



# Catholic Social Services

# inside

A YEAR TO REMEMBER 4
THE 1921 SOCIETY 6
LONG-TERM TORNADO RECOVERY8
POVERTY ALLEVIATION SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING16
MOBILITY MANAGEMENT19
SUPERVISED VISITATION20
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT22
PREGNANCY & PARENTING SUPPORT <b>26</b>
SENIOR SERVICES29
SERVANT LEADERSHIP FOR OUR COMMUNITY <b>34</b>
OUR STAFF
FINANCIAL SUMMARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP SCHNURR <b>39</b>
UPCOMING EVENTS 40
DONORS & VOLUNTEERS ARE LISTED ON PAGES <b>6-35</b>

# [ OUR CORE VALUES ]

# FAITH

Allow God's love and teachings to inspire our work.

# SERVICE

Seek to meet individual and family needs through professional practice and advocacy.

# **CHARITY**

Encourage others to put faith into action through sharing their time, talent and treasure.

# Our Mission

Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley strengthens individuals and families through actions of faith, service and charity.

# Our Vision

Creating faithful partnerships to strengthen families and achieve a more hopeful community.

# Our Service Area

Auglaize County, Darke County, Greene County, Mercer County, Miami County, Montgomery County, Preble County, Shelby County.

# from our ceo

**2020... WHAT A YEAR.** While we all experienced different things at work, at home, and out in the community, it's a pretty common sentiment that it was a year we'd rather forget. No one can reflect on 2020 without looking at it through the lens of COVID-19.

Even before the first public health orders were issued last March, our leadership team at Catholic Social Services was anticipating and planning our next steps. We knew that our services were critical, and that the needs of the people we are blessed to support would not go away. In fact, those needs would become more challenging and more complex due to lost jobs, the move to virtual schooling, and the social and emotional impact of isolation.

Our organization met the definition of "essential services" – a fact we knew and embraced. Our team had to quickly figure out how to continue serving under unprecedented circumstances, and I am so proud of how we responded. Across the agency, our staff adapted and demonstrated creativity in staying connected and serving more than 21,000 seniors, children, and families.

Through the year, there were countless success stories. Our emergency food pantry has remained open throughout the pandemic, changing its service model and practices literally overnight to be consistent with public health guidance while providing a vital service to the community. Our Board of Directors adjusted their governance practices but remained committed and visionary. Our partners engaged with us for discussion, collaboration, and planning. Our funders stayed the course to provide flexibility and steady financial resources, knowing the critical nature of our services. Our supporters prayed for our good health and the continuation of our positive community impact through our 99th year.

Reflecting on 2020 feels almost surreal, and we recognize that 2021 will bring new challenges. But the timelessness of our mission drives us forward as we are called to strengthen individuals and families in need through actions of faith, service, and charity. These core values inspire and remind us every day of the Gospel call to service, no matter what the challenge of the day or the year may be.

We invite you to join us on this journey as we look forward to celebrating our 100th anniversary in 2021.

Warm regards,

aura & Koeseh

Laura Jordan Roesch Chief Executive Officer



# "a year to remember"

hen our agency was founded by Father Francis Gressle in 1921 as a branch of the Catholic Charities Bureau of Cincinnati, the intent was to meet critical needs in the Dayton region. At the time, the focus was on immigrants and families recovering from the 1918 Spanish flu epidemic. Now, a century later, the faces of clients have changed but the mission has not.

As we have done throughout our history, CSSMV stepped up again in 2020 to meet critical community needs during a year of unprecedented challenges. From supplying food to providing counseling and long-term recovery, we have been recognized as a leader in both direct services and case management. Our involvement in the community included taking a seat at the table for important initiatives like the Dayton and Montgomery County Maternal & Infant Vitality Task Force, and the Miami Valley Long Term Recovery Operations Group for tornado relief. Engaging in these partnerships is just one example of our bold commitment to serve the most vulnerable in our region.

That commitment led us to take another program into our fold in 2020. Life Essentials, a small Dayton non-profit offering guardianship services and support for seniors with mental illness, is now part of CSSMV. The merger united two dedicated agencies who have a mission to serve those without a voice. In the future, we hope to grow these vital services by expanding their reach into our northern counties.

While 2020 will forever be linked to the coronavirus, the pandemic was not the only story of the year. Nevertheless, it colored the way we were able to reach our clients, use our volunteers, and communicate with our stakeholders. We learned new ways of connecting through video platforms. We thanked our staff and volunteers with goodies left on doorsteps when we could not see them in person. We engaged our donor base with heartfelt videos about our programs as part of our virtual Jazz Party.

Through it all, we continued to serve. Pantry operations were particularly important as people struggled to afford food and supplies. We moved away from the choice food pantry model out of necessity, to keep our clients and workers safe. Instead, we packed boxes with a variety of foods and distributed them to waiting guests. Staff members pitched in to cover for older volunteers who were at greater risk. With the Foodbank swamped with more requests, our partners and parishes supplied bread, canned goods, and other foods to keep our shelves full for a growing number of clients.

Counselors and case managers who were unable to see clients in person kept in touch by phone or through video telehealth options. Erma's House was shuttered for a short time, but staff in all other programs continued to work using remote options when necessary. We also distributed masks and other PPE supplies to seniors.

All our work in this extraordinary year would not have happened without the support of our donors. The names listed in this report are friends who have joined us in our mission and trusted us to be good stewards. In Matthew 19:26, it is written "with God, all things are possible"; we say, **"with God and YOU, all things are possible." Thank you.** 





BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD:

# **Big Sky Bread Company**

At the beginning of the pandemic, CSSMV's food pantry faced a critical shortage of fresh bread. Big Sky Bread Company in Kettering, owned by St. Albert parishioners Philip and Mari Gallenstein, stepped up without hesitation to meet that need. "We said we would donate 100 loaves a day for the pantry for as long as we felt we could, and then a generous donor provided funding so we could continue to help," said Mari. "I was one of eight children and my mom was always a helper," she said. "Growing up, I watched her help everybody and anybody. Now we are so happy we were able to help our community through this tough time."



The 1921 Society recognizes individuals and organizations who have made annual leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more to Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley. The 1921 Society was named in honor of the year CSSMV was founded and is meant to recognize the generations of supporters who have helped support the agency's mission.

# **1921 Society**



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6

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# long-term tornado recovery



t has been almost two years since devastating tornadoes blew through the Miami Valley on Memorial Day 2019. Overnight, donations came pouring in to CSSMV to help with recovery efforts. Through our partnership with other agencies in the Montgomery County Long-Term Recovery Group, we took the lead in providing disaster case management services to struggling families. Our partners in this work included the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army.

After the initial days of providing emergency help, our Long-Term Recovery team focused efforts on rebuilding and repair. Throughout 2020, the goal was to return clients to a stable pre-disaster standard of living. In the words of tornado survivor Tiphanie Oliver, there was "a lot of trauma, anxiety and shock" after that terrible night. "We had \$40,000 worth of damage, but more than that, I had trouble sleeping, worrying about another storm," said Oliver. "We are so grateful for the process, the kindness, and the blessing of Catholic Social Services."

Collectively, the Long-Term Recovery Group has helped over 2,000 households by developing individual recovery plans that addressed not only the physical restoration of property, but also the emotional trauma of such an event, thereby rebuilding both structures and lives.

They say that something good comes out of everything. Through this work, we have gained a better understanding of housing issues that plague parts of our region. We learned how to help first-time homeowners secure grants. We have worked with local municipalities and built a network of community partners.

"I have been a part of Long-Term Recovery since the beginning, being on the front lines working with hundreds who suffered heartbreaking loss due to the May 2019 tornadoes," said Tamara Gaddis-Strozier, current Long-Term Recovery Team Lead. "It has been an amazing experience to watch a family go from a look of hopelessness to a look of hopeful. There is a true sense of peace in knowing that there is help and people do care."

With care and compassion, healing begins.

THE CSSMV DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT TEAM SERVED 2229 HOUSEHOLDS (CASES) IN 2020.

SINCE LONG-TERM RECOVERY CASE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALLY BEGAN IN THE FALL OF 2019,

\$295к

IN DIRECT CLIENT ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN PROVIDED THROUGH CSSMV.

## CONTRIBUTORS UP TO \$999

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† deceased



The Oliver family worked with our tornado recovery team after their home and lives were uprooted by the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes. To hear their story, visit cssmv.org/sentimental-journey.

What they say about us...



**Mike Parks** PRESIDENT OF THE

Immediately after the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes, Catholic Social Services asked. "What can we do? How can we help?"

From day one, they never hesitated, never blinked. They were ready to assume whatever role they could play to comfort and care for impacted families. They did a superb job in coordinating communication and technology to get multiple agencies to work together as one. This cross-agency cooperation was vital to recovery, and Catholic Social Services was a responsive and flexible leader. The community would not have recovered to where we are today without their work. We are thankful and blessed to have Catholic Social Services in our community and we congratulate them on their 100 years of service.

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# poverty alleviation services



Area parishes and other community groups have continued to support our pantry with ongoing donations of food items as well as financial support.

ne program that was definitely on the front lines in 2020 was the CSSMV Food Pantry. When the pandemic started, the pantry saw an increase in daily requests for food assistance. To provide social distancing, we moved from the Choice Food Pantry model where clients shop the pantry and pick their own groceries to handing out pre-packed boxes of food.

"We were able to quickly switch to a prepackaged program to keep our clients safe, cut down on wait time, and increase our distributions," said Ash Cummings, Food Pantry Coordinator. "We also recognized an average of about 30 clients a week who could not come to get their own food, so we had case managers pick up and deliver to those clients, ensuring that the most vulnerable had their food needs met."

Volunteers and staff arrived early to unload trucks from the Dayton Foodbank and other suppliers and pack the boxes with a healthy assortment of foods. Notably absent were the usual group of retired folks who regularly volunteer. Sidelined because of health concerns, these volunteers were replaced by staff members from various program areas who stepped in to fill the void. In the Northern Counties office, the FoodSource program, a monthly delivery of 40-pound boxes of stable foods, also continued. As in Dayton, to make sure that all deliveries were made, staff members took over when older volunteers were sidelined.

"Needing to send home older volunteers in the beginning of the pandemic took a lot of our support away," said Cummings. "While we have a very diverse support system, during the school year especially, a large portion of our volunteers are seniors. Staff from other departments swooped in to save the day. They supported the pantry until we could welcome back our volunteers who felt comfortable returning. I am not certain we could have met everyone's food needs at the level and consistency that we did if it were not for our peers stepping up and keeping us going."

Creativity was needed to keep shelves stocked and operations moving. We worked with various partners to provide and sometimes share food items when supplies ran low. When Panera Bread, a usual supplier of bread for the pantry, cut back bakery production, a local baker – Big Sky Bread – began making 100 loaves a day, something they continued to do for six weeks until normal production resumed.

Another local company, Pepperidge Farm, donated skids of its popular Goldfish Crackers. "I have never seen so many

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Food pantry coordinator Ash Cummings (at right) relies on the support of generous community supporters like Philip and Mari Gallenstein of Big Sky Bread.

Goldfish Crackers in my life," said Mike Lehner, Director of Marketing and Development. "Luckily, we were partnering with other agencies to balance inventories. The House of Bread (a community kitchen) gave us potatoes and we gave them Goldfish Crackers in exchange."

When the First Four Basketball Tournament was cancelled. the University of Dayton was another partner that contributed, sending snacks and breads that it had stockpiled for the concession stands. Food drives at three Catholic

parishes - St. Albert the Great, St. Charles, and Incarnation – were held weekly or monthly to restock shelves with canned goods and other staples.

Sharing supplies and strategies is essential during a crisis like the pandemic, but it is something that CSSMV has been doing well for many years across many program areas. No one operates in a vacuum. Relationships with parishes, community systems, and other agencies are important connections that we have established over time and continue to build.

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# What they say about us...



UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON VICE PRESIDENT / DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

When the pandemic forced the cancellation of the First Four last March, we turned our disappointment

into an opportunity. Knowing that Catholic Social Services would be on the front lines of helping those in need and was in desperate need of supplies, Dayton Athletics reached out to donate perishable food from the tournament to the CSS food pantry. The University of Dayton and Catholic Social Services share the joint mission of leading through service to others. I am grateful we could support CSSMV and provide much-needed resources to our community during its hour of greatest need.

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In 2020 we established a new partnership with MercyPets to provide baby food and formula for parents in need at our Dayton food pantry. Fr. Satish Joseph started MercyPets in 2017 to invite pet owners to help alleviate child hunger.

"As clients were looking for needed items that were quickly diminishing, we sourced from many places to ensure we had enough for everyone," said Cummings. "Clients quickly realized they didn't have to worry if we would be there tomorrow or next week. You could feel the wave of relief that took over when clients saw that we were open."

Operating in conjunction with the pantry, the Family Stabilization & Support (FSS) program provides resources and case management for struggling families. As expected, 2020 saw an uptick in requests for services.

Thanks to grant money from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP), FSS was able to expand utility assistance to meet the growing need for help with heat and electric bills. The grant allowed us to add personnel and provided the funding for increased direct assistance.

The Northern Office also applied for emergency funding from the Piqua Community Foundation, the Miami County Foundation, and the Darke County Foundation to provide pandemic-related relief. Funds received were used to provide direct assistance for food, medicine, and cleaning supplies, as well as utility payment assistance.

Despite the challenges, CSSMV has shown resiliency throughout a difficult year. Managing increased demand, reshaping the model, and adapting to constant change did not deter the efforts of staff and volunteers in meeting the basic needs of clients.

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What are not little are the hearts of those who have been involved in these efforts in 2020. Ongoing partnerships and a renewed dedication to serve are things that will continue to help us impact lives long after the pandemic is in the rearview mirror.

"We always want to bring the community closer," said Cummings. "Even while we are all social distancing, I think the pandemic has united us all. Food insecurity doesn't affect everyone, but the pandemic has; it has touched every home across the U.S. and beyond. Watching people pick out the extra produce we set out so they can give it to their elderly neighbor is something I wish everyone everywhere would do. Every day I get to see the wonderful volunteers and donors who come to help despite the dangers of the pandemic. It is a beautiful thing, caring for others."





Students from Alter High School made a pre-Thanksgiving donation of turkeys and other meal items to our food pantry.



OUR DAYTON FOOD PANTRY HAS SUCCESSFULLY MAINTAINED ITS REGULAR HOURS, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, THROUGH-OUT THE PANDEMIC.

THE PANTRY MADE A TOTAL OF

Mrs. Cynthia R. Drake Mrs. Laura Drayton Mr. & Mrs. Philip C. Dreety Ms. Mary Duby Dr. & Dr. John C. Duby Dr. & Mrs. John Duchak Mrs. Carmelita A. Duckro Mr. Charles W. Duckro Mr. & Mrs. Brian Duffy Ms. Monica M. Duffy Deacon & Mrs. Roger Duffy Mr. & Mrs. William H. Duffy Mr. Jeff Dunn Mr. & Mrs. Daniel L. Dunn, Jr. Mr. Dan Durocher Mr. David Dutton Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Dwight Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Dworkin Mr. Ronald E. Earhart Ms. Bridget Ebbert Mr. & Mrs. Mark Eckart Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Eckerle Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Eckerle Mr. & Mrs. Louis A. Eckert Mrs. Barbara R. Eckley Mr. Mark William Edsall



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Even before mask mandates were put in place, our pantry team had volunteers wearing gloves for food safety.

# What they say about us...



# Joe Abouzeid

VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER WDTN-TV In 2020, WDTN teamed up with Catholic Social Services for the third straight year for our annual Coats for Kids Campaign. The CSS

team helped us come up with creative ways to handle collecting and distributing more than two thousand coats and winter accessories to people in our community who really needed them. Not only did our collaboration allow Coats for Kids to meet the challenge of following COVID-19 safety guidelines, but it resulted in an incredibly successful campaign. We couldn't have asked for a better partner than CSS; they continue to prove their commitment to serving our most vulnerable neighbors even in the most difficult of circumstances.

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Our food pantry makes fresh fruits and vegetables readily available to help ensure that area families can have healthy dietary options.



THE FAMILY STABILIZATION & SUPPORT PROGRAM ASSISTED FAMILIES, INCLUDING ଚିତ୍ରି ତିତ୍ରି INDIVIDUALS

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# professional counseling



ental health is just as important to overall wellness as physical health, and often the two are tightly wound together.

"Research shows that when you experience trauma, fear gets locked into your cells on a physiological or biological level," said Cheryl Griffin, Counseling and Community Services Manager in the Dayton office. "Right after a disaster, counselors can work with victims quickly to help diffuse that fear. But for those dealing with long-term trauma, that opportunity to debrief immediately afterwards isn't there."

Such "locked-in fear" can express itself in the form of chronic physical ailments in addition to psychological effects. Lack of sleep or changes in routine or eating habits brought on by anxiety or depression tie directly to physical health. Griffin was recently selected to participate in a special 10-month Social Resilience Model (SRM) Train the Trainer program presented by Threshold GlobalWorks. More than 300 applied for a spot in the training and Griffin was one of about 60 who were selected to participate, with the cost covered by the Montgomery County ADAMHS Board.

Social Resilience is the timely capacity of people to be more generative during times of stability and to adapt, reorganize, and grow in response to disruption or trauma. The goal of the program is to educate a group of individuals who in turn will have the skills and knowledge to train others.

In tandem with the agency's embrace of trauma-informed care, the Social Resilience Model can provide guidance for counselors who are working with clients who have experienced sudden or long-term trauma. Helping people develop social resilience will allow them to weather trauma and move on with their lives in a much healthier way.

In 2020, the pandemic and its related difficulties like job loss, fear of illness, disruption of routine, and isolation from friends and family have certainly had an impact on mental health. The emotional upheaval caused by anxiety, stress, depression, and grief created new challenges for some people. For others, problems they already had just grew in intensity.



OF FAMILIES RECEIVING SAFE SERVICES MAINTAINED CHILDREN IN THEIR LEGAL CUSTODY.

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CSSMV staff often find that their clients could benefit from accessing more than one of our services. As just one example, Counseling & Community Services Manager Cheryl Griffin was helping out in our food pantry where she had a conversation with a woman who was in need of services beyond food. Cheryl ended up connecting her with Megan Goettemoeller for Family Stabilization & Support services, as well as with Denetta Harris for Safe Counseling services. (L-R: Goettemoeller, Harris and Griffin)

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In-school counseling was suspended when schools shut down or went virtual, but most students in the program remained in contact with counselors.

"It was definitely a challenge to counsel by phone or video because it was something we had never done before, but overall, I think it worked out well until we could resume in-person sessions," said Ihle.

When in-person sessions did resume in mid-summer, counseling offices in both Dayton and Sidney were very busy with both returning and new clients. "We are able to be very flexible in scheduling and can still continue with telehealth if a client is not comfortable coming into the office," said Griffin. "However, about 90% of clients came back to in-person which just shows the importance of close human contact. We need to be together." TOTAL CLIENTS WERE SERVED BY COUNSELORS BASED IN OUR DAYTON AND SIDNEY OFFICES.

TACHMENT DISORDERS THEIR FAMILIES.



When you visit or call our Dayton Counseling Center, Shelia Wright Davis is the friendly face (or voice) who will greet you, help answer your questions about our services, and set you up with an appointment with a counselor who best meets your needs. In 2020, Shelia marked an incredible 40 years of service with our agency.

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# mobility management



he CSSMV Northern Counties Office, which serves the more rural areas of the Miami Valley, has been working with the Ohio Department of Transportation to address transportation challenges since 2016.

Each county must have an updated Coordinated Plan on file with the State of Ohio to qualify for funding that could potentially create more transportation options, so CSSMV Mobility Manager Michelle Caserta-Bixler has gathered

stakeholders in Champaign, Darke and Shelby Counties to develop and update Coordinated Plans. She is also sub-contracted to provide mobility management services in Clark County.

Data collected to support the plans has been used to pinpoint problem areas and push for changes in the established systems. Progress was made in 2020 in working with providers to add evening and weekend hours, identify transportation obstacles that keep workers from employment, and break down barriers to transit between counties.

Adoption of a Regional Coordinated Transportation Plan involving eight counties in late 2020 was a large breakthrough in the efforts to add more intercounty transit options.

The most recent initiative - RideConnect - is focused on using volunteer drivers to transport older adults and people with disabilities, but it could also be an option for people who need transportation to employment.

"RideConnect is designed to fill the gaps for individuals who don't qualify for subsidies or have transportation needs that county transits can't meet," said Caserta-Bixler. "Someone who needs to get a job to afford a car is not able to keep that job if they cannot get to work. It becomes a vicious circle and hopefully this program can help."



**Michelle Caserta-Bixler** 

**Our new RideConnect initiative needs adult** volunteer drivers to help older adults and people with disabilities in Auglaize, Mercer, Logan, Champaign, Darke, Shelby, and Preble Counties. If you would like more information about volunteering, please contact our Mobility Manager, Michelle Caserta-Bixler, at 937.575.7115.



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# supervised visitation

or two months beginning in March 2020, our Center for Families on Brown Street was closed with all staff working at home. Since supervised visitation requires interaction, visits were not possible, and with courts shuttered, new referrals decreased substantially. Staff could not wait to reopen, knowing how important the services provided at Erma's House Family Visitation Center are for the children.

"We are essential workers providing stability for children whose lives are full of chaos," said Shannon Wahrhaftig, Erma's House Program Manager. "They see violence, drug abuse, and trauma that no child should have to experience. We work to maintain critical family relationships despite that." Aside from masks and cleaning protocols, there have been no issues since reopening. Some volunteers who were in higher-risk groups stepped back from supervising visits because of the virus, but staff members stepped up to cover any gaps.

"We provide a happy place for kids," said Wahrhaftig. "With learning remotely and being away from friends, a child's time at Erma's House might be the most consistency they have in their lives right now."

As a founding member of the Montgomery County Child Protection Task Force, CSSMV was asked to work alongside numerous community partners to establish a center for supervised visitation. The intent was to create a safe, home-like environment where children could visit with their non-custodial parents in an atmosphere conducive to a nurturing interchange between parent and child.

"Safety is the cornerstone of Erma's House," said Wahrhaftig. "A lot of these children have not grown up in an environment where parents play games or read to them before bedtime. At Erma's House, they get to do that. We provide normality."

As we close the book on 2020, a sense of normal is something all of us could use.

#### **ERMA'S HOUSE SERVED**

219 people in 2020, including 89 children and 130 adults.

# DESPITE A TWG-MONTH CLOSURE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC, THE FACILITY HOSTED



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20 2020 Catholic Social Services Community Impact Report



Committee members including Ann Becker (at right) were the interviewers during video shoots for our Sentimental Journey.



CSSMV LEADERSHIP AWARD:

# The Opus Est Committee

Twenty-six years ago, a small group of women who named themselves the Opus Est ("Work to be Done") Committee came together to support CSSMV's adoption and pregnancy support programs by hosting an event that would become our annual Jazz Party. Over the years, they broadened their support to include our parenting, counseling, and other programs. 2020 was to have been the 25th anniversary of the Jazz Party, but when it became clear that it wouldn't be possible to host an in-person gala, the Opus Est Committee quickly pivoted to creating an online "Sentimental Journey" that would use video interviews with program clients, volunteers and staff to showcase what makes our agency so special and our services so vital. Because of their creativity, commitment and effort, we were able to host a unique online experience that also raised financial support comparable to the Jazz Party.

# 2020 Opus Est Committee members:

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- Laura Thimons, VICE-CHAIR
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- Ann Becker
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- Joanna Cross
- Mary Gearhardt
- Linda Lopez
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# refugee resettlement

n 2020, with pandemic-related travel restrictions on top of an already low cap on the number of refugees being allowed into the U.S., our Refugee Resettlement program shifted its focus to further help refugees who were already here. With an emphasis on employment and education, the program has become more than just resettlement.

Refugees are drawn to Dayton because of the resources here. The city has affordable housing and goods, less traffic, and a diverse cultural presence. CSSMV has developed a network of businesses that serve refugees for housing, job placement, health care, and education. Helping refugees negotiate the systems that sometimes make their transition complicated is a key part of the mission.

With help from Sinclair Community College and Clark State Community College, our refugees found career paths in a variety of fields in 2020. From Commercial Driver License (CDL) training to Science and Engineering, local colleges welcomed eager students wanting to earn certification.

STNA (State Tested Nurse Aide) has become a popular program because of employment availability. Four refugee clients have completed the training with four more currently tackling the 59 hours of classroom work and 16 hours of clinical work that are required.

Refugee Bernice Gervais came to Dayton from the Democratic Republic of Congo in February of 2019. With direction from CSSMV, she entered an STNA program and now works as a home health aide. "They connected me to training," she said. "I am so grateful to be here, and I like being a nurse."

One community partner, the Be Hope Immigration Center, has been instrumental in empowering the refugee community in Dayton. Their Refugee Entrepreneurship and Leadership Project brings together curriculum, programming, and expertise from community partners to address professional development. The program gives participants a chance to shadow area professionals in their fields of interest and develop leadership skills.

Be Hope developed the program with guidance from The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network (TERN) based in London UK. TERN supports refugee entrepreneurs in the creation and development of their businesses, providing services throughout the three stages of the process: business exploration, business start-up, and business growth.

# What they say about us...



## **Charlie Frasier**

CO-FOUNDER/PARTNERSHIPS DIRECTOR TERN

Over the last four years, TERN has supported close to 400 refugee entrepreneurs across the UK and when CSS reached out about a possible pilot to kickstart targeted business

support services for refugee entrepreneurs in Dayton, it seemed like a perfect fit. We were instantly drawn by the innovative and collaborative approach adopted by the CSS team, with a laser-like focus on finding new ways to improve livelihood outcomes for their community. When BeHope came on as a partner for the pilot, we knew this was a unique opportunity. It was exciting to see the confidence and ambition of the first five participants transform during the 13 weeks. It is clear this is just the start for refugee entrepreneurship in Dayton and it wouldn't have happened without CSS!

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Ndayisaba Ramadhan (at far left) was born in Burundi but fled that country with his family when he was 2 years old because the country had broken out in a violent civil war. From Burundi, they fled to Congo and then Tanzania where they spent the next 14 years in a refugee camp with more than 40,000 people. They were welcomed to Dayton by our Refugee Resettlement team in 2008. You can hear their story by visiting cssmv.org/sentimental-journey.

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The Be Hope program only covers the business exploration stage but is already having a big impact. Five refugees referred from CSSMV made up the first class to complete the program. A second group will start the 10-week curriculum in April and a third group in the fall.

"Dayton organizations that support new business have no experience with foreign-born entrepreneurs," said Molly Brunk of the Be Hope Immigration Center. "The infrastructure to help these people succeed is often not in place and the language barrier alone can be overwhelming. One of our goals is to make sure they get the literacy skills they need to move forward because they already have the vision and the drive."

Originally from Chad, Ali Adourmharoun joined the Entrepreneurship and Leadership Project to explore the steps he would need to take to start his own restaurant or grocery.

"I wanted to learn more about becoming a successful business owner," said Adourmharoun. "I know too many refugees who drive to Cincinnati or Columbus to get foods from their countries, and we need to have them here in Dayton."

# RISING STAR AWARD:



# The First Graduates of the Be Hope Immigration Center's Refugee Entrepreneurship & Leadership Program

Being the "first" at any new endeavor can be both exciting and frightening. Five refugees recently stepped up to the challenge of exploring their dreams of having their own businesses. Ali Adoumharoun, Jean Pierre Birikunzira, Alexis Serugo, Sifa Umotoni, and Louise Mpinganzima were among a larger group who were referred to Be Hope by CSSMV's refugee employment team, but they were ultimately the ones selected because they demonstrated a willingness to commit to the program. The 13-week program, which included two weeks of job shadowing, proved to be a real confidence booster for these students, who are now positioned to start figuring out their next steps toward entrepreneurship. Beyond working on their English language skills and budgeting to save money for their business startups, these rising stars are already looking ahead to the day when they can open their own retail or service-based businesses. We have no doubt that in the coming years, they will make strides in building better lives for themselves and for others in the community.

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24 2020 Catholic Social Services Community Impact Report

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# |200|

ADULT REFUGEES RECEIVED EMPLOYMENT-BASED SERVICES TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR EFFORTS TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT, CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

> WE PROVIDED RECEPTION AND PLACEMENT SERVICES TO

28∛ 63⊺

NEWLY-ARRIVING FAMILIES/ CASES THAT INCLUDED

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS.



After his family arrived in Dayton as refugees, Ndayisaba Ramadhan attended Belmont High School while initially struggling to learn English. After successfully graduating and also becoming a U.S. citizen, he took criminal justice classes at Sinclair Community College and then went on to the Dayton Police Academy. Now, he serves his community as Officer Ramadhan.

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# pregnancy & parenting support

ince joining the Dayton and Montgomery County Maternal and Infant Vitality Task Force, CSSMV has refocused our work with expectant mothers to address the racial disparity issues that plague our region and to minimize risks for the unborn child.

The number of infants who die before their first birthday in Montgomery County is alarmingly high, especially for African American babies. The mortality rate for white babies is 7.1 per 1,000 births, but almost twice that high (13.1 per 1,000) for Black babies.

Low birth weight is the number one cause of premature birth, which in turn is the leading cause of infant deaths. This is particularly true for Black babies. Black mothers are statistically less likely to have a support system and more likely to be impacted by prolonged stress, poor nutrition, lower income, and pre-existing health challenges.

In the past year, we provided resources, direct case management, and support for young mothers-to-be through our Community Health Navigator Program. Navigators walk alongside young women to provide support and education throughout pregnancy. They educate the expectant mother on the necessity of good nutrition to ensure proper development in the womb, and the importance of connecting with a physician for regular monitoring. "While the racial disparity can be attributed to various things, it becomes very important to provide a link between the community and the family," said Donna O'Neill, manager of Pregnancy and Parenting Services. "Our Navigators build relationships with young mothers and walk with them as they set goals for their own health and the health of their babies."

Once a baby is born, the Navigator shares valuable information about healthy practices for safe sleep, the benefits of breastfeeding, and the expectations for child development during the first year. The Navigator also promotes regular infant wellness visits and vaccinations, as well as providing support for mothers who might experience postpartum depression or complications.

Another specialized program, Teen Parents Learn, is focused on young parents who may not be prepared for the responsibilities of caring for a child. Many have dropped out of school because of the pregnancy and have few skills for finding employment. We partner with Mound Street Academy, an alternative school in the Dayton Public Schools system, which provides a second chance for young people who have dropped out of school to return and earn a diploma through career exploration and a work-based curriculum.

# What they say about us...



## Jim Grimsley PRINCIPAL, MOUND

STREET ACADEMY

We have had the Teen Parents Learn Program at Mound Street as part of our enrichment programming since the

2017-2018 school year. In that time, we have had a number of students who are parents, both male and female, who have participated in the program. While the program provides great information and access to resources, it is the relationships established between the students and the program facilitators that are most important. For our students, it goes back to the old saying, 'They don't care what you know until they know you care.'

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Fear of the virus, virtual learning, job change or loss, and isolation from friends and family caused extra stress for many families in 2020. Our staff networked and collaborated with other agencies that focus on family stability and child safety to continue reaching out to families in need. In Sidney, Family Life Specialist Navigator Michelle Dilts-Gibson worked with the Shelby County Court System to identify families in need of parenting support.

"Due to the COVID effect on employment, mental health, and available resources, much of the support we offered to families was focused on community resource education," said Dilts-Gibson. "An agency-wide online form was developed which provided families a mechanism to request support and services. We also helped connect families to direct assistance programs such as food and utility assistance, mental health supports, and consumer protection services."

Alexia Jackson joined our Mothers Empowered program in 2017, when she was pregnant with her son, E.J. Today, this devoted mother is raising a healthy, happy child and building a bright future for them both.

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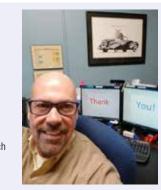
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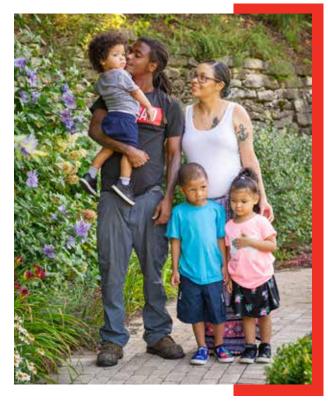
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#### pregnancy & parenting (cont'd)



Our staff provides support to moms and dads through pregnancy and childbirth, and helps them learn skills for effective parenting.

NAVIGATOR IN OUR SIDNEY **OFFICE BEGAN PROVIDING INDIVIDUAL** PARENTING EDUCATION AND SUPPORT IN APRIL OF 2020 - AFTER THE PANDEMIC **BEGAN - AND WAS ABLE TO PROVIDE** 

**OUR FAMILY LIFE SPECIALIST** 

**PROGRAM SERVED CLIENTS LAST YEAR, HELPING THEM** 292 WORK TOWARD GETTING THEIR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS WHILE PARENTING. HOURS OF CASE MANAGEMENT. IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, COMMUNITY HEALTH NAVIGATORS CONNECTED WITH **OUR DAYTON PARENTING TEAM SERVED** WOMEN THROUGH OUTREACH EVENTS IN 2020 HOME VISITING CLIENTS LAST YEAR.

**OUR TEEN PARENTS LEARN** 

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# senior services

he commitment to helping seniors has been a part of the agency for much of our history. In 2017, CSSMV was named a Single-Entry Point for Ohio Benefits and Long Term Supports, enabling us to field calls from individuals seeking available options for elderly family members and linking those individuals to services.

Senior Services has grown to include a variety of programs. "Our visibility in the communities we serve continues to increase," said Kathy Sell, Northern Counties Office Director. "People have come to rely on us when they are looking for services for their elder loved ones and do not know where to turn. Our care managers are very dedicated, and when 2020 brought extra challenges, they really stepped up."

## PASSPORT

When CSSMV was selected to pilot case management services for rural counties in the State of Ohio PASSPORT program in 1984, Senior Services became one of our largest programs.

PASSPORT is a Medicaid waiver designed to help seniors 60 and over age in place by providing home-based services. Care managers in the CSSMV Northern Counties office handle about 1,100 seniors a month on the program, contracting services from a long list of providers. The pandemic greatly curtailed the required home visits in 2020, forcing care managers to keep in touch with clients by phone. Even assessments of potential clients had to be done by phone, a challenging task because assessors rely on their senses to determine level of care needs. Observing an older person and making judgments about their ability to see, hear, and understand instructions is an important part of assessment.

"The pandemic changed how we reached out to our clients," said Julia Pottenger, Care Manager. "It's difficult not seeing their faces and homes to really gauge how they are doing and what their environmental needs are. I know that they miss our visits as much as we miss visiting with them."

Fortunately, contracted services like the delivery of meals and medical supplies have continued without interruption.

CSSMV works with Area Agency on Aging PSA-2 to administer PASSPORT in six rural counties north and west of Dayton – Miami, Preble, Champaign, Logan, Darke and Shelby. People who do not meet level of care or financial requirements for PASSPORT can be placed on ComCare, another government program, or Shelby Senior, a program in Shelby County funded by the United Way.

# What they say about us...



## Penny Wolff

.....

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER LIFE ESSENTIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I have served on the Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyer Project Board which contracts with Life Essentials to establish legal guardianships for indigent

persons that the Probate Court declares incompetent. I have also been part of both the CSSMV Board and the Life Essentials Advisory Council. When I heard that Life Essentials was merging with CSSMV, I was so pleased. I think Life Essentials fits seamlessly with the CSSMV mission. This is such a valuable program which provides quality, humane assistance to deserving seniors. CSSMV's strategic plan to expand the program throughout the region is a welcome step towards helping more people in need. I am so proud to be associated with two outstanding organizations that are now combined to double effectiveness.

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Ms. Beth Wick Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Wick Mrs. Mary T. Widner Mr. & Mrs. John Wiesman Mr. & Mrs. Daniel S. Wigton Mr. & Mrs. Daniel S. Wigton Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Wilhelm Mr. & Mrs. Jerome H. Will, Sr. Mr. Michael Williams Mr. Peter J. Williams Mr. Shane Williams Dr. & Mrs. Thomas P. Williams Mr. & Mrs. William Williams, III Ms. Joyce Willis

Ms. Joanne M. Wible

Mr. Dave Wilson Mrs. Linda Wilson Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Wilson Mr. Rich Winans Mr. & Mrs. Ed P. Winkofsky Mr. Troy Winner Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Wise Mrs. Kristin Wisniewski Mr. & Mrs. George Wiss Mr. & Mrs. Douglas L. Wissman Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Witt Mr. Debbie Witt Ms. Lisa J. Witt Mr. L. Joseph Wittenauer Mr. & Mrs. Joe E. Wittmann Mr. & Mrs. John J. Wittmann Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wittmer Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Woerner Mr. James Woeste Ms. Mary P. Wohlslagel Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Wolfe The Honorable & Mrs. William H. Wolff, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Wolters Ms. Kaitlyn Wood Mr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Wood Mr. & Mrs. Gary L. Woodall Mr. Jason Woodard Ms. Sara E. Woodhull Mr. Richard T. Woodie Mr. Paul R. Woodie, Jr. Mrs. Jane E. Woods Mrs. Ann Wourms Mr. & Mrs. Bertrand P. Wray Mr. Howie Wright Mr. & Mrs. Wesley L. Wright Mr. & Mrs. George Wymer Mr. & Mrs. George Wymer Mr. & Mrs. William M. Yahle Mr. Mark Yandrick Ms. Berta Yenney Ms. Sandra Yocum Ms. Gail Yost Mr. & Mrs. David R. Younkin Mr. Gerald Yurek Ms. Sharon Yurkowski Mr. & Mrs. Dan Zaenglein Mr. & Mrs. John A. Zaidain Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Zehenny Mr. Marc Zehnder Dr. & Mrs. Charles L. Zeller Mr. & Mrs. Adam J. Zengel Mr. & Mrs. George E. Zengel Mrs. Deanna Zikias

# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD:



# **Greater Dayton Volunteer** Lawyers Project

The Volunteer Lawyers Project provides opportunities for attorneys to perform pro bono civil legal services to benefit persons with limited financial resources. For the Life Essentials Guardianship program, a contract with VLP means

that a staff member going into a courtroom for a guardianship hearing can rely on having legal counsel with them to make the process run as smoothly as possible. Even after Guardianship of Person has been awarded, issues can arise that call for legal representation on behalf of our client. VLP's role as a conduit to connect attorneys to pro bono clients is truly a win-win for both parties. Life Essentials Manager Rosalie Makridis notes that attorneys who work with us also come away with a better understanding of the many facets involved in guardianship, and become better-equipped to advise their other clients. Although not making home visits, care managers did travel throughout the six-county service area to deliver PPE kits to make sure that our seniors had masks, hand sanitizer and other essentials to keep them safe. Along with the delivery, a quick porch visit or a wave through a window helped clients know that we were still there for them.

Contracting for home health services became more challenging in 2020 because of a shortage of aides. What had been a growing problem only intensified because of the pandemic. Many capable nurses and aides stopped working in the home health profession because of low compensation and fear of the virus. Clients who could benefit from a personal care aide visit several times a week might only get one visit because of lack of personnel.

Our Quality Assurance team regularly monitors providers to make sure that the services meet strict standards of safety and quality.

## **Senior Outreach**

Senior Outreach Services that include visiting and respite care are done by volunteers both in Dayton and the Northern Counties. "We have had to do phone visits because of the pandemic and it just didn't feel like enough," said Teresa Sevor, Senior Outreach Program Manager. "We did stop at homes to deliver PPE like masks and hand sanitizer. It wasn't the same as a visit but at least they knew someone cared about their safety. Then at Christmastime, we dropped off a lot of gifts like little trees, hats, kitchen towels, soaps, and cookies."

In nicer weather, porch visits were popular. Periodic wellness checks have also continued when necessary. Isolation can be so damaging for older adults and any kind of connection helps.

"Some of our people couldn't get out to get groceries so we delivered food boxes to those in need," said Sevor. "We have kept in contact with each client so that no one fell through the cracks."

Partnering with CSSMV's Neighbors Helping Neighbors program, Senior Outreach also provided utility assistance to seniors in need. "We had a call from Adult Protection Services about a woman who had been without

electricity for four months," said Sevor. "Partnerships and the ability to do cross-programming have helped us serve more people in need."

#### Contributors up to \$999 (cont'd)

Mr. & Mrs. Donald P. Zimmer Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Zimmer Mr. & Mrs. Stephen C. Zimmer Ms. Rebecca J. Zimmerman Ms. Rhonda M. Zink Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Zlotnik Ms. Della M. Zona Mr. & Mrs. Marion T. Zwolski



## CONTRIBUTORS UP TO \$999 ORGANIZATIONS

ABWA Polaris Chapter Alpha Kappa Alpha Amazon Smile Foundation Bergman Seed and Service, LLC Beyer Plumbing Bonbright Distributors Bruns Animal Clinic, Ltd. CareSource Managment Group Co. Carey Electric Company Carroll Catholic High School Catholic Social Services Centerville High School Christ Child Society of Dayton Church of the Good Shepherd Community Foundations, Inc Delta XI Sorority Beta Chapter Disabled American Veterans -Dayton Chapter 9 Frontstream GE Foundation GE United Way Campaign Grace United Methodist Church H & R Block Heren Foundation U.S.A., Inc. Holy Angels School Holy Trinity Catholic Church IBM Employee Services Center Kare Excavating, Inc Kendall Hunt Publishing Company Knapke Poultry Farm, LLC Knights of Columbus - Council 12912 Knights of Columbus - Council 12912 Knights of Columbus 414882 Knights of Columbus Council #14995 Kroger Community Rewards Kroger Rewards Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Lady Sodality at St. Jospeh Catholic Church

Lunne Marketing Group Marianist Community Marianist Novitiate Morgan Family Foundation Muslim Sisters of Dayton NAASC- Dayton Chapter Network for Good Paper Systems, Inc. Penbrooke Garden Club Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program Project Read Prosperity Promotions Puzzle Plus Rahn Dental Group, Inc. RDA Group Architects, LLC St. Albert the Great School St. Francis of deSales St. Henry Catholic Church St. Luke Catholic Church St. Paul Catholic Church Temple Israel The Blackbaud Giving Fund The Bok Family Partnership The Neighborhood Nest The Northridge Group Charitable Fund The Springfield Foundation The fact that one client did not have a phone sparked an idea, so the Senior Outreach Program has recently started a pen-pal program. Since hearing loss and lack of virtual options or knowledge can only intensity isolation, it makes sense to explore as many options as possible. "It will be just another way for people to know they are not alone," said Sevor. "They will know that someone cares."

## Life Essentials

In April of 2020, CSSMV merged with Life Essentials, a small Dayton non-profit providing both guardianship services and CHUMS, an interaction group for seniors with mental illness.

Staff and volunteers for Life Essentials act as guardians for wards who are not capable of making life decisions and have no family to speak for them. "It is the responsibility of a guardian to ensure that the ward's needs are met," said Rosalie Makridis, Life Essentials Program Manager. "It may be in a skilled nursing facility, in the community, in a group home or hospital, wherever they live. The role of the guardian is that of a surrogate decision-maker, advocate, and 'watchdog' to keep the ward free from neglect, dependency, and exploitation."

The guardianship role is sometimes filled by an attorney, but Life Essentials can provide a more personal contact and ensure that needs are being met 24/7, 365 days a year. Guardians are appointed by the Probate Court. Life Essentials is usually responsible for about 200 wards in Montgomery and Greene Counties.



Care Manager Mary Lee (at left) pays a visit to a client receiving long-term senior support services. The goal is to give seniors the resources they need to maintain their independence and safely "age in place."

United Way of Alabama United Way of Allegheny United Way of Central Ohio United Way of Miami County United Way Suncoast University of Dayton University of Dayton -Marianists Religious University of Dayton Athletics Yellow Spring Community Food Pantry

## **GIFTS IN KIND INDIVIDUALS**

Mrs. Amy McCoppin Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Barnett Mrs. Rachel Braker Mr. Stephen Cain Mrs. Amy Clark Mr. Gregory Pluehrs Mr. Joseph Craig & Mrs. Mary E. Reid Mrs. Marique Cruz Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas L. D'amico Mrs. Cindy Speras Mr. & Mrs. Massimo De Marchis Mr. & Mrs. David B. Freimuth Mr. David Geers Ms. Meg Thomas Mrs. Cara Heffernen

#### ORGANIZATIONS

# Mrs. Margaret Krapf Mrs. Melody Marciniak Ms. Margaret Mitchell Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Overholser High School Mrs. Christy Piszkiewicz Brigid's Path Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Schroll Dr. Giacomo Elora & Mrs. Nicoletta Serenata Cavu Group Lt. Col. & Mrs. Jim Sprance Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Sushereba

# ABWA Polaris Chapter Alpha Kappa Alpha Archbishop Alter Catholic Big Sky Bread Co. Butler Heating & Air Conditioning Carroll Catholic High School Catholic Social Services

Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School Church of the Incarnation David's United Church of Christ The Foodbank, Inc. GFS - Gordon Food Service, Inc. H & R Block Heidelberg Distributing Co. Holy Angels School Holy Trinity Catholic Church Lady Sodality at St. Joseph Catholic Church Latter Day Saints - Feed Ohio Humanitarian Muslim Sisters of Davton NAASC-Dayton Chapter Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

## Project Read

Rahn Dental Group, Inc. St. Albert the Great Catholic Parish St. Albert the Great School St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church St. Henry Catholic Church St. Paul Catholic Church St Vincent de Paul Administration Office University of Dayton University of Dayton Athletics Yellow Spring Community Food Pantry



"Even the most vulnerable among us have a right to be treated with dignity and respect," said Makridis. "Every individual should have food, medical care, mental health treatment, and personal care. But if you do not have a voice, those needs are often not met. If the individual is fortunate enough to be appointed a Life Essentials guardian, the outcome changes."

The services provided by Life Essentials are so valuable to the community that we hope to expand their reach into the northern counties. "The addition of Life Essentials has given us another dimension with our Senior Services," said Kathy Sell, Northern Counties Director. "Rosalie and her team are very dedicated to this work. It will take time to develop relationships with the courts and train volunteers, but we can easily see the benefits of expansion of this program throughout the region."

Amber Steiner, who has worked as a Guardianship Coordinator for Life Essentials for the last three years, said, "To be given the opportunity to walk into a stranger's life and be established as their advocate and decision-maker is an incredible honor and privilege."



## GIFTS IN HONOR OF:

Margaret Begley Robin Begley Andrew & Teresa Beiring Alex Bertty Howard Boose, III Andria Chiodo Mildren S. Clay Charles & Kerrie Cross Karen L. Davis Kay & David Dempsey Regina Dixon Phil & Louisa DreetySandra MusVivan A. FinchAiden MyerJudith & R. Peter FinkeNick & AllisMary GearhardtGary & KareCarl GerstungTim & LauraDonald & Janet GrieshopJoseph ScaBill & Lorayne HyppernmeyerMaurine & SMary KuneshSharon SilbJack & Sheryl LehehanHellen SillsTom LewandowskiLaura ThimoDeacon Mike MahoneyDennis TrenClay & Mary MathileJean MarieMike & Elizabeth MontgomeryMusangw

Sandra Mussoni Kathy Welfare Aiden Myers Bruce Weller Fr. Chris Worland Nick & Allison Rehg First Responders/ Care Gary & Karen Reid Givers Tim & Laura Roesch Mary, Mother of God Joseph Scarpelli Our parents who gave us a Maurine & Jack Scott lifetime of Catholic Sharon Silberberg Education Priests and nuns Laura Thimons St. Albert families Dennis Trentman The Scarpelli family Jean Marie Vianney Those working in this time Musangwa of crisis Dorothy L. Ward TW Advisors' clients

## GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

June R. Adam Kerry A. Allswede Florence Apicella Josephine & Dominic Apicella Christine Awson Marian Basista John Bennet Linus & Marie Bertke Clarence Bittner Nanette Bowling Fr. David Brinkmoeller Tom Broerman Kay Wilson Campanile Linda & Bobby Caspar Pat Ceder Laurence Cerny Barry M. Clark Mildred Clay Nick G. Crnkovich Dolores and family Cron Amanda M. Crosthwaite Donald L. Crosthwaite, Sr. John R. Crotty

Vera A. Cunningham Lawrence L. Curk Tom Danis Thomas Charles DeBanto Robert L. Diguardi Roberto DiSalvo Rinaldo DiSalvo, Jr. William Ditzel Judith Dodge Mary Duckro Jean M. Dugan Sr. Robert Eyink R. Peter Finke Vito Fiore Carol Fishbach Joan C. Foely Patrick J. Foley Jean Fox David Galehouse Mary Lou Garner Ruth V. Gates Samuel J. Gentile Theresa George Richard K. Grieshop Deacon Ralph M. Gutman Maura A. Hamilton William C. Hansen John & Marylin Hart

**32** 2020 Catholic Social Services Community Impact Report



# **Congratulations to Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley**

# **100 Years of Service**

On behalf of all of us at Catholic Charities USA, I wish to extend our deep gratitude to Laura Roesch and the Staff and Board for your exemplary service to people in need throughout the Miami Valley. Your impact on addressing hunger, behavioral health issues, infant mortality, domestic violence, care for seniors, and many other critical issues facing vulnerable people testify to your commitment to live out the Gospel parable of the Good Samaritan in these most challenging times.

I am particularly grateful to Laura Roesch for her service on the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities USA. Her leadership and wisdom have made a national impact of the ministry of Catholic Charities across our country.

We join you in celebration and gratitude for 100 years of ministry to so many vulnerable people. Thank you for being a powerful instrument of hope and compassion across the Miami Valley.

With our prayers and warm wishes,

Bonne Markham, P. Phil

Sister Donna Markham OP, PhD President & CEO Catholic Charities USA





Since CSSMV CEO Laura Roesch was elected to serve a three-year term on the Catholic Charities USA Board of Trustees in 2018, she has worked to have an impact at the national level, as well as here in the Miami Valley. Pictured here, (third from right) Laura joined other Catholic Charities leaders meeting at the USDA to advocate for rural communities during CCUSA Hill Day.

Mary Hart Shelly Heim Ann Henry Irma Hocker Quentin & Susan Honnert Marilyn Horton Arthur C. House Micheal Hughes Richard D. Johnson Aphrodite Kanistros Beth Ann Kepler Elizabeth Kisck Zoe Lane John LatvaDThomas J. LaufersweilerCRichard & Anna LeiboldVJohn LeikerJHelen Kupski LepplaCEleanor LittmanFCarl LombardMJohn MacilwaineSLinda MajkaSCzeshaw & MarthaJMakiewiczLMartha A. & Vincent J.SMassucciCFrank McBride

Dale Menke Grace Miller William Monahan James "Jim" Monroe Carl Moorman Robert & Barbara Murray Margaret Murrin Sara Myers Sr. Mary Naughton, SSJ Joan Niquette Lt. Col. James Nordmeyer Stacy O'Connor Carmela Pandolfi

Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk Anne J. Porter Wanda Pospisil Judy Ralph Vicky Ramsey Bob Remm Suzanne Richardson Berma & William Riley Mildred & Fred Rost Josemaria Guadalupe Rubio Pat Rupp Jennifer Hart Schaffer Polly Scherger Glenn P. Schimpf John Schwab Ann Alig Shimek Joan F. Slater Danette Smith Andrew Sparks Eric Sprance Anna L. Starrett Marcie A. Stonerock Richard Strathearn Donad J. Trentman Paul M. Wagner Bon Waite

Cecelia Walling Pat Wampler L. Waters, Jr. Frieda M. Watts Joseph & Margery Watts Catherine Weaver Hyla Weiskind Bruce Weller Robert Whalen Agnes Wheeler Robert E. Whelan, Jr. Carl Whitener Richard Wible Marie & Frank Widner Lee Wiedeke William & Mary Jo Wittenauer

## VOLUNTEERS

Sahar Abouchahine-Allan Cyndi Adams Deborah Adler-Codeluppi Carol Ahlers Piankhi Amen Ra Brian Anderson Trey Archer Margaret Archie Cassandra Armstrong Jody Armstrong Adam Armstrong Amparo Arnold Edward Arnold Laura Barnes Sr. Carol Bauer† Ann Becker Robin Begley Christian Bermick Krista Bertke Leah (Bertke) Valez Sheryl Betche

† deceased

# servant leadership for our community

The phrase "servant leadership" was first used in an essay by Robert K. Greenleaf who said, "The servant-leader is servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead." At Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, we are blessed to have numerous servant leaders among our staff, but on a larger scale we believe that over the course of 99 years our organization itself has come to fulfill the role of a servant leader within our community.

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In 1921, CSSMV got its start as a branch of the Bureau of Catholic Charities and Social Services of Hamilton County. The branch

was established in response to extreme poverty that was endangering the health and safety of a large Catholic immigrant population in Dayton, and the number of Dayton area children who had been orphaned by the 1918 flu epidemic.

Our areas of focus have. of course, taken on new dimensions as we've built on our core strengths to address more of the challenges facing our neighbors. As the years have passed and our agency has grown in both scope and professionalism, we've adapted to the changing needs of our community, but never lost the fundamental aspiration to provide help and hope in a meaningful way. But we also discovered that to

effect real change, we could not focus only on acts of service; we would need to step forward as a leader, to advocate for those we serve and engage in meaningful dialogue and planning to address issues from a community perspective.

Leadership has meant stepping forward and pivoting when necessary, to take on new challenges like long-term tornado recovery and our community health outreach initiative to reach pregnant and parenting women. Both of these programs were launched in response to clear community needs in recent years. Because we have built our reputation as a leader in

providing services that are professional, effective, and respectful of our clients, we've earned a seat at the table as our community seeks solutions to problems including homelessness, infant mortality, domestic violence, and food insecurity. We engage and encourage; we both share and gain insights; and we advocate for those whose voices might not otherwise be heard.

We are grateful that after 99 years we are still here to serve. And we are inspired by the opportunity to continue bringing about positive changes, today and in the years to come.

Be leaders whenever it behooves you to be. Leaders of thought, leaders of action, leaders of joy, leaders of hope, leaders of the construction of a better world. POPE FRANCIS

•

.....



**Our Pregnancy & Parenting Support team** has found creative ways to continue serving clients throughout the pandemic.

#### Volunteers (cont'd)

Joan Binzer Betty Blue David Bohardt Jeff Bohrer Barbara Boose Howard Boose Olivia Brintlinger-Conn Cassandra Brooks William Brunner Jim Budde Madeline Calhoun George Calko Shelia Calko

Gai Bowler Cannon Todd Dammeyer Michael Van Cannon Keith Davis Mose Cannon, Jr. Mary Kay Democko Raphael Carranza Garry Demus Brett Chmiel Eric Deutsch Junghyeon Cho Nick Ditzel Gary Codeluppi Molly Dowd Howard Cook Kathryn Downing Trudy Cordero John Dunlap Kerry Corthell **Ronald Eckerle** Alexxa Crosby Janet Edwards Joanna Cross Scott Edwards Laurie Cornett Cross Sue Elsner Beth Esposito

**Beverly Fanz** 

Youssef Farhat Matt Farrell Rachel Feltner Susan Ferguson Roger Ferry Vivian Finch-Courts Samantha Fledderjohann Eileen Flynn **Evie Freimuth** Marv Funke David Garrett Marv Gearhardt David Geers

James Ghory, Jr. Janis Gimbrone Colleen R. Gong Emily Goubeaux Catherine Grady Brian Gravunder Molly Gravunder Hayley Green Don Grieshop **Richard Haas Bick Hall** Stephen Hall Craig Ham Breanna Hamilton Margaret Hawkins Ted Hecht Brian Heitkamp Mark Henestofel Robert Herider **Bob Hickey** Stephen Hoendorf Louis Homan Cherita Howard Irene Howard James Hunter Marvin Ingram Emily lvey **Diane Jacoby** 

Elizabeth Jacoby Patty James Dana Johnson Kathleen Kammer Sharon Kerber Mia Kerivan-O'Malley Daniel Klco Rev. Doug Klinsing Steve Kohls Sue Koverman Lucy Kramer Daniel Kraus Lauren Kroger Kevin Krucki

Mary Lacher Barbara Lain Brittany Lancaster Sandra Laufersweiler Jacqueline Lawless Kate Lehner Leo Lehner Linda Lopez Victor Lopez-Lopez Caitlin Loughlin Pamela Lubbers Ahmad Mack Danny Mangelsdorf Michael McCann

Stephanie McChesney Megan McDonald Ron McDonald Amy McEntee Michael McFadden Marianne McFall Brandon McLemore La'Dashia McNichols Brian Meyer Loraine Mitter Anna Monnett Thomas Monnig Teresa Moses Domina Mukourukaka

34 2020 Catholic Social Services Community Impact Report

# our staff

FRED ROGERS - BETTER KNOWN SIMPLY AS "MR. ROGERS" -FAMOUSLY SHARED A PIECE OF ADVICE FROM HIS MOTHER: **"I OOK FOR THE** HELPERS, YOU CAN AI WAYS FIND PEOPLE WHO ARE HELPING."

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With a staff of more than 100 employees across four office locations, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley benefits from the diversity of our team. If there's one thing we all have in common, though, it's a desire to be one of those helpers!

Here are some things you probably didn't know about #TeamCSSMV...

- Collectively, our team has 801 total years of service with our agency. The longest-serving single member of our staff is Shelia Wright-Davis, who has been with us for an incredible 41 years.
- More than 50 members of our staff have earned professional licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Social Worker (LSW), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), or Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW).
- CSSMV staff members also focus on helping others in their spare time. In a survey of our staff, 57% of respondents reported that they had volunteered their time with area non-profits, schools, churches, and other organizations in 2020. And 13% of survey respondents said that they had served on a non-profit board in 2020.

Opportunities to join our team can be found on our website, at cssmv.org/about/job-career-opportunities.

# EXCELLENCE IN IMPACT AWARD:



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Teresa has spent most of her 26 years at Catholic Social Services with the Senior Services PASSPORT Program as a care manager and assessor. Two years ago, she transitioned to become **Program Manager for Senior** 

Services in Davton. With the addition of Life Essentials to the agency, Teresa has been the glue keeping all Senior Services in Sidney and Dayton working together. In the words of Kathy Sell, Northern Counties Director, "If my family needed support or an assessment of an older family member, I would want Teresa by my side. She is kind, gentle, and understanding. She has gone above and beyond, especially throughout the pandemic, to visit our seniors and make sure anyone in need received food, utility assistance or support." Teresa exemplifies the true spirit of the work of Catholic Social Services.

Elizabeth Murray Megan Murray Hannah Myers Karen Myers Gentile Nabirori Jessica Nelsen Kathy Nichols Mary Jane O'Hara Tony Ortiz Larissa O'Shea Megan Passon **Tilyn Patrick** Lauren Peltier

Ryan Peltier David Richard Tim Pepper Dennis Percy David Richey Linda Petric Amy Riegel Thomas Phillips Doug Rindler Sr. Linda Pleiman Brad Roediger Alan Poplinski Gene Romie Robert Portune Cara Powers Rachel Rosen **Rachel Prindle** Nancy Raley Barb Rowland John Riazzi Kathy Rupp Thomas Rice Patti Rupp-Hunt

Matthew Richard Adriane Rogers Darlene Routhier

Molly Russell Nona Rutledge Jessica Saunders Beth Savage Matt Scarr Jamie Schade Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr CJ Schoeff David Schoeff Nancy Schroll Matt Sciarretti Peggy Seboldt

Fr. Tom Shearer Norm Shearer Elena Shepherd Geunwoo Shim Dianne Sielschott Tom Silverii Donna Simmons Carolyn Smith Edward M. Smith Sori Song William Sorensen Teresa Spanel

Eli Sperry Andrea Stamas Kathleen Stechschulte Ileana Stone David Stonebraker Irene Stonebraker Joseph Stork Ross Szlag Julie Taylor David Taylor Jennifer Tellez Shannon Tessmer

Kathy Theodore Phil Theodore Laura Thimons Svlvia Tillar Taylor Trimble Leonard Turner Cathy Underwood **Richard Valentine** Clare Wade Karen Wampler Jenny Weber Jim Weckesser

Kathy Welfare Christene Wells Karen Wendeln Michael Whalen Beth Wick Marv Kav Wick Tashyra Wilson Kurt Wissman Christopher Wittmann Penny Wolff Natalie Woodson Kathleen Zaidain

Every effort has been made to include all 2020 donors and volunteers in these listings; we apologize if any omissions have been made.

# financial summary



# There are countless ways to describe the unprecedented events of 2020.

## FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY 90 YEARS,

Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley was unable to host an in-person annual meeting. The 25th Annual Jazz Party, the Celebration of Caring in the Northern Counties, and the Shine Dayton Celebration were all forced to cancel. From March on, volunteers were limited and guests were restricted in all our buildings.

Despite all that, support for CSSMV reached record heights in 2020. Thanks to creativity and passion from volunteers and staff, we were able to share stories of our impact in ways we've never been able to do before with our Sentimental Journey video series. We learned to host virtual events, hand-made more than 1,000 rosaries, made more than 700 front porch deliveries, and even took supporters on a live virtual tour of the Vatican.

In the end, we surpassed budgeted goals for the Annual Fund and events, increased membership in the 1921 Society, saw the realization of several Good Shepherd Legacy Society gifts, and engaged a broader community of supporters.

We pride ourselves in being good stewards of your support, and as we now begin our Centennial Celebration in 2021 we look forward to continuing to strengthen the financial resources we provide to accomplish our mission.

Mike Lehner

Director of Marketing and Development

# **2020 Financial Statement**

#### REVENUE

71%	Government Funding	<b>\$1</b> 6,172,038
24%	Contributions	<mark>\$5,4</mark> 39,069
2%	Program Fees/ Other	\$390, <mark>3</mark> 13
2%	One Faith One Hope One Love Campaign	<mark>\$347,33</mark> 4
1%	Catholic Ministries Appeal	\$ <mark>288,65</mark> 4
1%	United Way	\$2 <mark>26,724</mark>
TOTAL	REVENUE	\$22,864,131

#### EXPENSES

68%	PASSPORT/Assisted Living Waiver/Care Coordination/Senior Outreach	\$13,9 <mark>74,082</mark>
9%	Mission Services (Food Pantry & FSS)	\$1,90 <mark>6,433</mark>
5%	Refugee Services	\$1,033,602
4%	Management and General	\$872,464
2%	Development and Public Relations	\$511,274
2%	Pregnancy & Parenting Services (Dayton)	\$498,618
2%	Northern Counties	\$402,036
2%	Life Essentials Guardianship	\$343,369
1%	Long Term Tornado Recovery	\$279,628
1%	Professional Counseling (Dayton)	\$244,812
1%	Mobility Management	\$241,224
1%	Erma's House Supervised Visitation	\$139,169
1%	Services to the Elderly (Dayton)	\$132,270
TOTAL	EXPENSES	\$20,578,981
Non-O	perating Costs	\$251,898
TOTAL	\$20,830,879	
Change	e in Net Assets*	\$2,033,252

\*\$1,592,808 of this amount reflects funds designated for future long-term capital projects. The numbers presented in this report are unaudited. The official audited 2020 financial report will be available upon request after June 30, 2021.

# fundraising in a pandemic



The Opus Est Committee and our development team shared stories from eight of our programs and miraculously raised enough support to offset the potential losses of not being able to run the Jazz Party, Celebration of Caring and Shine Dayton events combined.



Volunteers and staff made more than 700 home deliveries across eight counties to share our gratitude with volunteers and supporters of the agency who we would not be able to see in 2020.



The Pat Rupp Memorial Golf Tournament was the only in-person event we were able to hold in 2020, and we had a record crowd of 176 participants.



The annual meeting, which has been held every year since 1932, was held virtually soon after the pandemic started, and to keep things light hearted, staff embraced TV broadcaster dress codes.

# 2020 board of directors



IT HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS HONOR to serve as the Chair of the Board of Directors at Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley for these past two years. When I reflect on everything that our organization, our region and indeed our world have been through in the past two years, I can not help but feel abundant pride in the staff, volunteers, and supporters of this amazing agency.

I hope you take time this year to celebrate with us as we mark the historic milestone of 100 years of service. Surviving for that long is one thing, but to continually grow and evolve the way CSSMV has is a testament to the amazing

people who have been involved with the organization. The staff and Board of Directors have created a culture which is always asking, "How can we do more? How can we apply the lessons we've learned in new and innovative ways to maximize impact?" Because of this, I am more excited for the future of this agency than I am inspired by its past.

In these brief two years I have witnessed the speed at which CSSMV can respond and how quickly the staff can develop into subject matter experts. When 15 tornados struck the region on Memorial Day 2019, CSSMV had zero disaster recovery experience. Two years later, our staff have closed more than 2,000 cases and serve as the leaders of the region's Long-term Tornado Recovery case management team. In 2020, when Life Essentials was looking for a merger partner to help further develop its guardianship services, CSSMV saw a vastly under-resourced need in our community, and we knew that we could help it flourish. When a global pandemic began, CSSMV's vigilant standards across all programs enabled us to adjust to COVID-19 safety protocols swiftly and nimbly. The agency has a remarkable capacity to see each emerging challenge as an opportunity to improve as an organization and, more importantly, to improve our community.

The next century of service is certain to bring new challenges – ones we cannot possibly yet imagine - but to which we will be ready to respond. I am most grateful and humbled to have played a role in leading CSSMV during these past two historic years, and I hope you will join me in finding new ways to support the mission in the future.

(ara W. Powers-

Cara Powers 2019-2021 Board Chair



Donald L. Grieshop

Jody Armstrong



Tony Ortiz



**Rachel Prindle** 



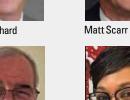
Norm Shearer



Sister Carol Bauer 1

Stephen Hall

**Timothy Pepper** 





Sister Carol Bauer served multiple terms on the CSSMV Board of Directors beginning in 1983, and held officer positions as President and Vice-President, as well as Chair of the Strategic Planning, Development, and Community & Agency Committees.



**Beth Esposito** 



Jim Ghory



Marvin Ingram



Ron McDonald



Sr. Linda Pleiman



CJ Schoeff







# from archbishop schnurr

## Dear Friends,

This has certainly been an unusual and challenging year. As we look back, we recognize that many of our experiences in 2020 were colored by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. For most of the year, we had to find creative ways to safely engage with our parish communities, our friends and relatives, our work, and even our volunteer activities. For some people, these adjustments were very stressful. For others, they were catastrophic – making it even more difficult to cope with day-to-day challenges that may have long preceded the pandemic.

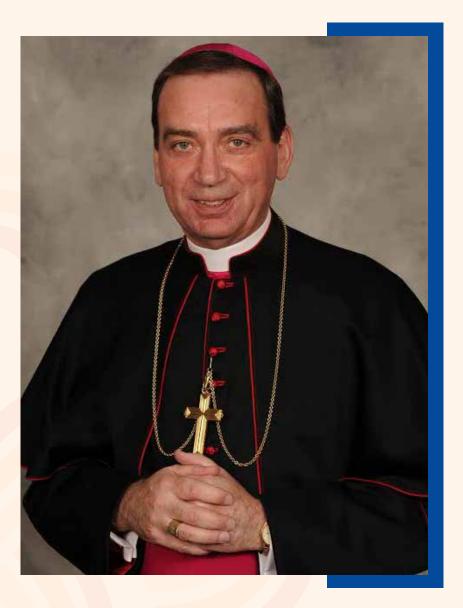
For 99 years, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley has followed Christ's call to love our neighbor, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to caring for those who face challenges both great and small. In 2020, CSSMV embraced the opportunity to continue its mission of service in the face of new obstacles.

These services – feeding the hungry, counseling the woeful, welcoming the stranger, protecting the sanctity of life, offering a hand up – are truly the work of Christ, work that shows His presence in the world. This agency reaches out to those who are the most vulnerable among us, offering them both help and hope.

Through the course of 2021, we will be blessed to celebrate both the bicentennial of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the centennial of Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley. As our state and nation continue taking cautious steps toward regaining a sense of normal, we thank our Lord for the opportunity to reflect on the impact and legacy of these remarkable histories.

May God bless us all as we move forward as one family of God into our next hundred years.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr Archbishop of Cincinnati





922 West Riverview Avenue Dayton, Ohio 45402

#### SERVICE LOCATIONS

Eckerle Administration Center 922 W. Riverview Avenue Dayton, Ohio 937.223.7217

Center for Families 1046 Brown Street Dayton, Ohio 937.223.7217 40 S. Perry Street, Suite 130 Dayton, Ohio 937.586.0545 Northern Counties Office

Life Essentials Office

100 S. Main Avenue, Suite 101 Sidney, Ohio 937.498.4593 or 833.289.0227

# Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @CSSMV

# Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley is accredited or licensed by:

Better Business Bureau of Dayton and Miami Valley Council on Accreditation (COA) Certified Ohio Outpatient Mental Health Facility Ohio Department of Medicaid

#### CSSMV is affiliated with:

Area Agency on Aging, PSA-2 Catholic Charities USA Darke County United Way Miami Valley Long Term Recovery Operations Group Montgomery County Human Services Ohio Department of Aging Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Shelby County United Way Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services United Way of Greater Dayton Area United Way of Auglaize County U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

#### CSSMV is an agency of:

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati

# **2021 EVENT SCHEDULE**

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

# **CSSMV's 100th Anniversary Celebration**

We invite you to join us for our centennial celebration, with a full day of music, food, and fun! This free event will have something to offer for the entire family, so be sure to mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details, coming soon!

MONDAY, JULY 19 Pat Rupp Memorial Golf Tournament

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 21** Celebration of Caring

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19 The 2021 Jazz Party: Together Again 1921 100 2021 TO GENERATIONS

For more information and event registration, visit cssmv.org/events or call 937.223.7217

Non-profit Organization

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