

# Faithfully Forward »

A PUBLICATION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF MADISON

MARCH 2022

## Care Team keeps community connected

Janet was often alone. She had few people she could talk to or connect with. This was especially true after a close friend of hers passed away during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fortunately, she knew about Catholic Charities' Care Team Ministry program. After COVID restrictions eased, volunteers were able to visit Janet.

"They mean a lot," she said. "Some help when I'm in a mess over here. Some do puzzles with me. It's nice just talking to somebody. Otherwise I'm sitting here alone with a book."

Care Team Ministry serves older adults throughout Dane County. Catholic Charities coordinates teams of volunteers at three Lutheran and 14 Catholic churches. These teams offer an array of non-medical services to aging persons and their caregivers. Care Team support includes greeting cards, telephone reassurance, and assistance with mail correspondence, household organizing and similar simple tasks.

But at the heart of the ministry are the visits of sustaining presence.

One long-time volunteer, Mary Jane, has been visiting community members for years. She described her experience with Care Team Ministry.

"I get much more than I give," she said. "I learn so much about growing old gracefully – accepting what is coming. I don't know if it's a fluke but the people I visit are so positive."

Catholic Charities provides training and ongoing support for Care Teams. All team members are screened through background checks and thoroughly trained in topics related to aging and elder care. Care Team members abide by the ethics of respectful and compassionate care, confidentiality and services offered without discrimination.



— Janet, Care Team Ministry participant, with her dog

**'I get much more than I give. I learn so much about growing old gracefully – accepting what is coming. I don't know if it's a fluke but the people I visit are so positive.'**

**MARY JANE, CARE TEAM MINISTRY VOLUNTEER**

Janet stressed the connections she makes through the program.

"The volunteers keep me in contact," she said. "They brought me Christmas

cookies – otherwise I wouldn't have had any."

Care Team Ministry is supported by the Oakwood Foundation.

## Our Mission

To provide compassionate and caring services to the poor and vulnerable in our communities.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# You make a difference!

**F**irst, I offer you my heartfelt gratitude – Thank You! Thousands of people across Southern Wisconsin benefit from your generosity every day. So many community members have been blessed by your kindness and thoughtful heart. You are part of a community that cares, that wants to make real change and make the world better.

Next, I welcome you to the first issue of *Faithfully Forward*, the new newsletter of Catholic Charities of Madison. Through this publication, we will share with you stories of your impact across Southern Wisconsin, as well as additional ways you can continue to support the poor and vulnerable in your community.

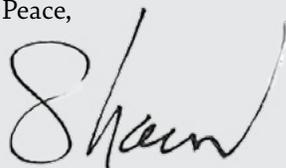
While we continue to hope for “normal,” we are still facing challenges due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Children, elderly, those experiencing homelessness and hunger, and many other vulnerable community members suffer needlessly.

The programs and services Catholic Charities provides are as critical right now as they have ever been.

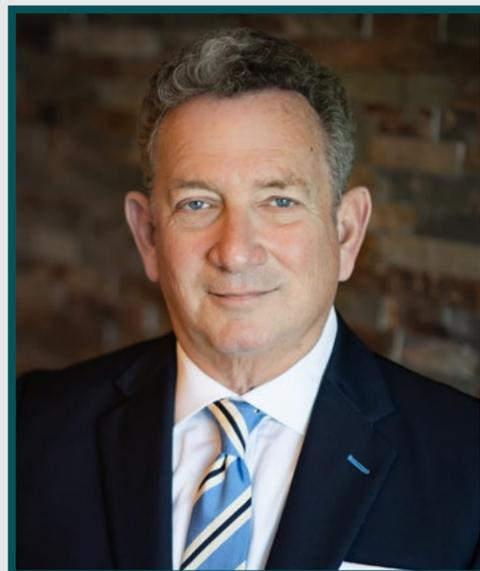
And so is your support.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to put your generosity into action and to show how much you care. We are all better because of you.

Peace,



**Shawn Carney**  
Executive Director



# Making connections at The Beacon

**E**very year thousands of community members find themselves homeless and in need of help. For some, this help is a warm meal and a place to rest. For others, it is finding mental or physical health care or other services. And for many, it is connecting with someone who cares.

Henry had been living in Green Bay for years. Through a series of unfortunate circumstances, he found himself homeless in Madison recently.

“I’ve only been in a few shelters, thankfully, and my stays at them were brief,” he said. “I was very impressed



with how the staff at the Beacon handled the massive crowd of homeless.”

A few days before he shared his story, Henry was removed from the bus he was traveling on due to a misunderstanding. He came to The Beacon and met Amy, a guest services specialist. Henry needed to

return to Green Bay for medical care and other services.

“Amy kept fighting for me and got yet another ticket for me,” he said. “I cannot express enough gratitude towards Amy. Amy was a true angel.”

This year, The Beacon will celebrate its fifth year helping people in the Madison area. While services have been forced to shift and adapt during COVID-19, The Beacon continued to serve nearly 3,500 individuals last year – including 53 children. And, they provided more than 6,600 showers and more than 6,800 loads of laundry.

# Finding friendship at the Adult Day Center

**R**ayne was a bright, sassy, adventurous little girl. “She always kept me running,” Diane, her mom, said. “No fear and she loved everything!”

When Rayne was 6 years old, doctors found a brain tumor. At the time, the family was living in Denver.

Doctors effectively treated the cancer, but sadly, Rayne experience damaging side effects from the radiation.

“Her emotions, physical function, coordination and memories have become impaired and will continue to erode over time,” Diane said. “We have a very close relationship. She came to work with me every day.”

The family moved to Wisconsin in 2017. Shortly after arriving, they were connected to Catholic Charities’ Adult Day Center (ADC).

At the ADC, Rayne has found staff who are patient with her memory loss, acceptance and freedom to do the activities she is still able to do, and personal focus on her issues and talents. The ADC has taught Rayne increased social interaction skills and provides safety while mixing with the multiple personalities of other clients and staff.

Rayne is now 36 years old and has been coming to the ADC for nearly four years. She likely will continue attending the program for the foreseeable future. With her long-term tenure, Rayne is something of a leader among ADC clients.

“My favorite part of coming to the day center is helping the other participants and the staff,” she said. “I love talking to them, keeping them company and making them laugh.”

Her mother has become extremely grateful for the services provided at the ADC.

“She is excited every day to tell me what happened at ‘camp.’ I am in tears now thinking of how important you all have become to her ... her family ... and I can’t express my gratitude enough!”



**‘My favorite part of coming to the day center is helping the other participants and the staff.’**

**RAYNE, ADULT DAY CENTER GUEST**

## Save the Date!

**JUNE 13**

**Charity Golf Outing**  
Blackhawk Country Club  
Madison, Wis.

**OCTOBER 20**

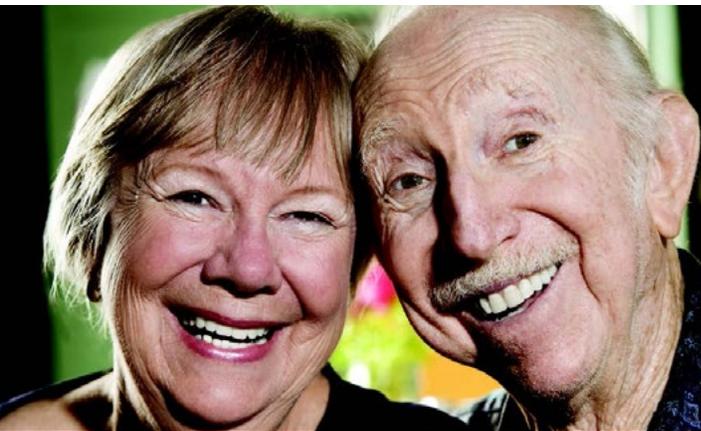
**Beacon & Eggs**  
The Orpheum Theater  
Madison, Wis.

DETAILS AND ONLINE REGISTRATION COMING SOON AT [WWW.CCMADISON.ORG](http://WWW.CCMADISON.ORG)





702 S. High Point Road  
Madison, WI 53719



## Legacy Giving

You can continue to help the poor and vulnerable for years to come.

One of the easiest ways to leave a legacy gift is through a beneficiary designation on your retirement fund.

Questions? Contact Sandy Lampman  
(608) 826-8096  
[slampman@ccmadison.org](mailto:slampman@ccmadison.org)

Catholic Charities Madison EIN 39-0807067

JIM HARTLIEB

## Why I support Catholic Charities

It has been a privilege to serve on Catholic Charities of Madison's Board of Directors for the past four years and as its chair since May of 2021. My time on the Board has given me the opportunity to see how my faith and values are reflected – every day – through the work of Catholic Charities.

The need can seem overwhelming sometimes – hunger, homelessness, isolation, mental health challenges – but I know Catholic Charities is making a positive difference in the lives of those most in need. I am proud to be part of that mission and invite you to join me in supporting our compassionate work.

