



In a world where you can be anything, be kind.  
-Jennifer Dukes Lee

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## **COVID Reality: Advocating to Preserve Housing and Prevent Evictions In New York**

Catholic Charities Community Services has a department called “Preserving Housing.” Well named, because that’s exactly what they do. But preserving housing just became more complicated. At the dawn of the Coronavirus, Governor Cuomo placed a pause on evictions. That pause went into effect and while it does not help people pay the rent they owe, it continues to protect tenants from evictions until June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

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## **12,000 Meals Distributed in Peekskill and Ossining**

In Peekskill and Ossining, Catholic Charities workers were distributing 500 bags of food at each location. That's possible not just because of the work of Catholic Charities but because of the cooperation between other food pantries, and volunteers. And if 1000 bags of food sounds like a lot, that's because it is – but it's only a small part of the 6 million meals per year that Catholic Charities and its partners and agencies distribute.

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## **The Overlooked Value of the Summer Youth Employment Program**

"I can remember when I applied for my first proper job. Maybe I never really had a good shot at the job I tried out for, but what I was told was the reason I didn't get the job was that I had no applicable work experience. Then I thought that thing that most of us have thought at least once in our lives, 'how am I supposed to get experience if I need experience to get experience'. SYEP is a great answer to that question."

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## **Washington Heights Pop-Up Pantry To Give Out 6K Meals**

Catholic Charities of New York hosted another pop-up food pantry in Washington Heights on Friday, June 26th, to help those that need food during the coronavirus pandemic. The organization which has given away more than half a million meals since the crisis began —will hand out 500 bags of food at Rose Lima Church on West 165th Street. The 500 bags of food are the equivalent to about 6,000 meals.

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## **Catholic Charities New York Virtually Rings NYSE Opening Bell**

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York virtually rings the New York Stock Exchange Opening Bell on June 22, 2020, honoring the organization's frontline workers. Roseline Colon, a Group Leader at La Plaza Beacon in Washington Heights, New York, was the NYSE's Honorary Opening Bell ringer. She is pictured on the background of the NYSE Bell Podium, distributing food to New Yorkers in need during the COVID-19 outbreak.

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## **Free Air Conditioners for Seniors**

The fight against the Coronavirus isn't over. With Summer starting it is necessary for New York City to protect its most vulnerable citizens. "Seniors who are low income are suffering right now," said Mayor Bill de Blasio in a recent city address. "We need to make sure they are protected against the heat ahead. The idea of GetCool NYC is to focus on those who are most vulnerable – make sure they are safe, make sure they're kept cool."

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