OUR PLACE
Learning that Cooking Matters

Grants
Help to Move Lives Forward

The OUR PLACE program and the New Hampshire Food Bank are collaborating on a six-week Cooking Matters course for our clients, teaching them skills like smart shopping practices for families on a budget, and how to select healthier options.

The classes also demonstrate that eating at home is healthier than eating out, is more affordable and that planning ahead with your meals also saves money.
For 70 years, your gifts have provided hope, opportunities and contributed to communities through outreach, parenting education and advocacy for refugees. You understand that to be impactful requires more than one solution.

Crafting personalized Life Plan provides a holistic approach to the multi-faceted issues of poverty and creates greater efficiency.

You are also supporting the development of our Basic Financial Fitness program. This program teaches clients the essential skills for better budgeting: managing expenses, comparative shopping, goal setting and more. Ultimately, the program will be available in all of our social service programs, such as Parish & Community Services and OUR PLACE.

With the addition of Life Plans and the Basic Financial Fitness program, your gift makes an impact by addressing the long-term issues facing our clients.
Beth’s parents were in need of assistance. They were in their 80’s, on a very small income, living in an old, vine-ridden farmhouse. The home was badly in need of maintenance, but her parents did not have the means to address it. Beth reached out to Catholic Charities and asked that her parents’ maintenance projects be part of the Hand-in-Hand work camp project. Her parents were thrilled to “help young teens” by allowing them to work on their house. The volunteers scraped, sanded and painted, bringing the house back up to standard.

Catholic Charities’ Hand-in-Hand project is expanding this year to Laconia and the project needs volunteers to assist from June 21-26 in both the Laconia and Littleton areas.

Hand-in-Hand addresses the needs of seniors, deployed military families, persons with disabilities and low-income families. The project brings together volunteers, community leaders and those in need with a weeklong home maintenance/repair work camp. Volunteers in the project assist with tasks that can include: building handicap ramps, interior and exterior painting, porch and deck repair/replacement and yard maintenance.

Since 2012, the Hand-in-Hand project has assisted 28 families in the Littleton area and surrounding regions. This year, the Littleton office expects to work on 10-12 homes. The expansion to Laconia will increase the number of people we can help by another 10-12 homes.

“Hand-In-Hand is about more than just fixing broken homes. It is, perhaps, more importantly about mending broken hearts,” said Tony Poekert, Director of Parish & Community Services. “The lasting relationship that blossoms between the home owners...
Greetings

Although we are on the cusp of spring, the bitter chill of the passing winter is still with us. Daily, people are seeking assistance to deal with roof repairs, ice dams, flooding and more. Because of you, your neighbors have someone they can turn to during this troubling time.

Thanks to you, Catholic Charities continues to grow, introducing new initiatives that have real impact. This year, as we celebrate our 70th Anniversary, we are really celebrating you. You have moved lives forward, providing support and hope to families all across the state. You have given them the tools to get to that next step and I cannot thank you enough.

God Bless,
Tom Blonski