the adoption process
- ending homelessness for families by employing a well-rounded program to make them self-sufficient.

Catholic Charities also directly operates food pantries in Durham, Fayetteville, Greenville, Raleigh and Wilmington, and is closely involved with pantries in Burgaw, Oriental, Washington and Wilmington. This past fall, with one of the many BAA grants, the local Catholic Charities office was instrumental in establishing a new pantry at Blessed Sacrament Parish, Burlington, and assists with the necessary screening process and recording of the distribution of food to families in need.

Hope for a New Beginning

Catholic Charities in Fayetteville recently assisted a 49-year-old woman referred to them by an area protestant church. Her son was not emotionally or financially able to care for his children after his wife tragically died in a car accident. The woman obtained custody of her grandchildren (ages 11 and 10) and had begun working on finding an apartment and securing employment. Catholic Charities assisted the family by paying the rental deposit on an apartment and providing some furniture, as well as clothing for the children. With help from Catholic Charities the family is working on regaining some stability in their lives—which includes the children's return to school. A loving grandmother and two young lives have been given hope thanks to Catholic Charities through the BAA.

BAA grants change lives

Through a BAA grant, 45 children started school with new sneakers. Immaculate Conception Catholic Parish in Clinton added excitement to the "back to school fervor" providing 135 book bags filled with supplies. When distributed at St. Joseph in Burgaw, the young smiles were a heavenly reward.

"The Lord leads us to follow his path — that of service, sharing and giving; and that little that we have, the little that we are, if shared, becomes a treasure because the power of God, who is love, descends to our poverty and transforms it."

(Pope Francis homily Feast of Corpus Christi, Basilica of St John Lateran June 2, 2013)

