

Providing solutions where everyone is welcome

Taking care of neighbors

Gabriela and her teenage daughter, Elisa, are everything to each other. They have suffered loss, separation from family and survived abuse. The weight of their trauma along with the natural challenges of teen years became more than they could manage on their own. The stress affected their relationship, Gabriela's work life and Elisa's success in school.

Living within walking distance of St. Mark Parish in Kenosha, their hope was renewed learning that inside the parish was a Catholic Charities office where they could access the help they needed. Gabriela and Elisa walk together to their weekly counseling appointment with our bilingual therapist, Guisselle, who provides compassion, understanding and support. She guides them on developing goals and skills to help them communicate their feelings. She helps Gabriela grow in empathy for her daughter, and she gives perspective for the anxiety and stress that Elisa feels.

With the support of Catholic Charities and the partnership of St. Mark Parish, Gabriela and Elisa are strengthening their mother-daughter bond, celebrating more daily victories and finding peace.



Guisselle, MA, LPC Bilingual Psychotherapist

When parishes team up with Catholic Charities, it can make a world of difference for people who really need support.



Opening up possibilities

Fr. Carlos Florez at St. Mark emphasizes, "In Kenosha, we don't have a lot of places for the Spanish community and for low-income families to go." To address this concern, he welcomed Catholic Charities into his parish, noting, "Catholic Charities is really open to everyone." He adds, "I've seen a lot of people working with Guisselle making progress with their spouses, children, or their faith and improving decisionmaking in their own lives. Catholic Charities is a blessing."



Strong community bonds

St. Katharine Drexel

St. Mark Parish

Kenosha

Beaver Dam

Fr. Will Arnold of St. Katharine Drexel shares, "When I arrived in Beaver Dam, I quickly learned the importance of Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities helps the church build deeper bonds with the community, forming real friendships on a human level. I've seen the impact of Tracey's work, as she establishes genuine relationships with people in need. In a broken world, many offer minor help, but Tracey walks patiently with people, fostering change and helping them become self-sufficient, uncovering their own strengths and gifts."

A simple act of kindness

In times of need, a small gesture can mean the world to families facing hardship. Understanding this, Kristin, a staff member at St. Katharine Drexel Parish, gathered a multidenominational team to prepare self-care kits filled with everyday essentials for families in their community.

Kristin chose to partner with Catholic Charities after witnessing firsthand the tireless work of Tracey, a case worker who has become a beacon of hope in Dodge County.

Kristin shares, "I see the individuals and families she works with, and helps them find light in the tunnel. She is very connected with schools, organizations and others in the area. The partnership with St. Katharine Drexel has evolved so much. It's a blessing to have her here."

Thank you to St. Katharine Drexel, Kristin and the volunteers for your time, energy and hearts to serve those who need us most!

Your love for your community is a gift!





Sharing love and laughter



Babies ... big kids ... bubbles ... this year's Adoption Picnic was more than just fun. It was a great way for moms and dads, parents, grandparents and adoptees to connect through love.

An annual event, this year's picnic was the largest ever. Amidst the laughter, games and swapped stories, there was a genuine feeling of being part of something bigger: Catholic Charities Adoption Program. Some of the parents were themselves adoptees, and some have adopted children through Catholic Charities. Still others are currently waiting for an opportunity to grow their families.



To our community partners, thank you.

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