



Catholic Charities  
Diocese of Paterson  
[www.CCPaterson.org](http://www.CCPaterson.org)

*Catholic Charities & the Knights of Columbus NJ Army Tank Pull was held on June 11th. Pictured is the women's veterans team and friends on the rope.*

# 2023 Summer Sunshine

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson E-Book

*Summer is a time for fun, family, and friendship. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson continues to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We thank the many who help during summer months and throughout the year. Read this as you travel or relax at home to learn more about what we do. May God bless you!*

**Read on to learn more about our vital programs and recent happenings from throughout our organization.**



# Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson

## Fast Facts

- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson has a rich history, which we honor each day. We were established in 1938 and have always met the varied social needs of our community. Straight and Narrow is the longest running nonprofit treatment facility in the United States, established in 1954 by Monsignor William Wall. The Department for Persons with Disabilities is one of the longest running provider agencies for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the United States, established in 1965 by Monsignor Jack Wehrlen.
- We are a Catholic organization and we are blessed to have the support of Bishop Kevin Sweeney and the Diocesan faithful. Catholic Social Teaching is at the core of all we do. Each of our agencies have Pastoral Care Programs that help the individuals who we serve grow spiritually. We help based on need, not creed, and assist thousands of diverse people of various religious backgrounds.
- Catholic Charities strives for excellence. Many of our programs are **COA** or **CARF** accredited.
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson is the largest Catholic Charities organization in New Jersey and one of the largest in the entire country, operating over 70 programs and assisting thousands of people each week. Though we primarily operate within the Diocese of Paterson (Morris, Sussex, and Passaic Counties) we also offer services in Hudson, Bergen, Union and Essex Counties. We are happy to partner with **Catholic Charities USA** to help where we can across our country and throughout our world.
- Out of nearly 41,000 New Jersey 501(c)(3) organizations, less than 0.3% operate at our size and scope. Our many programs allow us to assist entire families, offer a wide range of services, and support those in need with a variety of resources.

*Did you know? There are 167 Catholic Charities USA agencies providing help and creating hope throughout the country. We are top 15 in budget size, overall scope of services, and number of employees.*



Fr. Jack Wehrlen, the Department for Persons with Disabilities' founder, with one of the first individuals supported by DPD at Murray House in the early 1970's. Fr. Jack passed away a year ago, but his legacy lives on through the work of Catholic Charities.

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



## Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson

### Fast Facts continued

- Catholic Charities' three food pantries distribute over 1.25 million pounds of food annually. All of this food is donated by private donors, parishes, or through the **Community Foodbank of NJ**. Our food pantries are completely unfunded by any government programming. The amount of food we have given out at these pantries has increased each of the last 5 years, seeing a staggering escalation through COVID-19. During the summertime, our needs are the greatest with children home and not receiving school lunches.
- To assist needy young families, Catholic Charities helps over 5,000 children annually in preschool programs, child nutrition summer programs and after school activities.
- Catholic Charities receives over 30,000 hours of service annually from volunteers.
- Catholic Charities, Department for Persons with Disabilities, is the largest Catholic organization helping individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the nation, assisting over 360 people each day.
- Catholic Charities, Straight and Narrow, is the largest nonprofit drug and alcohol treatment center in the entire country, helping over 1,200 people in recovery each day. Straight and Narrow's clients come from all over the state, from all walks of life and all income groups. Young mothers are often able to live with their small children, thanks to the support of staff and volunteers from our Mommy and Me program.
- We do so much for so many and are grateful to our employees, volunteers, advocates, and benefactors, who make it all possible!

*Did you know? Catholic Charities has 3 agencies which make up our widespread ministry: Straight and Narrow, Catholic Family and Community Services, and the Department for Persons with Disabilities. Our agencies work collaboratively to provide a high level of support for those most in need.*



To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Straight and Narrow

## *Helping individuals with addictive disorders*

Straight & Narrow is one of the largest nonprofit drug and alcohol treatment centers in the entire country.

We provide adult long-term residential drug treatment for men and women, women with children, halfway house treatment for men, medication assisted and outpatient treatment services, detoxification services for men and women and specific programs for women of childbearing age, pregnant women, women with children, individuals referred from the criminal justice system, and those with co-occurring disorders. Straight & Narrow's community based services include permanent supportive housing for individuals with specialized medical conditions, Family Success Center, and a daycare center.

We look forward to a bright future, and thank the many who have supported us through this challenging time.

### **Services for those in recovery:**

- Men's Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- Women's Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- Mommy and Me Program
- Detox Hospital
- O'Connor Half Halfway House
- Adult Outpatient Treatment

- Monsignor Mark Giordani Center for Rehabilitation
- Doxy.me Remote Telemedicine

### **Additional Community Services:**

- Supportive Housing
- Childcare Centers
- Medical Daycare
- Family Success Center
- Pastoral Care and the Straight and Narrow Choir

### **Looking Forward:**

- Thank you to the Scillieri family for their continued support. In 2022, they hosted an inaugural Straight and Narrow Beefsteak Fundraiser. This event will be returning on September 22, 2023. To donate or learn more visit [www.ccpaterson.org/beefsteak](http://www.ccpaterson.org/beefsteak).
- The Monsignor Mark Giordani Rehabilitation Center is completed at Straight and Narrow. This center, made possible through a generous donation from the Moglia Family Foundation, in memory of Monsignor Mark Giordani, will make a difference in the lives of those in recovery for years to come.
- Our Wellness Center at the Giordani Center has been completed and we are excited to begin facilitating fitness and wellness classes in the coming months. We thank the O'Connor Family for their continued support of our important ministry.
- In August of 2019, we experienced a devastating fire at 410 Straight Street. We hope to break ground on a state of the art facility in Paterson in the coming months.



The Great Hall, at Straight and Narrow in Paterson.

*Did you know? Straight and Narrow actually sits at the intersection of Straight and Narrow streets in Paterson. Straight and Narrow was featured in a Ripley's Believe it or Not globally syndicated piece in the 1950's highlighting this unique and poetic placement.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)

# Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS)

## *Assisting more than ever before*

CFCS is a multi-social service agency located predominantly in the heart of Paterson, NJ with satellite locations in Dover and Franklin. CFCS lives its mission of serving the needy and vulnerable in our community by meeting some of the most basic human needs. CFCS often stands in the gap between government funding and our clients' hopelessness, hunger or homelessness.

### **Services:**

- Early Intervention Programs
- Early Learning Programs
- Child Nutrition Program
- Teen and Youth Services
- Legal Immigration Services
- Community and Emergency Support Programs
- Senior Activities Program
- Senior Adult Day Center
- Meals on Wheels
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Veteran Clothing Closets

### **Food Pantries and Clothing Closets:**

- Hope House, Morris County
- Father English Center, Passaic County
- Partnership for Social Services, Sussex County

### **Looking Forward:**

- As our food pantries continue to accommodate more people than ever before, we will continue to work tirelessly to accommodate all who come to our door. In the coming months, we will explore opportunities to enhance and expand our Fr. English Food Pantry in Paterson.
- In partnership with the New Jersey Knights of Columbus, we will be bringing back the New Jersey Army Tank Pull on June 9, 2024 to make a difference in the lives of Veterans in need.
- We will continue to explore innovative means to help those most in need, including through foundations. In the past several months, we have been awarded with funds to expand our Fix-It Program out of Hope House, aide in vaccination efforts for vulnerable populations, and provide art classes at our senior program in Paterson.



A shopper at our Fr. English Food Pantry in Paterson.

*Did you know? The Paterson Adult Day Center was the first and currently the only Social Senior Day Center in the entire city of Paterson, established over 45 years ago.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD)

## *Creating Hope for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities*

The Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD) believes that all life is sacred and every person is a gift from God. DPD helps individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in an environment where each person can live happily; work productively; experience acceptance; and be cherished and valued. Our dedicated staff and volunteers work to make the agency's mission a reality. The need for our services is tremendous. There are over 8,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in New Jersey waiting to get into residential programs like ours.



### Services:

- Group Homes
- Supervised Apartments
- Gruenert Center, Adult Day Habilitation Program
- Gruenert Center, Special Needs Program
- Case Management Services (Support Coordination, Sussex County)
- Recreational Opportunities
- Saturdays at the Center Recreation and Learning Program
- Religious Education
- Pastoral Care

### Looking Forward:

- Recently, the Somerset Hills Community Health Foundation provided Catholic Charities, Department for Persons with Disabilities with a grant to implement the Healthy Food, Healthy Lives program at the Department for Persons with Disabilities. This program will improve the health outcomes of up to 130 adults each year who have intellectual or developmental disabilities.
- The Murray House Dinner Dance returned to a live format in February of 2023. This Event will be back again for its 54th year on Sunday, February 18th, 2024 once again at the Brownstone.
- We are grateful to our Direct Service Professionals who enable us to provide help and create hope for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. September is DSP appreciation month and you can learn more at [www.ccpaterson.org/dsp](http://www.ccpaterson.org/dsp).



*Did you know? a. Murray House is a split level style group home in Clifton, NJ. Named in memory of Jimmie Murray, it is the longest running group home for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the state of New Jersey. Multiple generations of Murray Family members have supported us in various capacities throughout the last 50 years. Today, Jimmie's brother Dennis serves as our Board Vice President.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



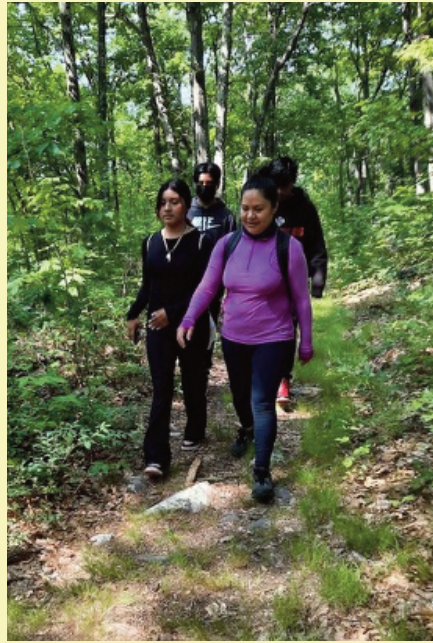
# Taking a Hike for Youth

## *A day of fun, nature, and impact!*

We would like to sincerely thank Mike Gruber, founder and director of Take-A-Hike, for recently leading our youth programs, volunteers and staff on an inspiring 3 hour hike. In addition to leading the hike and teaching our students, Mike coordinated transportation and lunch for all. It was a beautiful day!

Take a Hike's mission is to provide safe and fun outdoor hiking club for kids. They bring children (ages 8-17) who would otherwise not be able to explore the outdoors and get them out on the trails.

This was a welcome excursion for our students from Passaic and Paterson. God bless Mike and Take-a-Hike!



*Did you know? The Director of our Youth Risk Reduction Programs is Delia Rosario. In late May, Delia was recognized as a Paterson Alliance 2023 Extra Mile Honoree. Delia has devoted her life to helping others and has transformed our youth programs to assist thousands of people in Paterson and beyond. She is pictured here with Executive Director Joe Murray and Director of Pastoral Care, Sister Maureen Sullivan.*



To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Honoring Those Who've Served

*The Tank Pull and Other Events proudly honored and recognized veterans.*

In collaboration with the NJ Knights of Columbus, the 13th Annual Army Tank Pull was held on June 11th in Clifton to benefit veterans in need. We are grateful to the (Tank Pull record) 48 teams who participate and the many who supported this incredible endeavor!

Other endeavors included the 1st Annual Women Veterans Appreciation Event, held on June 13<sup>th</sup>, Military Appreciation Month Luncheon at the William J. Mulligan VFW Post 281, and the Mountain Lakes Veteran Housing Project Groundbreaking Ceremony



AOH Division 16 Team in front of the tank



The first ever Women Veterans Appreciation Day dinner



Recognizing our heroes at the Military Appreciation Month Luncheon in May



Members of our Veterans Team at the Mountain Lakes Veteran Housing Groundbreaking ceremony

*Did you know? Since its inception, the NJ Army Tank Pull has raised over \$1.7 million dollars for veterans in need. We were proud to partner with event founders John Hughes and Ray Lil and the NJ State Knights of Columbus on this event in 2023 and are looking forward to the years ahead!*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# 49th Annual Wiegand Farm Golf Classic

*Welcoming hundreds of golfers, volunteers and distinguished guests*

This remarkable event, held on Monday, June 19th, brought together golf enthusiasts, kind-hearted individuals, and generous souls for a day filled with joy and compassion. We were immensely proud to welcome a gathering of 400 golfers to Crystal Springs Resort, where the sun shone brightly and the spirit of giving flourished. It was truly a day to remember—one that showcased the power of unity and the impact we can make together. We are immensely grateful to each and every one of you for being an integral part of this ministry. Your unwavering support, whether as sponsors, guests of honor from the Department for Persons with Disabilities, golfers, or members of our dedicated golf committee, has helped make this event a resounding success. As we reflect on this memorable occasion, we eagerly anticipate the future. Please mark your calendars and save the date for our upcoming 50th Annual Wiegand Farm Golf Classic, to be held on June 17th, 2024, once again at the beautiful Crystal Springs Resort.



Scenes from the 49th Annual Wiegand Farm Golf Classic, a day of fun, celebration and impact!

*Did you know? Our Wiegand Farm Golf Classic was founded by Jack Kelly in 1975. Mr. Kelly passed away in 2021 but his legacy lives on. The first outing was played at Bowling Gren Golf Club and welcomed 29 golfers.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Catholic Charities Food Pantries Persevere Through Summer Months

*Fr. English, Hope House, and Partnership for Social Services continue to create hope*

Our 3 food pantries (Hope House, Dover; Fr. English, Paterson; and Partnership for Social Services, Franklin) are helping more people than ever before in our history. Prior to COVID-19 these pantries helped up to 5,000 people each month. Now, they assist over 20,000 children, women and men monthly. Our food pantries are completely funded through charitable donations.

The summer is a challenging time for our food pantries, with children home from school and donors on vacation. Thankfully, there are generous supporters who are there to help. We collected over 15,000 pounds of food through the Corpus Christi Food Drive. This will support thousands of individuals through the summer months.



Catholic Charities' Food Pantry staff Carlos Roldan (left) and Victor Calderon at the Father English Food Pantry in Paterson. They are pictured unloading a generous shipment of donated food from St. Mary's Parish in Passaic.



Peyton Triano, youth volunteer on her way to the Fr. English Food Pantry. Peyton is now a rising sophomore in high school, and has committed to a pre-med path to becoming a surgeon one day. Her desire to help the children of the community center has increased and she now sees the need for medical supplies as well as food for them. She has taken up a collection along with her purchases of medical supplies for kids for her to bring to the food pantry the end of the summer. Nice job Peyton!



One of the thousands of shoppers get checked in outside of our Fr. English Food Pantry.



Join us in recognizing Carlos Roldan, our Director of Food Pantries, on his 30-year work anniversary, this summer! Carlos has been a beloved staple at our father English Food Pantry, making a lasting impact on staff, volunteers, and those we serve.

*Did you know? The Fr. English Food Pantry was dedicated in memory of Fr. Francis English on February 11, 1976. The pantry began out of a closet, helping 5-10 people each week.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Catholic Heart Workcamp Makes a Difference

*Teens from all over the country spent their summer vacations at Catholic Charities*

We are incredibly grateful for the outstanding group of young volunteers from Catholic HEART Workcamp who joined us on a meaningful mission!

These dedicated CHWC volunteers provided invaluable support to thousands of individuals within Catholic Charities, including food pantry shoppers, the children of our youth programs, the elderly, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and families in need. Their unwavering goodwill and remarkable teamwork were truly commendable. These youth volunteers came from all across the country and covered their own expenses to be part of our ministry.

May God bless Catholic Heart Workcamp and all those who generously give their talents and treasure to make a positive difference in our community!



Volunteers from throughout the country visited a multitude of Catholic Charities' programs including our DPD group homes, food pantries, and Straight and Narrow's Family Success Center.

*Did you know? Catholic Heart Workcamp started in 1993 in Orlando, FL with 1 camp and has grown to over 50 locations around the world.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Around the Diocese

## *Catholic Charities is blessed to be a vibrant part of the Diocese of Paterson*

The Diocese of Paterson includes 22 Catholic Schools, our 70 Catholic Charities programs, and various ministries in the three counties of Passaic, Morris, and Sussex in northern New Jersey. Led by our Shepherd, Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney, it has been a fruitful summer for the Diocese of Paterson!



Bishop Sweeney with a group of young people throughout the Diocese of Paterson in Portugal for World Youth Day.



Catholic Charities Development Director, Chris Brancato was recently on Bishop Sweeney's podcast, Beyond the Beacon with Jai Agnish.



Congratulations to the 10 permanent deacons were recently ordained to serve the diocese including Straight and Narrow volunteer, Deacon Eric Kispert.

*Did you know? The diocese counts some 430,000 Catholics in a rich tapestry of 109 parishes where Mass is offered in 14 different languages.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Catholic Charities USA

*Providing help and creating hope throughout the country*



In June, the CCUSA Board of Directors, staff, and Catholic Charities Paterson CEO, Scott Milliken gathered to honor Sister Donna Markham OP, PhD and to recognize her service to the Catholic Charities network during her remarkable nine-year tenure as CCUSA president and CEO. Sister Donna, thank you for your leadership!

*Did you know? Catholic Charities across our country helps over 10 million people annually regardless of religious, social, or economic backgrounds.*



Catholic Charities USA recently announced that Kerry Alys Robinson, a renowned expert in Catholic leadership and philanthropy, will serve as its next president and CEO. We are looking forward to welcoming her to Paterson!



We were proud to welcome Jane Stenson, Vice President of food and nutrition and poverty reduction strategies and Julieta Machado, Vice President of Social Enterprise and Workforce Development from the Catholic Charities USA main office. We had the privilege of visiting each of our food pantries, across the 3 counties we serve. We are blessed to be a vibrant part of Catholic Charities USA and for their continued support, leadership and advocacy!

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Fun in the Sun at DPD

*Individuals from the Department for Persons with Disabilities are having a blast this summer!*

COVID-19 had the residents of DPD sheltering in place for quite some time, but all are happy to be back, fully engaged and involved in their communities again!



Please join us in wishing Mindy, from DPD, Calabrese House a happy 60th birthday! Mindy celebrated with her housemates in July. For over 30 years, Mindy has brought the DPD family much joy. God bless her!



Kelly and Mary from Wehrlehn House recently had an incredible day trip to Jenkinson's Aquarium and Boardwalk. They had a wonderful time celebrating Kelly's birthday, which falls on July 14th



Kaleigh and Carol are pictured with beautiful artwork they created with the help of staff Maybeth. God bless America!



Congratulations to Katelynn Peterson and Maria Elmers, 2023 Jefferson Township High School graduates and the recipients of the annual Department for Persons with Disabilities scholarship! JTHS neighbors the DPD main office and 3 group homes and the community has always been an incredible supporter of our ministry. The scholarship is given to two graduating seniors who have exhibited kindness towards those who happen to have intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Individuals from Gruenert Center recently had a great time at the Green 973 Sparta Golf Simulator. Fore!

*Did you know? DPD supports over 350 individuals who happen to have intellectual and developmental disabilities each day.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# Knights of Columbus Service continues through the Summer

*God bless the Knights of Columbus for their continued support*

We are extremely thankful for the unwavering support we receive from the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus are the largest Catholic men's fraternal service organization in the entire world. Knights of Columbus councils from throughout the Paterson Diocese and beyond have valiantly supported all aspects of our organization since our inception over 80 years ago!



A heartfelt thank you to the Mount Arlington Knights of Columbus for their unwavering support! We're immensely grateful for the 20 years of annual summer tradition they've created by organizing a delicious barbecue at Wiegand Farms for all our Department for Persons with Disabilities residents and working staff. Here are some Knights and their wives with individuals from DPD, Murray House.



Brother Knights from Council #12649, Stockholm at our DPD memorial garden in Oak Ridge, presenting a check to DPD Executive Director, Joanna Miller. Annually, Knights of Columbus from throughout the country participate in Disability Drives to raise funds for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



God bless the St. Therese Knights of Columbus, #6320! Under the leadership of Grand Knight, Mike Spiecker, they recently held a food drive for our Fr. English Food Pantry. The drive helped bring in nearly 900lbs of food for individuals who are food insecure. They also made a generous monetary contribution and donated eyeglasses to Straight and Narrow.



Knights of Columbus New Jersey State Secretary, Jim Sweeney is pictured here with dedicated Knight and Catholic Charities' Board Member Mike Calabrese. Brother Jim was honored at our 2023 Knight of Columbus of the Year at our Wiegand Farm Golf Classic. Over the past several months, Brother Mike has helped raise needed funds and goods for our food pantries with the Knights of Columbus for a reusable bag campaign.

*Did you know? Globally, there are more than 1.7 million Knights of Columbus members in 14,000 councils, with nearly 200 councils on college campuses.*

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)



# How you can help

*Through the summer and beyond*

## Volunteer

Volunteer your time and make a lasting impact. We have dozens of volunteer opportunities throughout Morris, Sussex and Passaic County. Volunteer individually, with a group, for the day or weekly. We even have a Pet Therapy program to bring your furry friend to spread joy!

## Donate

Make a onetime donation for all of Catholic Charities or for any of our individual programs, donate in memory of a loved one, donate your car, host an event, donate food or clothing, or support one of our many fundraising events throughout the year. A small act of kindness will go a long way!

## Career Opportunities

Join the Catholic Charities, Department for Persons with Disabilities Family! Full-time, part-time, and substitute opportunities available throughout 3 counties.

*Did you know? You may make a restricted gift for any of our 3 agencies or multitude of programs; or make a general donation to support all of Catholic Charities. We help newborns to centerarians and your kindness will make a difference in the lives of many!*

Call (973) 737-2077 or email [info@ccpaterson.org](mailto:info@ccpaterson.org) to give, get help, or learn more about our important ministry!

*Follow us on Social Media*



Sean from the Department for Persons with Disabilities, Basile Apartments and all of the individuals we serve are thankful for your support and kindness during the summer and throughout the year. God bless you!

To donate or learn more visit:  
[www.ccpaterson.org](http://www.ccpaterson.org)