



CATHOLIC
CHARITIES

WORKS OF CHARITY

Creating hope for families

WINTER 2025

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Serving neighbors in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Sheboygan, Racine,
Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Walworth, Dodge, Washington & Ozaukee Counties

A legacy of love

Born in 1928, Patricia Carmody had a passion for helping others. Having earned both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Social Work from Cardinal Stritch University, she dedicated her life to serving women, children and families with kindness and compassion highlighted by her 25 years as a social worker at Catholic Charities.

She was a trusted guide and source of unwavering support, ensuring that birth mothers, young adoptees and foster families felt valued and respected. With her help, families received the essential care they needed, often taking them to appointments in her blue convertible.

Even decades later, Patricia's legacy endures. One birth mother, whom she guided through the adoption process 57 years ago, remembers her with deep gratitude. "She treated me with such dignity and respect. She was my rock during an uncertain time," the mother shared. Over the years, their bond grew into a cherished friendship.

Patricia passed away this past April at the age of 95, leaving behind not only treasured memories but also a lasting gift. Her bequest to Catholic Charities will continue to support birth mothers, families and adoptees, ensuring they receive the same care and compassion she so beautifully exemplified. We are profoundly grateful for her generosity and her enduring impact.



Patricia Carmody dedicated her life to helping children and families.



Pregnancy & Parenting Support and Supported Parenting program staff

Here for children and families

Caring for the needs of parents and children has been the heart of our mission for 105 years. At Catholic Charities, we understand the challenges families face, especially those with limited resources. Thanks to your support, we are able to provide programs and services that make a lasting difference.



Sarah Matson, Supported Parenting Program Director: "Parents just want to provide the best for their family. But without the support of family or friends, the challenges can be overwhelming. Our mission to provide social services is life-changing. We see families filled with more hope and confidence to successfully navigate daily life."



Jen Layton, Child Welfare Services Director: "The families we serve have very few resources and often are alone. We partner with parents, provide in-home visits for parenting education and opportunities for social connections to help families thrive. We help build a strong foundation for their children."

Loving care



Sabrina and Chris dreamed of providing a happy, stable life for their baby. But when they faced homelessness during Sabrina's pregnancy, that dream felt out of reach.

With help from Catholic Charities, they found hope. Carrie, a pregnancy support worker, helped them with their most immediate need to secure housing. Together, they made sure Sabrina's nutritional needs were taken care of and that she attended regular medical checkups. Carrie also provided pregnancy and birth planning education so that Sabrina could advocate for her own health care.

After their baby was born, Sarah, a family support worker, guided them through the early days of parenting, offering practical advice and encouragement. During her home visits, Sarah helped Sabrina and Chris learn how to provide loving care for their little one.

"We're on the right track now," says Chris. "Catholic Charities opened our eyes to everything new parents need to learn."

Sabrina, Chris and their baby enjoy their first Christmas together.

Rising costs for housing and everyday essentials have increased the need for assistance in our communities. Thanks to the generous spirit of our local parishes and supporters, Christmas was a little brighter for many families this year.

"It's so wonderful for families," says Sarah Matson, Supported Parenting Program Director. "Parents appreciate this support for their children so much!"

These gifts remind families impacted by poverty that they are not alone. Thank you to all who contributed to making this holiday season special for so many!

Parishes that made December special for families Catholic Charities serves:

- St. Dominic & St. Luke (Brookfield)
- St. Matthias (Milwaukee)
- St. Joseph & Christ King (Wauwatosa)
- St. Theresa (Eagle)
- St. Leonard (Muskego)
- St. Mary's Parish School (Menomonee Falls)
- St. James (Franklin)
- Queen of Apostles (Pewaukee)
- Sheboygan North Parishes
- St. Paul Parish (Genesee Depot)

The Spirit of Christmas



Thank you partners and volunteers



Sharing our mission of service and a commitment to caring for neighbors in need, Catholic Financial Life chose Catholic Charities as a beneficiary of their 2024 charitable golf outing.

Thank you to everyone at Catholic Financial Life for your support to help us care for the needs of local families.

Catholic Financial Life President and CEO, John Borgen, presents a check of \$50,000 to Catholic Charities at our annual Good Samaritan Society dinner October 17, 2024.

“Friendships run deep,” says Annette, director of the Adult Day Center (ADC), “especially among those who have been part of our community for a decade or more, like Lizzy and Carol Jean. Whether it’s during a lively party or a quiet moment, the connections formed here are truly special.”

Our volunteers help to create special bonds of friendship with our participants. From group activities to one-on-one time, life at the ADC is enriched by these relationships.

Volunteers from Divine Savior Holy Angels with longtime member Carol Jean.



Join us at a Lenten Luncheon!

March 13 Saint Francis de Sales Seminary Milwaukee	March 25 St. Charles Parish Hartland	April 3 Bristol Oaks Golf Club Bristol	April 10 Holy Family Catholic Church Fond du Lac
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Register now for a Luncheon near you!
ccmke.org/Lenten-Luncheons


