You gave this woman the resources to thrive!

INSIDE
Outreach services restore community hope
A woman’s journey to independence amidst health battles
How Catholic Charities became an anchor in one woman’s life
“Now as you excel in every respect, in faith, discourse, knowledge, all earnestness, and in the love we have for you, may you excel in this gracious act also. I say this not by way of command, but to test the genuineness of your love by your concern for others.”
2 Corinthians 8: 7-8

Can you imagine not being able to put food on the table or purchase the most basic hygiene items, coupled with having to deal with an onslaught of medical bills after an unexpected cancer diagnosis? This was the daily reality for Cathie, whose inspiring story you’ll read in the following pages. While encountering the gravest of health issues, she was struggling to provide for herself and her family.

Through 2 Corinthians 8:7-8, Jesus calls us to measure our accomplishments not by our accolades, but by how we serve the vulnerable. When you take care of your neighbors in need, you are actively answering this call. When you give to the vulnerable, you are a living testament of the unconditional love of Jesus. Because of you, Cathie’s family was able to receive the care and nourishment they need to walk through their struggles.

We look forward to honoring this hope provided by your faithful generosity on our Annual Green Tie Celebration on July 29, 2023. Green symbolizes hope, refreshment, and new life, which is what people receive when they turn to Catholic Charities for help.

This mission is only possible because of you! Your support is crucial to the mission of Catholic Charities, and we need your help.

Anonymous donors have provided a Green Tie Donation Match, which means your gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to $130,000! No gift is too small to make a big impact on the life of someone in need. By hearing and answering this need, you create life-saving hope in the lives of those facing financial and emotional hardship throughout northern Kansas. To make a tax-deductible gift, complete and return the form on the back of this newsletter, or give securely online at ccnks.org/greentie.

Thank you for answering the call and being our partner in hope!
After an unexpected cancer diagnosis forced her to leave her job, Cathie and her husband were struggling to provide for themselves and their two sons. **Because of your life-saving generosity,** Cathie was able to receive essential food and hygiene items at Outreach Services each month. These items kept her family nourished amidst these health battles.

Every month, Catholic Charities outreach vans travel throughout the 31 counties of northern Kansas to deliver essential food and hygiene items to our rural neighbors in need who are encountering food insecurity.

One person who has been impacted by these outreach services is Cathie, a wife and mother from Beverly. Last year, Cathie’s life was turned upside down after a breast cancer diagnosis forced her to leave her job. To be closer to his wife, Cathie’s husband also changed jobs amidst her health battle, creating substantial income loss in her family. These economic constraints, along with the influx of medical bills, made it difficult for Cathie and her husband to provide for their family.

“Having an illness drains you mentally,” Cathie said. “You are constantly worrying about how you are going to pay your bills or even buy groceries. The expense of food and hygiene was a tremendous burden for our family.”

That’s when Cathie heard about Catholic Charities outreach services and started going each month to receive supplemental food and hygiene items for her family.

"If it wasn’t for Catholic Charities coming to our community we would not have been able to make ends meet or keep our boys fed. It lifted our burdens.”

-Cathie,
Outreach Services Recipient

“When you have cancer, it is really hard to get assistance,” Cathie said. “If it wasn’t for Catholic Charities coming to our community, we would not have been able to make ends meet or keep our boys fed. It lifted our burdens.”

Cathie expressed that before receiving items from outreach services, even the smallest things could dramatically increase her grocery bill.

“The littlest things like toilet paper, laundry soap, or even toothpaste—you don’t realize how much that can cost on your grocery bill,” Cathie said. “Without Catholic Charities, I wouldn’t have been able to buy these things. I don’t know what I would have done.”
Without the generosity of donors like you, Cathie’s family would not have had the nourishment and care they needed to live out their daily lives.

“Receiving items for daily living for my family helped tremendously,” Cathie said. “It took some of the weight off our shoulders during a time of trials and struggles. My family was treated with dignity and helpful hands.”

Cathie states that outreach services provide families like hers, who are living in rural communities, with access to critical support.

“We look forward to that van that comes one a month and gives us hope,” Cathie said.

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-Cathie, Outreach Services Recipient
When Mary Ann stepped through Catholic Charities doors for the first time in 2008, she had no idea that it would be a continued place of refuge for her family throughout the next 15 years.

Mary Ann, who resides in Manhattan, came to Catholic Charities for the first time after her family encountered financial difficulties that put them on the brink of homelessness.

“When I first came to Catholic Charities, my family was in a situation where we were staying at a homeless shelter. I went to Catholic Charities hoping they could help us find a place,” Mary Ann said. “They directed us, and within two days they helped us find a place to live and helped with the deposit. I was treated like a human being, like I was somebody. Without the resources and support of Catholic Charities, my family would probably have been homeless.”

In the proceeding years, Mary Ann’s family also received assistance for her grandson, who had severe health complications at his birth.

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-Mary Ann, Financial & Housing Assistance Recipient

“My grandson was born with one kidney,” Mary Ann said. “Jessica Sampson (director of family support services) made sure he had the things he needed to survive, such as food and his necessary electrolyte drinks.”

While Mary Ann was apprehensive about approaching Catholic Charities for help at first, she said that leap of faith led to her life’s greatest blessings.
“Catholic Charities means a lot to me,” Mary Ann said. “I think a lot of people do not ask for help because they are afraid that they will be judged. You are never judged at Catholic Charities.”

“Whatever I have needed help with, they have been there. And if for some reason they could not help me, they would find me assistance elsewhere.”

Along with being a wife, mother, and grandmother, Mary Ann is also a three-time cancer survivor, something she holds near to her heart. Her prolonged history with disease was brought up again upon her husband’s recent cancer diagnosis. Mary Ann says it was Catholic Charities who checked in on their family during this fraught time.

“When my husband was diagnosed with cancer, Catholic Charities stepped up and asked us if there was anything we needed,” Mary Ann said. “Just when I felt like I had nobody to turn to, there was Catholic Charities.”

**Because of the generosity of donors like YOU,** Mary Ann was able to receive the support she needed at these three critical times in her life. She expressed that Catholic Charities not only carried her through these adversities, but brought her closer to hope.

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“To me, hope means that you never give up,” Mary Ann said. “There have been times where I am so down and struggling. But when you have somebody that you can talk to and express how you feel and not be judged, it makes you feel good. Every time Catholic Charities has helped me, they make me feel like I count.”

Mary Ann wants the community to remember that Catholic Charities is a place that welcomes all people, regardless of their background, beliefs, or religious affiliations.

“Just because it’s called Catholic Charities, it does not mean you have to be Catholic to receive services,” Mary Ann said. “It is not a matter of what your religion is, it’s about what’s in your heart.”

With the Green Tie Celebration Fundraiser coming up on July 29, Mary Ann urges those who are able to give and support those throughout northern Kansas facing financial and emotional hardship.

“Everybody needs to support them because there may be a time in your life when you need somebody. Catholic Charities is there for you,” Mary Ann said. “We need these programs. We need people who care, and they care.”

To learn more about the Catholic Charities Financial and Housing Assistance Program, visit [ccnks.org/financial](http://ccnks.org/financial).
Theresa’s daily reality was drastically altered after a permanent nerve damage prevented her from safely operating her vehicle. Because of the generosity of donors like you, Theresa received the tools that bring her one step closer to being able to drive independently.

The value of spending time with family and loved ones is immeasurable. Being able to be near the ones we hold dear is a priceless gift. This sentiment certainly rings true for Theresa, a Salina resident, whose daily reality was drastically altered after a complicated back procedure resulted in her having permanent nerve damage. She also deals with frequent numbness in her hands and legs. These medical hindrances can make it difficult, and dangerous, for her to operate her vehicle.

There is currently no medical intervention that can cure Theresa’s nerve damage. However, modifications can be added to her vehicle that would allow her to safely control her steering wheel and driving pedals. Unfortunately, these driving modifications can be costly, and extensive testing is required to qualify to receive them.

Feeling overwhelmed by onslaught of expenses ahead, Theresa came to Catholic Charities for support, where she received the funding to pay for the qualification testing to obtain these necessary driving attachments. Kerr expressed that completing this crucial step brings her one step closer to being able to drive independently.

“Feeling overwhelmed by the expenses ahead, I came to Catholic Charities for support,” Kerr said. “They funded the qualification testing to install driving modifications that have made a world of difference.”

“When I got these attachments installed in my car, I will be able to go places again,” Theresa said. “I will be able to see my family and manage my life again.”

Completing this qualification testing was a milestone in Theresa’s life that would not have been possible without the generosity of donors like you!

“To have Catholic Charities be my first stop and to have received aid is overwhelming,” Kerr said. “It was a crack of sunlight through the clouds saying that things were going to get better.”

The road to 

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- Theresa, Disability Assistance Recipient
A small request
With increased postage costs, Catholic Charities is adapting and is counting on your support. To ensure you receive all the latest stories, news and updates in the most economical way, please send your name and email to Megan Spilker at mspiiker@ccnks.org.

As of a token of our appreciation, all donations received by July 14, 2023 will be recognized in the Green Tie Celebration event program! If you would prefer your gift remain anonymous, please indicate below.

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☐ I would like to learn more about leaving a gift to Catholic Charities in my will.

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☐$100 ☐$50 ☐$25 ☐Other_________
☐ I would like my donation to remain anonymous

To give by credit card or bank account:
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Thank You! Your Gift of Hope is Changing Lives!
Your gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. A receipt will be sent to you for your records. Questions? Contact 785-825-0208