

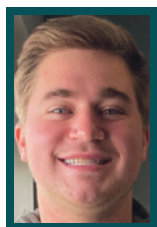
Faithfully Forward »

A PUBLICATION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF MADISON

JULY 2022

Brighter days start with breakfast

The Beacon has served community members experiencing homelessness in Dane County for nearly five years. And for almost two years, Jimmy Dowd has faithfully served breakfast nearly every week.



Jimmy
Dowd

That's especially impressive because Jimmy is a college student preparing to attend medical school.

"My freshman year at the UW in fall 2019, I was looking to get involved with something in the greater Madison community," he said. "I was involved with my Catholic church back home, volunteering with different homeless shelters in the Milwaukee area, and I wanted to do something similar."

After receiving multiple recommendations for The Beacon, he went through orientation in February 2020. COVID-19 put a halt to his volunteering when the university sent students home, however, and he couldn't start until August that year.

Since then, he's been a regular.

"I try to come almost every week," he said. "I try to make it a priority when I'm here in Madison. School can be hectic. Whatever morning I don't have classes, I try to make it to The Beacon."



'I hear a lot of resilience stories and about their ability to get through tough situations and hope for the future.'

Volunteers are a vital piece providing high-quality services to guests at The Beacon. They do laundry, monitor showers and the computer lab, help at the front desk, and serve food. Jimmy helped with COVID-19 testing when that was offered, but his main role has been breakfast duty. He says it's a very rewarding experience.

"I get to have a lot of inter-

action with the guests, which is a really great opportunity," he said. "I get to say 'hi' and greet them and check in to see how their day is."

On an average day, he serves about 60 breakfasts. The balance between connecting with guests and moving them through the line is important. He knows one guest who wants extra milk with cereal and an-

other who can't drink milk.

But the brief conversation is more than just food preferences.

"I hear a lot of resilience stories and about their ability to get through tough situations and hope for the future," Jimmy said.

Volunteering at The Beacon – combined with his college studies and previous experience helping at homeless shelters back home – is giving Jimmy a real-world view of social issues which need to be addressed. He understands that much of an individual's health and wellbeing can be worsened by homelessness – and he sees that homelessness can affect anyone.

"Being able to receive food that makes a meal more than just something so you're not hungry, but something you are excited for – the little things," he said. "Every little bit helps."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Beacon is in critical need of volunteers.

For more information, contact Dani Crutcher at dcrutcher@ccmadison.org or 608-826-8040.

Our Mission

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

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Seeing the good around us

Every day at Catholic Charities, I am reminded of the good in the world. That's why I love this organization.

When we feel like the world is purposely designed to bring us down, I see compassionate volunteers giving people food. When the only stories on TV news are about wars and political fighting, I see kindhearted people guiding a homeless father toward care. I see empathy in the eyes and words of the counselors who share the burdens of a child struggling at home or school.

Across southern Wisconsin, I see love, patience, kindness, gentleness.

And in you I see all this. And I see your generosity.

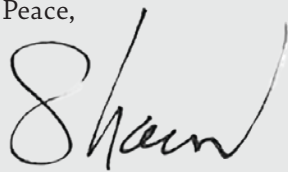
I invite you to read the stories in this issue of Faithfully Forward. In these pages you'll learn the impact your support has on community members who rely on our mobile food pantries. You'll get an inside look at the volunteer experience at The Beacon.

I'm especially privileged to point you toward a story featuring former Catholic Charities Executive Director Brian Cain and former board members Gerry Ring and Joe Tisserand. These gentlemen were pivotal in bringing Catholic Charities' vision for the All Saints Neighborhood to fruition, an enormous undertaking which began more than two decades ago.

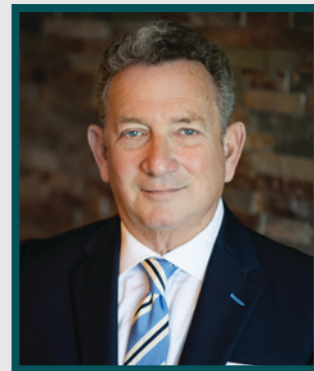
In addition, you'll find inside these pages our Annual Impact Report, showing the tremendous influence your support has had across southern Wisconsin over the past year.

As always, we could not do this strong work without your support. Thank you!

Peace,



Shawn Carney
Executive Director



'I couldn't have done it without you guys'

'B' was 18 years old when he came to 5 Door Recovery for treatment and help with his addiction. B was using opiates (heroin and fentanyl), cocaine, Xanax, and, from time to time, other substances like alcohol and marijuana. B had been through similar treatment facilities five times prior due to his substance use and attempts at committing suicide by overdose.

Upon coming to 5 Door Recovery, B was angry, but deep down he was able to realize this anger was fueled by pain. B began working through past trauma and addressing his struggle with depression



and suicidality. B developed trust with staff, which provided a safe environment for him to open up and become vulnerable, learning how to cope with his emotions while sober and no longer use drugs as a way to numb his emotions. B developed healthy boundaries and secure

attachments with staff and his peers, applying these skills into his life outside of treatment.

"I know I gotta help myself and save myself, but the thing is all of you saved me," B said. "I didn't know it was possible. I was really down bad and had nobody. All of you brought back that loving, caring feeling I haven't felt in a long time, and when people would try to show it to me, I would push them away. But you and the others wouldn't let up and I appreciate that. I really do."

See **5 DOOR**, Page 7 ►

Catholic Charities sponsors new SVdP 'Essentials Pantry' in Monroe

St. Vincent de Paul of Monroe held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their Personal Essentials Pantry on June 3, which provides “hygiene items necessary for healthy living” to Green County residents in need of assistance.

Fr. Tafadzwa Kushamba of St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Parish joined the event and blessed the pantry.

The Personal Essential Pantry is located at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, 501 1st Ave., Monroe, and is open on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 8-10 a.m. and 3-4:30 p.m. The pantry is sponsored by Catholic Charities of Madison; Pepartnership, Inc.; Knights of Columbus; Alliant Energy Foundation; and Colony Brands Foundation.

An essentials pantry operates in the same way a community food bank does, except it distributes items considered necessary for healthy living, including personal care and household items such as facial tissue, bar soap, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, razors, household cleaners, dish soap, laundry detergent and paper towels.

For more information, visit <https://st-vincentmonroe.org/essentials-pantry/>.



The new “Personal Essentials Pantry” at St. Vincent de Paul of Monroe provides personal care and household care items for Green County residents. The pantry is sponsored in part by Catholic Charities of Madison.

Charity Golf Tournament Major Sponsors

Catholic Charities of Madison thanks all sponsors and participants who supported this year’s 26th Annual Charity Golf Tournament! The golf outing was held Monday, June 13 at the Blackhawk Country Club in Madison and raised more than \$76,000 to help support our mission.

If you would like to receive information about next year’s Charity Golf Tournament, please email James Debilzen at jdebilzen@ccmadison.org.

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2021 Annual Impact Report

19,660
Clients Served

20
Programs

11
Counties

929
Volunteers

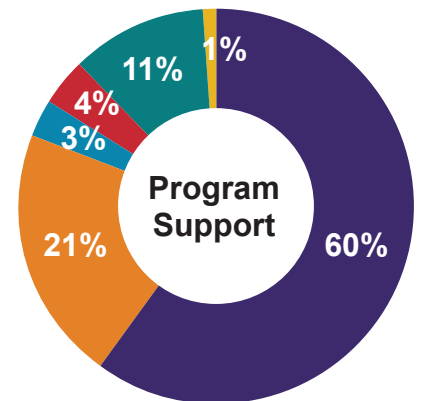
25,687
Volunteer Hours

Catholic Charities, Inc. Combined Statement of Activities

For the Year Ending December 31, 2021

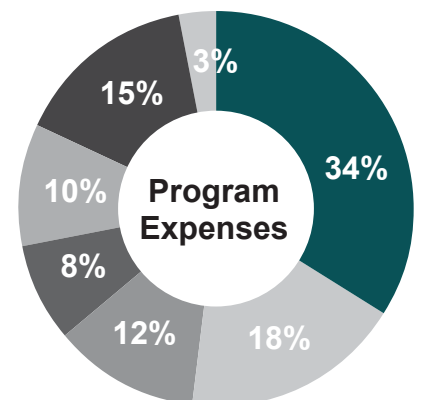
PROGRAM SUPPORT

Purchase of Service Contracts	\$ 8,255,927	60%
Program Service Fees	2,913,988	21%
Diocese of Madison	440,400	3%
United Way	478,404	4%
Donations and Pledges	1,579,550	11%
All Other Sources of Funds	169,327	1%
Total Program Support	\$ 13,837,596	100%



PROGRAM EXPENSES

Services for Developmental Disabilities	\$ 4,706,923	34%
Services for Families and Children	2,529,506	18%
Services for Homelessness	1,619,681	12%
Services for Seniors	1,044,300	8%
Services for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse	1,434,987	10%
Management and Administration	2,062,712	15%
Development and Marketing	464,350	3%
Total Expenses	\$ 13,862,489	100%
Net Program Operations	\$ (24,893)	



Investment Earnings	\$ 959,226
Gain on Extinguishment of Debt	2,289,018
Operations of Subsidiary Corporations	1,752,507



Volunteers work together to distribute food to a line of awaiting cars in the parking lot at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fort Atkinson. The Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry comes to Fort Atkinson on the second Thursday of each month.

Food pantries help fuel rural areas

Since 2005, the Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry program has been helping residents in rural areas stretch their grocery budgets a bit further by providing produce, meat and other necessities each month at parishes throughout the Diocese of Madison.

The mobile food pantry program is intended to serve rural areas which do not have access to larger food pantry options typically available in more metropolitan areas. It's a collaborative effort between Catholic Charities, Catholic parishes and the Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin.

"Second Harvest has been absolutely phenomenal to work with," said Melissa Kelley, the food pantry coordinator for Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities purchases food directly from Second Harvest, which is delivered on pallets to parishes in 10 communities and one brick-and-mortar pantry in Cassville. Awaiting volunteers then rearrange boxes, prepare the food and assist residents who come to pick it up. Catholic Charities trains the volunteers and monitors and coordinates the delivery of food to each site.

In 2021, the mobile food pantry program served 6,747 residents with assis-



tance from 447 volunteers, who provided 6,729 hours of their time. There is no cost for participants, and all are welcome regardless of income level. Funding is provided through Catholic Charities' fundraising efforts, grants and the Jack DeLoss Taylor Trust.

The program currently has mobile pantry sites at:

- St. Joseph Parish, Fort Atkinson – Jefferson County
- St. Clare of Assisi Parish, Monroe – Green County

- St. John's Parish, Patch Grove – Grant County
- St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Portage – Columbia County
- St. Mary and St. Augustine Parishes, Platteville – Grant County
- Corpus Christi Parish, Boscobel – Grant County
- St. Anthony and Philip Parish, Highland – Iowa County
- Sacred Heart Parish, Reedsburg – Sauk County
- St. John Vianney Parish, Janesville – Rock County
- St. Faustina Parish, Pardeeville – Columbia County

Second Harvest maintains an up-to-date schedule of mobile food pantry locations on its website at <https://www.secondharvestmadison.org/mobile-pantry-schedule/>.

Catholic Charities' one brick-and-mortar location – the Six Rivers Food Pantry – is located at 222 W. Amelia St. in Cassville. The pantry is open Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 8-9:30 a.m.

Kelley said the mobile food pantry program needs more volunteers. For more information, call 608-826-8003.

All Saints Neighborhood legacy stands tall two decades later

In the 1990s, Brian Cain had a vision for a housing complex with a faithful flair for seniors on Madison's west side.

Cain was the leader of Catholic Charities of Madison at the time, and he envisioned a neighborhood with an "aging in place" philosophy offering different levels of care and independence in a Catholic setting in the shadow of what was then called the Bishop O'Connor Catholic Pastoral Center.

It's been two decades since ground was broken on the first phase of the All Saints Neighborhood retirement community. All Saints is a living legacy that will stand tall for years to come near the intersection of Watts Road and County Highway M.

Cain smiled as he retold the All Saints story over lunch with Shawn Carney, his latest successor at the helm of Catholic Charities, and former Catholic Charities board members Gerry Ring and Joe Tisserand, who were instrumental in getting the development off the ground.

"The project wouldn't have happened without these two guys," Cain said of Ring and Tisserand.

Catholic Charities of Madison began working on the development with Madison-based Horizon Development Group in 1996. The initial vision grew over time and took many twists and turns amid land swaps, a new bishop, deals won, and deals lost.

The first phase of the All Saints Neighborhood opened in 2004 with 144 senior apartments, 12 condo units and a cottage duplex. In 2008, a second phase added an assisted



ABOVE: From left are Gerry Ring, Brian Cain, Shawn Carney and Joe Tisserand.

RIGHT: All Saints Neighborhood is located near the intersection of Watts Road and County Highway M on Madison's west side.



living and memory care facility with 58 units.

The latest phase was a \$19 million addition completed in 2016, which added 48 apartments, 63 elderly care units, a 20,000-square-foot commons area, dining facilities, a wellness center, a new chapel, a greenhouse and 5,000 square feet of leasable retail space.

The All Saints Neighborhood project was the pinnacle of Cain's storied career at Catholic Charities. He took the lead of the organization in 1989 and grew Catholic Charities from an annual budget of \$1 million to \$18.5 million at the time of his retirement in 2012. The ripple effect of that growth remains today; in 2021, Catholic

Charities served nearly 20,000 people with the support of professional staff and more than 900 volunteers across 20 programs.

"Giving other people the opportunity to put their faith into action to help others is a cornerstone of Catholic Charities' mission," Cain said during the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the first phase, according to an Aug. 26, 2004 article in The Catholic Herald. "This project's incredibly challenging ... journey provided to all of us Catholics and non-Catholics

an opportunity to watch an amazing accomplishment of the power of faith and a small group of dedicated people who felt this was an idea that was just too good to let go."

All Saints Neighborhood is owned by Catholic Charities of Madison and operated by ElderSpan Management, LLC, a family business that develops high-quality senior residences and services. To learn more about All Saints Neighborhood, visit <https://www.allsaints-neighborhood.org/> or call 608-827-2772.



Care Team shares smiles on 102nd birthday

Well-wishers and members of the Care Team Ministry at Saint Dennis Parish in Madison helped celebrate Mary Vinje Wanless' 102nd birthday on May 27. Mary and her daughter, Sr. Patricia Mary Vinje, have been receiving Care Team visits for the last few years.

"The socializing is extremely good for her, and it gets her talking," Sr. Patricia said. "Some pray the rosary with her. It's very good for her to see the different people and it brings out the different parts of her, which is nice."

Care Team Ministry serves older adults throughout Dane County. Catholic Charities coordinates teams of volunteers at three Lutheran and 14 Catholic churches with support from the Oakwood Foundation. These teams offer an array of non-medical services to aging persons and their caregivers.

Sr. Patricia said volunteers will do exercises with her mother, share coffee and donuts and participate in other activities. They've brought dinner on Thanksgiving and run errands such as picking up groceries or prescriptions, especially during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To learn more about Care Team Ministry or to become a volunteer, visit catholiccharitiesofmadison.org/care-team-ministry/ or call 608-826-8003.



Pictured here from left to right are: Back Row – Bill Orosz, Cathy Fagen, Don Lawler, Pat Crowley; and Front Row – Nancy Onken, Mary Vinje Wanless and Sister Patricia Mary Vinje.

5 DOOR

Continued from Page 2 ►

B successfully completed his treatment, even staying an additional length of time on an extension to work on himself. B also worked on his history of avoiding and pushing his supports away, instead learning how to ask for help and how to receive that support from others, learning that he is worth that help.

B left treatment with the goal to be a volunteer at 5 Door Recovery once he hit his one year of sobriety. He maintained contact with 5 Door Recovery after his time in treatment, providing updates about what was going well within his recovery and seeking support at times when he would struggle.

"My mind is at peace," B said. "My battles are laid to rest. I got my demons by the throat. I'm not going to get over-

ly confident. I'm still scared this is a metaphor or whatever, but I look into my beasts' eyes and feel that fear and acknowledge that it is there. My setback was a one-two process. I found it, then took it. I kept finding stuff in the boxes I was going through but I got back up. If this was a year ago, I wouldn't have gotten back up. I would have fallen and reached out to my dealer. I know my strengths and my weaknesses and more will come over time."

B has continued to attend his outpatient groups, recently moving on to the next phase of that program. B has been staying involved with NA meetings and working with his outpatient counselor as well, aspects which we highly encourage clients to do once they leave treatment. B has been able to return to school and work towards obtaining his HSED as well.

B's story is not without struggle. He

had difficult times while in treatment and after completing treatment. B continued to put in the work during those difficult times and continues to seek support when he is unable to cope with life stressors.

"After my setbacks, I thought about myself, my self-care, the people that care and know I can do this," B said. "When I went into rehab, I was like a lost, abused puppy and was scared out of my mind and didn't trust no one. Y'all the reason I trust people, allow hugs, and y'all the reason I'm the person I am today. I couldn't have done it without you guys and plus me willing to fight this fight."

Recovery cannot be done alone, but it starts with someone willing to fight for a change within themselves. Recovery is not linear and will have its ups and downs; but even when life no longer seems worthwhile, there is help and there is hope.





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Legacy Giving

You can continue to help provide healing
and hope 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

Catholic Charities Madison EIN 39-0807067

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Why I support Catholic Charities

Since coming to Madison from Chicago in 2012, I have been honored to be an active participant in Catholic Charities activities. I have been blessed to continually see the impact of this organization on the people of southern Wisconsin.

Some people may know the Flesch name from the business my grandfather Gordon started. But the Catholic legacy that runs through my family's generations is an even deeper bond. One that calls us to serve every day. And I am so proud to serve the community as Vice Chair of Catholic Charities.



Patrick Flesch
Gordon Flesch Company, Inc.