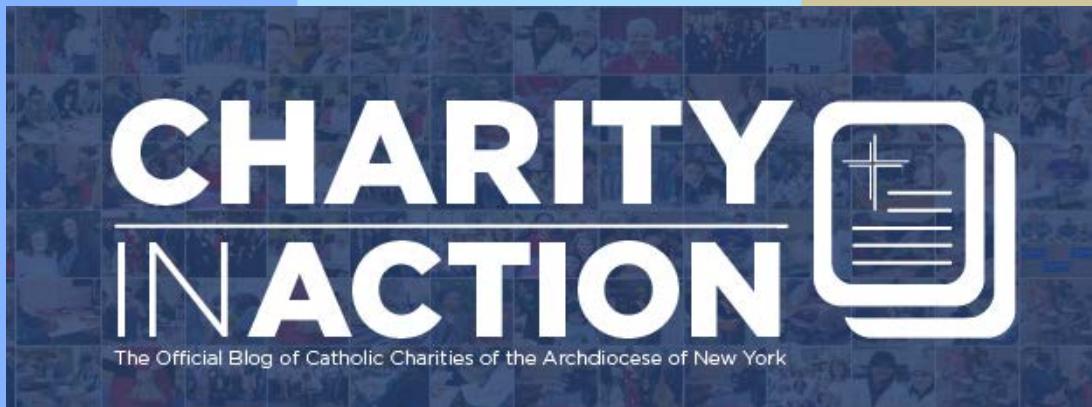


Charity In Action: Bi-weekly Roundup



Cardinal Dolan's Lenten Journey with Catholic Charities NY

His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, accompanied Catholic Charities Executive Director, Monsignor Kevin Sullivan on a Lenten journey in preparation for the celebration of Easter Sunday. The Cardinal visited five locations to highlight Catholic Charities' work to create hope and empower the forgotten, the marginalized, the sick, the weak, and the voiceless of New York City, Yonkers, Westchester, and the lower Hudson Valley.

Tuesday, April 30, 2019



\$5.6 Million Raised by New York Times in Neediest Cases: 14 Catholic Charities of New York Stories Featured

The 107th New York Times Neediest Cases campaign tells the stories of New Yorkers in desperate need. Many of the profiles feature an individual or a family who benefited from the Fund and illustrates the difference New Yorkers can make in the lives of others. Partnering with 8 organizations in New York, including Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York, the funds are distributed and the stories are shared. The campaign ran from November to January.

Alice Kenny of Catholic Charities New York oversees the New York Times' Neediest Cases for CCNY. She coordinates stories, interviews and works on the featured content with the paper's writers. She has this to say:

"Across the country and around the world, the generosity of Times readers to the Neediest Cases Fund always astounds us," said Eileen Murphy, president of the fund. "We are pleased that they gave not only to the fund, but were also motivated to help the people we profiled with additional support."

The Catholic Charities Blog, "Grand Finale: Served by Catholic Charities & Profiled by The New York Times," by Alice Kenny, discusses some of Catholic Charities cases. The stories of Jordan and the Fernandez family are featured in the New York Times piece, "Stories That Inspired Readers to Give \$5.6 Million."



Meet Jacqueline, a Single Mom Battling Addiction How She Turned Her Life Around

By Dean Scher, PhD, LCSW
CEO Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster

Jacqueline is a 50-year-old single mother of a young teenage boy. She is also a heroin addict who has received treatment services through the peer advocates at Catholic Charities.

As CEO of Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan & Ulster, and throughout a more than 45-year career working with people with substance use disorders, I have watched the tragic effects the current opioid crisis is having on our communities. It has become the leading cause of death for individuals under the age of 50! Nationally, more than 200 people a day die from a drug overdose.

A Place to Turn

Just like the crack and methamphetamine crises of previous decades, there are vulnerable members of our communities who suffer with the disease of addiction and look for a place to turn. I am proud that people like Jacqueline have been able to turn their lives around thanks to the work of Catholic Charities.



Catholic Charities Officially Opens St. Augustine Terrace Housing

With the ringing of a church bell and the sprinkling of holy water, the newest model for affordable housing in New York City -- St. Augustine Terrace -- opened to fanfare and prayer Monday afternoon. On hand were Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Catholic Charities of New York Executive Director, Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, and NYC's First Lady Chirlane McCray. Built on the site of the former St. Augustine Church in the Bronx, the environmentally friendly LEED certified building contains 112-affordable units for low-income families. Adults with emotional and physical needs occupy 35 of these units, where they will receive support services from Catholic Charities' Beacon of Hope program.

St. Augustine Terrace, which began accepting residents in November, is part of a larger initiative of the Archdiocese of New York and Catholic Charities of New York to upcycle underutilized church properties into affordable housing units throughout the city. In the next 10 years it is expected that 2,000 affordable units will be created. Locations under development include Second Farms in the Bronx, Christopher Court in the Bronx, Grand Street Guild in Manhattan, St. Phillip Neri in the Bronx, and St. Vincent de Paul Senior Center in the Bronx.

"Today, the Catholic Church of New York City is taking the lead in ensuring that low-income New Yorkers have access to well-built, well-maintained housing, along with the services to help those with the greatest needs," said Monsignor Sullivan, "Housing is a basic human right."

Rebekah, a resident of St. Augustine Terrace, had this to say, "Just knowing that when I'm at work and my daughter comes home from school that she will have some type of security around her, makes me feel 100% safer."

Stressing the importance of supporting those with emotional challenges, First Lady Chirlane McCray said that St. Augustine Terrace, "means stability and freedom that comes with living independently [while] surrounded by the support they need to stay healthy."

Currently Catholic Charities, a leader in the push for affordable housing, oversees 2,336 units in New York City and Yonkers. The dedication of St. Augustine Terrace also marks the launch of the new website, Catholic Homes New York, a partnership between Catholic Charities New York, the Archdiocese of New York, and the New York Institute for Human Development.



By Teresa A. Santiago, Catholic Charities NY Hispanic Community Consultant

Immigrants, Frightened and Sick, Line Up for Free Health Fair

Catholic Charities NY Teams Up to Save Lives

Recently I had the opportunity to participate on behalf of Catholic Charities in Fuertes Juntos, Salud es Vida, (Strong Together, Health is Life), a community health and information fair sponsored by UNIVISION Channel 41 at Hostos Community College in the Bronx. While sharing key social service information from organizations like Catholic Charities NY, the fair focused on two major health issues in the Latino community, diabetes and hypertension- high blood pressure. Moreover, it provided free health screenings for diabetes, hypertension, glaucoma and body mass density. Health care experts were on hand to answer and provide life-saving advice.

2,000 People Line Up

Because it was a beautiful, warm and sunny day, when I turned the corner onto Grand Concourse at 8AM to drive into the college parking lot, I wondered if many people would actually show up despite all the fair had to offer.

To my surprise the line to get into the fair, which started at 9AM, ran all the way around the corner from the entrance and three lines deep. Over 2000 people attended the Fair from throughout the tristate area.

Immigrants Fearful of Receiving Services

At Catholic Charities' table I received many questions on low-income and affordable housing and where to go to get food. Most questions, however, focused on where and when Catholic Charities offered clinics providing free immigration and legal advice.

I was struck by the clear uneasiness, almost fear, in the eyes of many of the people I spoke to. Some sent their young children to get immigration information from the table and shied away when I tried to speak to them. I can only imagine what they are feeling.

Our Catholic Charities information table was sandwiched between the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, New York Chapter who provided the medical personnel for many of the screening tables and the NYPD Explorers Program. This gave me a close-up view of the health emergencies about to unfold.

While screenings were going on at one part of the college, a standing-room-only seminar on diabetes was being conducted at the Hostos theatre. Celebrities and on-air personalities like Coco Cabrera, Rafael Bello, Karen Scott and Dr. Cesar Lozano participated. They covered everything from the symptoms of diabetes to options for treatment, healthy eating tips and recipes for quick and delicious dishes for the whole family and advice on how to stay motivated and on the road to a healthy life style.



On The Hill to Advance the Mission: Catholic Charities New York Meets Legislators

Last week, members of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York met in Washington, D.C. for the annual Catholic Charities USA's Spring Gathering, where leaders had the opportunity to discuss issues and meet with elected representatives and government leaders. Among those in attendance from New York were Catholic Charities Executive Director Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, Director of Governmental and Community Relations, Luz Tavarez, and Chief of Staff, Marion Boteju.

The meetings allowed Catholic Charities agencies to jointly advocate for the people they serve across the nation and back in their home areas who do not have direct access to lawmakers. The delegation urged congressional leaders for a humane immigration and refugee policies and met with congressional leaders on issues of poverty and housing. On hand, were representatives from the Department of Agriculture, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Health and Human Services (HHS).

Catholic Charities New York's Luz Tavarez adds that when we advocate, we are representing the needs of all those that we serve; the immigrant, the elderly, the homeless, the working parent and others. But just like Catholic Charities, there are thousands of other groups traveling to our nation's capital to educate elected and public officials on the real-life effects of their policies and positions. Charities like ours don't have large PAC's to support our public policy agendas, but we do have real life stories – and within those, there is one that each of those people we meet with can identify with. It is our duty to put a face on the story of each and every voiceless individual we represent and serve.



LENT, PROTECTING & NURTURING CHILDREN & YOUTH **Just Love's Good Friday and Easter Show**

April 19, 2019

On this week's episode of Just Love, Monsignor Kevin Sullivan talks about the Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center and about Good Friday.

Patricia Tursi is the Chief Executive Officer of Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center in Yonkers, New York. The center is a home for children and young people with medically complex conditions. Pat talks to Monsignor about what life is like for the young people at Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center as well as the situation of aging out after being 21 years old, and what solutions are being proposed to assist these young people who "age out" of care at the Pediatric Center.

Stephanie Gabaud is an 18-year-old resident of Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center in Yonkers. Stephanie shares a bit about her life at Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center, and how the Pediatric Center has become like a home to her.

Jonathan Fields is a Composer, the Director of Music at Regina Pacis Basilica in Brooklyn, and a member of the Communion and Liberation Movement here in New York City. In recognition of Holy Week, Jonathan talks about the two-thousand person strong 24th Annual Good Friday Way of the Cross over the Brooklyn Bridge which Communion and Liberation sponsors every year.



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Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York

1011 First Avenue, 11th Floor

New York, NY 10022

Toll Free Help Line (888) 744-7900

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