



Your Support Saves Lives

Impact Report | Spring 2023



Providing Help. Creating Hope.

Dear Neighbors,

Spring is a season of rebirth, of new life, and of hope.

During this season, our faith springs us into action to grow. As Catholics and non-Catholics alike, we know that each time we reach out to help another person in need is a moment of transformative growth — both for those we help and for ourselves.

But what about when there is little reason for hope?

It is easy to hope in good times, not as easy in difficult times. And yet, the more difficult the times — personally and collectively — the more necessary hope is.

Today, the challenges are great, especially for vulnerable New Yorkers facing food insecurity.

Families are struggling with the increased costs for food, rent, and other basic necessities. Rising inflation rates have only exacerbated food insecurity.

In New York City, approximately 1.5 million people are facing hunger. That's 1 in 4 children.

The need is not going away.

Three years since the pandemic's peak, the need has effectively stayed the same. For many people, it has worsened due to rising food prices. Visits to food pantries in New York City have risen by 20% in the past six months.

Across New York, food pantries are serving more people and are struggling to keep pace, leaving the city's most vulnerable at risk.

Despite this great need, the reason for hope is even greater. Strengthened by our faith, we are led to happiness that flows from charity and our acts of service for our neighbors.

Thanks to your support, Catholic Charities is providing help and creating hope here in New York.

Together, we served over 8 million meals last year alone through our ongoing food programs. We enrolled thousands of families in food assistance programs so children can receive the nutrition they need to grow.



With your critical support, we will continue to help our neighbors as we would like to be helped — providing food to the hungry, sheltering the homeless, assisting the disabled, supporting families in crisis, nurturing children, welcoming the stranger, and so much more.

We love what we do, but we could not do it without you. Your support saves lives. Thank you.

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Sullivan".

Monsignor Kevin Sullivan
Executive Director



Your Generosity in Action

With your critical support, Catholic Charities is leading the effort to fight hunger in New York. Each year, we provide millions of meals to New Yorkers facing hunger and food insecurity through our vast network of community food pantries, soup kitchens, pop-up pantries, and special meal delivery services.

Your love and generosity made a lifesaving impact in 2022. Because of you:



8,029,885

meals served by
our ongoing
food programs.



195,504

community kitchen
meals served.



27,466

home meals
delivered.



18,194

people enrolled
in nutritional
assistance programs.

Making Room for All at the Table: Celebrity Chef Lidia Bastianich

Chef Lidia Matticchio Bastianich is an Emmy award-winning public television host, best-selling cookbook author, successful restaurateur, and owner of a flourishing food and entertainment business.

Ms. Bastianich is also a refugee who fled communism as a nine-year-old child. After spending two years in a refugee camp, she resettled in New York with support from Catholic Charities. Today, Ms. Bastianich is a champion of immigrants and refugees — "tutti a tavola a mangiare" or making room for all at the table.

Ms. Bastianich is originally from Istria, a peninsula on the Adriatic Sea by Venice that was part of Italy before World War II. At the end of the war, the region was turned over to communist Yugoslavia. Now, it is part of Croatia.

"My parents decided that they could no longer raise their children under communism," said Ms. Bastianich. "We were oppressed. We were not allowed to speak our native Italian because of the secret police. We could not practice our Catholic religion. They even changed our name! My parents decided to escape across the border back into Italy."

As refugees, she and her family were housed at a former Nazi concentration camp called San Sabba in northern Italy. For two years, they lived in the barracks and slept in bunk beds.



"While there, I worked in the school kitchen, which kept my connection to food strong," said Ms. Bastianich.

After two years, Ms. Bastianich and her family were finally approved for asylum to the United States.

"Coming from a refugee camp, we didn't have anything or any family members awaiting us. Catholic Charities found us a place to live."

Ms. Bastianich is a champion of immigrants and refugees through philanthropy and her advocacy work with Catholic Charities.

"I am an avid and strong supporter of Catholic Charities," she said, "for what they have done for me and

my family — and for what they are still doing for immigrants and people out there needing refuge."

"America continues to be strengthened by immigrants," said Ms. Bastianich. "Whether coming for safety, opportunity, or a better quality of life, immigrants add to America's rich and diverse tapestry of culture, religion, and food."

Ms. Bastianich exemplifies what it means to welcome the stranger — "tutti a tavola a mangiare" or making room for all at the table.

"You can make a difference," she said. "Donate. Go to a food pantry. Be kind to an immigrant or someone in need. You can do it."

2023 Catholic Charities Gala: An Evening in Support of New Yorkers

Our annual Gala is a premier, must-attend event that attracts New York's top corporate leaders in finance, real estate, technology, law, philanthropy, culture, media, and politics — to name a few. It includes a four-course meal, live performances, and an award ceremony to recognize our Honorees presented by His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan and Monsignor Kevin Sullivan.

2023 Gala Honorees Leaders in Providing Help and Creating Hope

We are deeply honored to announce the recipients of this year's Deus Caritas Est Award — meaning God Is Love — in prestigious recognition and appreciation for providing help and creating hope for New Yorkers in need.



Marilyn and William Frank

*Catholic Charities Trustee,
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (retired)*



Clarke Murphy

*Russell Reynolds Associates,
Managing Partner*

Please join us for this special event as we celebrate the exemplary leadership, generosity and commitment of our honorees to meet the needs of those less fortunate in our city. The Gala will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at the American Museum of Natural History. For more information, please contact Anne MacGillivray in our Special Events Office at Anne.MacGillivray@CatholicCharitiesNY.org or **646-794-2433**.





Nathan Bajar for The New York Times

From Farm to Food Pantry: Delivering Healthy Food to Families

Across New York, families are struggling with the increased costs for food, rent, and other necessities. Rising inflation rates have only exacerbated food insecurity. In New York City, approximately 1.5 million people are facing hunger.

In Rockland County, Peter Moore is turning to the earth to fill in nutritional gaps. He cultivates a 70-by-50-foot garden that grows produce like zucchini, eggplant and green pepper.

The garden's yield of 700 to 800 pounds of fresh vegetables per season supplements the food pantry he runs with the support of

Catholic Charities Community Services of Rockland County.

Mr. Moore often harvests the produce about an hour before the clients arrive, guaranteeing that the families "get fresher produce than you would get in Whole Foods."

The food pantry supplies staples like jars of peanut butter, cans of corn, bags of rice, and packages of pasta, but providing fresh vegetables from the garden to families in need in the community is very special.

"Canned vegetables are certainly a good supplement, but there's nothing like fresh vegetables," he

said. "To get fresh produce is special, and there is a special taste to it."

Mr. Moore has managed the pantry for 12 years. The pantry is now serving 500 families a month, up from fewer than 200 six years ago — an increase that he attributed to factors such as inflation and the coronavirus pandemic.

With food budgets stretched thin, Mr. Moore explained, he felt pressure to keep up with rising demand.

"They're feeling the full brunt of it," he said, "but they still have to feed their kids and feed themselves."

In 2022, Catholic Charities served over 8 million meals through our vast network of community food pantries, soup kitchens, pop-up pantries, and special meal delivery services.

Stavros Niarchos Foundation: Creating Transformative Change

For over 25 years, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) has made grants to nonprofit organizations and projects around the world, working with an incredible community of partners to create transformative change whose benefits multiply and are shared widely.

Since 2020, SNF has partnered with Catholic Charities to create transformative change for New Yorkers in need.

One critical way SNF improves the lives of women and children in New York is by providing clean diapers. The foundation directly supports Catholic Charities' diaper bank, which services Catholic Charities Community Services and our network of 90 human service agencies across the archdiocese.

Nationally, one in three families struggle to provide clean diapers for their baby.

Unchanged diapers can cause painful rashes, constipation, urinary tract infections, and even kidney damage. Such health problems can lead to emergency room visits, which are costly and disruptive.



With support from SNF, Catholic Charities has directly distributed over 140,000 diapers to families in the last two years alone.

Another lifesaving way SNF creates transformative change is by providing emergency relief to asylum seekers to New York City through the Catholic Charities Pro Bono Project.

Since June 2022, more than 50,000 asylum seekers have arrived on buses from Texas and Arizona, many of whom are seeking safety and refuge from the political upheaval in Venezuela.

Thousands of migrants have been sent directly to our corporate headquarters, which does not have shelter facilities on site.

In response, we mobilized intake services through our administrative offices and began providing general information and referral services, as well as basic supplies.

Critically, the Catholic Charities Pro Bono Project assists asylum seekers to navigate the complex legal process. Through our legal clinics, we prepare asylum applications, litigate asylum, and provide other legal services. With legal representation, an asylum seeker is 80% more likely to win their case in immigration court.

SNF is supporting the Pro Bono Project through a new position, a volunteer coordinator, who will increase our capacity to serve more asylum seekers and who will significantly expand our legal services for migrants.



Courtesy of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF)

Leave a Legacy of Help and Hope

Your legacy commitment helps us to continue our lifesaving work and carry out our mission of providing help and creating hope.

A planned gift is a wonderful way to support Catholic Charities while accommodating your own personal, financial, estate-planning, and philanthropic goals. With smart planning, you may actually increase the size of your estate and/or reduce the tax burden on your heirs.

For more information, please visit: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/GiftPlans.org



More Ways to Support Our Mission

Give

Your tax-deductible gift will enable us to continue to deliver programs and critical services to New Yorkers in need. Visit: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/Donate

Charitable Gift Annuity

A charitable annuity is a simple agreement between you and Catholic Charities. In exchange for your gift of cash, stock, or mutual funds, Catholic Charities will pay you (and, if desired, another beneficiary) a fixed income for life. After your lifetime(s), proceeds remaining from your gift support our lifesaving work. For more information, please visit:

CatholicCharitiesNY.org/CGA

Donor Advised Funds

A donor-advised fund (DAF) is a philanthropic giving vehicle like a charitable savings account. It provides an immediate tax benefit to you and allows you to easily support Catholic Charities. You can make a grant to Catholic Charities through our DAF Direct portal by visiting: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/DAF

Employer Matching Gifts

Many employers will match your donation and double the impact of your lifesaving gift. Use our search tool to see if your company will double or even triple your gift! Visit: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/Matching-Gifts

Gifts of Stocks and Securities

You can easily donate appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds and support the lifesaving work of Catholic Charities. The total value of the stock upon transfer is tax-deductible and there is no obligation to pay any capital gains taxes on the appreciation. To learn more, visit: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/Securities

IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions

If you're 70½ or older, you can donate up to \$100,000 per tax year directly from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to Catholic Charities without reporting the withdrawal as taxable income. To calculate your required minimum distribution (RMD) and make a tax-free gift to Catholic Charities, please visit: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/IRA

Other Ways to Give

From rewards programs to donating real estate and vehicles, discover the many ways you can support our lifesaving work: CatholicCharitiesNY.org/WaysToGive

Questions?

If you have any questions, please reach out to Emily Chau in our Planned Giving Office at Emily.Chau@CatholicCharitiesNY.org or 646-794-2018.

Connect with us to learn more and get involved!

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