

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES CASE STATEMENT

As one of the largest comprehensive health and human services organizations in the region, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland carries out Christ's healing mission here in Northeast Ohio. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland delivers more than 150 services at 60 locations to nearly 400,000 people each year – providing help and creating hope for people of every race and religion in each of the eight counties in the Diocese.

**Family and Community Services:** Whether the need is a loving home for foster care or help with substance abuse, Catholic Charities provides an integrated system of services to children and families, including early learning centers and Head Start programs with Early Childhood Educated Staff, parenting classes, job placement training and mental health counseling.

**Persons with Disabilities:** Catholic Charities provides services to children and adults with disabilities, enabling them to live to their fullest potential. Social and recreational activities, such as summer and day camp and monthly dances, provide opportunities for enrichment. Life skills training and in-home personal care help meet the challenges and triumphs of living independently.

**Emergency and Specialized Services:** Whether they are the working poor or unemployed and homeless, the number of people with emergency and transitional needs continue to grow. Grounded in Catholic social teaching, Catholic Charities is motivated to assist those with the most basic needs of food and shelter, but strives to help move people beyond permanent crisis. Additional services include job readiness training, mental health counseling, assisting refugees, and substance abuse support groups.

**Elderly and Chronically Ill:** Catholic Charities works with seniors to ensure they maintain their dignity of life with attention to emotional, social and spiritual needs. Catholic Charities offers a range of living options – from independent living to skilled nursing care, home visits, meal delivery, transportation services and adult day activities. Catholic Charities' hospice service extends its quality of care, compassion and support for those who enter life's final journey.

**Treatment, Prevention, and Recovery Services:** Catholic Charities provides a comprehensive system of services designed specifically for the mental health and chemical dependency needs of children, youth and adults. Many services are offered by bilingual, bi-cultural staff to specifically serve the Hispanic community. Programs are offered at multiple locations in our diocese.

**Parish Outreach:** The office works in partnership with parishes, community organizations, and other Diocesan offices to provide education, formation and training activities, and direct services to individuals and families, including youth and young adults, older adults, persons with disabilities, poor and vulnerable populations. The Office for Human Life and Dignity is also housed under this office.

**Social Justice:** The Diocesan Social Action Office (DSAO) was formed in 1989 to serve as the administrative/ management arm of the five Catholic Commissions of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. The DSAO ensures that actions taken are consistent with the priorities of the Bishop of Cleveland, Catholic Charities, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Conference of Ohio and Catholic Charities USA.