



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

PROVIDING HELP • CREATING HOPE • SERVING ALL

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“Helping others is at the heart of everything Catholic Charities does.”

- Julia Gonzales
Director of Catholic Charities' Guymon Office

CATHOLIC CHARITIES RESPONDS TO DISASTERS IN CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

Catholic Charities has answered the call for help following the devastating tornadoes that hit Carney, El Reno, Little Axe, Moore and Shawnee. From day one, disaster case managers and counseling staff have been providing help and hope to the affected.

Within days, disaster case managers and specialists began arriving from the Diocese of Joplin, La Cross, Indianapolis, Tulsa, Biloxi, Brownsville and Baton Rouge. Kim Burgo, Disaster Operations Sr. Director from Catholic Charities USA, arrived early to lend technical support from the national office.

Immediately after arriving, the 12 loaned staff began working alongside local workers, assessing the immediate needs of disaster victims arriving at the five MARC (Multi Agency Resource Center) sites and a distribution site set up in partnership with the Knights of Columbus and St. Vincent De Paul Society at All Saints Catholic School in Norman. Case workers to date have interviewed more than 2,500 households, assisting them with gift cards, housing deposits, crisis counseling, and personal and household items.

Catholic Charities plays an important role in the carefully orchestrated response: long-term case management. Case managers

work with the survivors to customize a long-term recovery plan (typically 18 to 24 months long). Assistance is given for immediate needs, counseling when necessary, and then Catholic Charities will travel with them on their journey to recovery.

At the All Saints Catholic School distribution site: “I’ve always been a giver,” said one client choking back tears. “I’ve never had

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Local Catholic Charities Disaster Relief staff members, Damon Britton and Ashley Moore, alongside Catholic Charities USA staff member Kim Burgo assessing damage in Moore.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES RESPONDS TO DISASTERS IN CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

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to ask someone for help. This is really hard for me." She and her husband found a lifetime of possessions gone when they arose from their storm cellar. She carefully chose each item--all donated by individuals, Avon and Feed the Children. As she left she said that when they were back on their feet, she was going to give back.

"We are thankful for the assistance of countless Catholic dioceses and various communities from across the country that have donated goods and sent monetary contributions to assist us," said Patrick Raglow. "With God's help and the generosity of others, we will get through this disaster and care for the needs of people affected by these terrible storms."



Patrick Raglow and Sonny Wilkinson of Catholic Charities visit with Shannon Statton, Principal of Sacred Heart School in El Reno, assuring her that aid is on its way.



Oklahoma City Thunder team member Nick Collison visits with families at Catholic Charities' Disaster Relief Distribution Site at All Saints Catholic School in Norman.



Local members of the Knights of Columbus help unload a carload of donations driven to Moore by a police officer from Minnesota.

BY THE NUMBERS: DISASTER RELIEF



329,74

Total amount of immediate aid Catholic Charities has distributed to those affected by the storms in Carney, El Reno, Little Axe, Moore and Shawnee.



47 & 6

Different states and countries from which donations for Catholic Charities' Disaster Relief Fund were received.



2,540

Individuals and families who have completed an intake form, the first step in receiving long-term recovery assistance from Catholic Charities.



35

Clients who have received in-place counseling as a result of the Moore tornado.

BE READY WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

Does your family have a plan in case of an emergency? It is important to have a detailed emergency plan that you review regularly with your family. Include basic information such as how you will contact each other and where you will go after a disaster. Keep this plan in multiple places, such as your emergency supply kit, on the fridge or with your emergency pair of tennis shoes under your bed. Visit catholiccharitiesok.org/disaster-relief for more emergency plan materials.

5 must-have items for your emergency kit

1. Water - One gallon per person
2. Food - A three-day supply
3. Battery-powered weather radio
4. Flashlight and extra batteries
5. First-aid kit

SPOTLIGHTING RURAL OUTREACH

Catholic Charities' offices in Clinton, Enid, Guymon and Lawton have been busy expanding services and visibility in their surrounding communities. On April 19, the Guymon office spotlighted resources available in the Panhandle as it hosted the Second Annual Community Service Fair at the Methodist Family Enrichment Center. The half-day event connected an estimated 125 people to services provided in their area.

"Helping others is at the heart of everything Catholic Charities does, which is why events like this are so important," said Julia Gonzales, Director of Catholic Charities' Guymon office. "By hosting this fair, we are connecting people with life-changing resources."

During the month of April, the Lawton office provided assistance to nearly 40 members of the armed forces and their families. The assistance provided ranged from counseling to emergency financial assistance, including helping pay the water bill of the mother of a soldier currently stationed abroad.

Beginning this summer, Catholic Charities will add bilingual counseling to current services in Clinton, Enid and Guymon. In addition, English language counseling will be expanded to Norman, Chickasha, Shawnee, Ada and Ponca City. Counseling in cities that currently don't have a Catholic Charities office will be offered twice monthly.

"By expanding the reach of St. Joseph's Counseling Center it allows us to provide Master-level licensed clinicians in a way that best supports our Oklahoma communities," said Monica Palmer, Catholic Charities Associate Director for Clinical Services. "We value the importance of supporting all the communities that fall under the care of Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City."



Catholic Charities staff and friends participate in the 2013 NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Walk.



Volunteers from St. Francis of Assisi Parish's Day of Caring lend a helping hand at the Sanctuary Women's Development Center.



Bill Condon, Chris Steele, Patrick Raglow, Tim and Peggy O'Connor, and Fr. Rex Arnold gather with Archbishop Paul Coakley after the Annual Meeting.



Patrick Raglow, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, was keynote speaker at the annual Nurses' Day Celebration.

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities:

In the last weeks of May, Central Oklahoma was pummeled by a series of storms that affected more than 20,000 homes and businesses. Yet the heart of Oklahoma stands strong, and Oklahomans of all faiths, supported by concerned people from across the United States and beyond, are joining together to help, heal, and build anew. Catholic Charities has been blessed by the abundant calls of support, impressive outpouring of donations, the literal company of Catholic Charities experts from our national office and our sister agencies across the country, and by your prayers. Your Catholic Charities has responded energetically to the needs of our community, in full partnership with the Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Yet despite the storm, our remaining service programs continued without missing a beat:

- Holy Family Home housed 11 women and nine children in the month of May.
- Sen. Tom Coburn's staff visited our Lawton Office and Villanova Apartments.
- We welcomed 22 new refugees, 5 secondary migrants and 2 refugee social services clients through our Refugee Resettlement Services program.
- The Sanctuary Women's Development Center had more than 700 visits from homeless women in May. 66 women are enrolled in case management at Sanctuary.
- Family HOPE served 80 lobby guests with rent/utility or other assistance; funding from the Inasmuch Foundation helped 6 families.
- St. Joseph's Counseling Services served more than 100 counseling clients in addition to 180 people assisted at a local school/parish experiencing the death of a dear pastor.

You can be proud of the service given by your Catholic Charities team in your name—I know that I am. We are blessed and privileged to represent you to those we serve.

In His Service,

Patrick J. Raglow,
Executive Director



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ADVOCATING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

Catholic Charities Representatives Meet with Elected Officials

Catholic Charities strives to ensure the needs of the poor are met and empowers all to do the same. During its annual Catholics Living Justice Day this past April, Catholic Charities invited Catholics from across the state to gather for a day of education and advocacy training on Catholic social teaching. Attendees listened to remarks from a myriad of individuals, including Archbishop Paul Coakley and Oklahoma House Speaker T.W. Shannon. Attendees were encouraged to connect with their elected officials at the state Capitol.

While in Washington D.C., Catholic Charities Executive Director Patrick Raglow visited with Rep. James Lankford of Oklahoma City as part of Catholic Charities USA's Day at the Legislature held annually.



Oklahoma Speaker of the House T.W. Shannon (R-Lawton) and Archbishop Paul Coakley visit at Catholics Living Justice Day.



Patrick Raglow and U.S. Representative James Lankford meet during Day at the Legislature in Washington D.C.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide help and hope to all through the Catholic tradition of service.

Catholic Charities offers services in Adoption (including adoption searches), Pregnancy Services, Family HOPE (case management), Refugee Resettlement, Immigration Legal Services, Counseling, Advocacy and Legal Services, Disaster Relief, Homeless Services including Sanctuary Women's Development Center and Holy Family Home, Educational Services, Faith Community Health Ministry and Parish Outreach.

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