

# **PROVIDING HELP.** CREATING HOPE.

SINCE 1984 CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH HAS BEEN SERVING THE PALM BEACHES AND TREASURE COAST WITH LOCAL LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR PEOPLE IN NEED IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE OR RELIGION. CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH, INC. providing belp • creating bope



## **MODERN DAY SLAVERY IS HAPPENING HERE**

HELP • HOPE

- This crime deprives millions of men, women and children of their dignity and freedom
- Florida ranks third in the country for human trafficking and second for labor trafficking



#### MEET ANNA

Anna is one victim, and this is her story - a story of horror, healing, and hope.

In a town not far from where you are right now, a young woman named Anna was ripped out of her everyday life to find herself in an underground world shrouded in darkness. She had fallen prey to human trafficking, trapped in a nightmare she thought would never end until one fateful day.

Her ordeal began when she was just an average teenager, lured away from her



provided her with a sense of security she had not felt in years.

Anna began the slow process of healing, with ongoing wrap-around services support from our internal compassionate team and external partners she found the strength to eat and talk again. Counselors at Catholic Charities helped her come to terms with her past and provided her with the emotional support and tools she needed to rebuild her life and find employment.

This empowerment program gave her the strength to reunite with her family and helped to bring her traffickers to justice.

It has been 2 years since Anna came to us and today, she is an advocate for survivors, sharing her story to raise awareness about human trafficking. Her mental scars are still healing, and although we arranged for her tattoos to be removed the scars of modern-day slavery will last her lifetime.

home by the false promise of a modeling career, only to find herself separated from everyone she knew and loved.

Her captors subjected her to unimaginable horrors, both physical and emotional, branding her mind and body and breaking her spirit day by day.

She was desperate to be free and one day she got the strength to find a way to reach out to the local sheriff's office and they contacted our Bakhita Anti-Human Trafficking team and that is when the healing began.

Our Bakhita Case Manager and local support team sprang into action. Working closely with law enforcement to ensure her well-being, they immediately secured a safe house, warm meal, clean clothes, medical assistance, and

Anna's journey from despair to a life filled with hope, love, and purpose is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and dedication of organizations like ours.

Not only has Anna been freed from the clutches of trafficking, but she has emerged as a symbol of resilience and hope, reminding us that even in the face of darkness, the human spirit can shine brightly once again.

(This photo and story is based on a recent client but name and some details have been changed to protect her identity.)

Serving the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast with Outreach Centers and Mobile Units located in:

Boca Raton • Boynton Beach • Fort Pierce Pahokee • Riviera Beach • Stuart Vero Beach • West Palm Beach





100 West 20th Street Riviera Beach, FL 33404 <u>561-775-9560 | www.ccdpb.org</u>

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### **PROVIDING HELP. CREATING HOPE.**

For more information regarding giving opportunities including bequests and legacy gifts or events contact the Development Offices at 561-360-3334 or visit www.ccdpb.org

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### **LEADERSHIP REFLECTION & APPRECIATION**

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

On behalf of Board of Directors, I am pleased to present this Annual Report of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Palm Beach. This report reflects an overview of the services and activities, as well as the successes and challenges, that occurred over the most recent program year.

In reviewing the year, I am impressed by the many individuals who have helped to shape this remarkable year. From our dedicated employees, who serve with such care, compassion, and professionalism, to the donors, volunteers, and prayerful friends, who give generously on our behalf; together, we faithfully serve those who are vulnerable and often forgotten. Whether it is an unborn child, a victim of human trafficking, a refugee from violence, or a lonely and weak elderly soul, we are privileged to make a difference in the lives of those who we serve. I remain humbled by the trust that they place in Catholic Charities.

It is my hope that as you review this report, you might prayerfully consider the ways in which you might join us in our efforts. With more than a dozen programs and ministries serving individuals and parishes across the Diocese of Palm Beach, the opportunities to make a difference are plentiful.

As we enter our 40th year of service, we do so with a sense of humility for the work we have done thus far. For we know that whatever we have accomplished is solely due to the blessings of God, and the faithfulness of people like you. With His, and your, continued help, we cannot fail to - Offer Help and Create Hope.



7Nilliam Shannon William Shannon Board President

#### Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you this year's Annual Report—a snapshot of the many achievements we realized during the 2022-2023 Program Year. Each and every day, the work we do is a tangible example of Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beach's commitment to serve those least among us; to be the face of Jesus Christ to those in need.

As I reflect on the year, I can't help but be inspired by the many individuals who were part of our story. The individuals and families we served persevered in the face of challenges-big and small-and trusted us with their fears and dreams.

Our employees and volunteers time and time again extended a hand of welcome and support, approaching each other and those we serve in a manner that respected the dignity and the worth of each person we encountered.

Our Board of Directors and committee members who offered guidance and support are true champions of our efforts.

We can't do it without the many donors, funders and community partners who contributed resources and encouraged our efforts to meet our mission.

Individually, we are each essential to the success of this organization and collectively, we are a force to be reckoned with!

Feed the hungry. Shelter the homeless. Visit the infirmed, the lonely and the imprisoned. Protect the vulnerable. Welcome the stranger. These calls to action are more than just benchmarks that we share with you in this annual report. They are our legacy and in so many ways are our privilege.

As we begin our 40th year, we reaffirm our commitment to provide help and create hope and truly make a difference throughout the Diocese of Palm Beach.

Our work is never ending, and our strength lies in you and **Together we make a difference!** 

Our Birthline/Lifeline program **assisted** over 300 families in the new Ft. Pierce location!



Ellen T. Wayne Ellen T. Wayne, Ed. D. CEO-Executive Director

#### FINANCIALS 2022-2023

TOTAL

REVENUE

\$7,918,629

Other 1%



93 local victims of human trafficking were aided toward achieving self-sufficiency and safety

#### **BIRTHLINE/LIFELINE**

2,614 women and families provided with pregnancy support services at our 3 centers

#### **COUNSELING MENTAL HEALTH CARE**

233 clients received more than 1,900 hours of therapy sessions helping them achieve mental health stability and wellness

#### **ELDER AFFAIRS**

43 local elderly residents received guardian support services protecting them from exploitation and abuse

#### HUNGER, HOMELESS AND OUTREACH

402 disbursements were made to assist 239 unduplicated families with rent/mortgage/utilities/emergency housing to prevent homelessness, resulting in \$480,076 in assistance

#### **IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES**

829 new cases opened with 392 legal victories resulting in citizenship obtained





Program Fees 6%

In-Kind 11%

Fundraising Events 11%

Diocesan Support 19%



green cards authorized or work visas granted

#### **INTERFAITH HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

12 active nurses and more than 67 parishes and faith communities received support through health-related screenings, encounters and interactions

#### PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

70 ambassadors, representing 50 of our diocesan parishes/schools, actively assisting to reach the most vulnerable in our communities.

#### **PRISON MINISTRY**

Thousands of volunteer hours were dedicated to ministering to adult and juvenile inmates in 18 facilities and 15 seminarians were trained in prison ministry

#### **REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT**

104 local refugees received assistance to overcome barriers and become economically self-sufficient through employment

#### **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

Coordinated the participation of over **50** volunteers including local students to advocate at Catholic Days at the Capitol

#### SAMARITAN CENTER

22 families provided with transitional, safe housing and the necessary tools and training to achieve self-sufficiency. (6-9 months on average)

#### WOMEN'S PREGNANCY SOLUTIONS

254 abortion-minded women received pregnancy tests, sonograms and counseling sessions essential to changing hearts resulting in choosing life