

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans

Since Hurricane Katrina, the Mariposa Foundation has generously supported Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans through varied funding channels: emergency grants, operating support and seed monies for developing programs.

About Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans is an umbrella agency with 44 programs and three affiliated ministries delivering health and human services to the poor and vulnerable. Catholic Charities services are rooted in the eight civil parishes of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, with food and nutrition services benefitting the entire state of Louisiana. Catholic Charities serves the homeless, hungry, the elderly, at-risk youth, pregnant women, individuals with developmental delays, and many more.

Café Hope

Café Hope is dedicated to providing at-risk youth an opportunity to participate in life skills and educational courses, gain on-the-job training and certifications in the restaurant and hospitality industries, and receive mentorship during and after the training.

Each day, students participate in morning classes and then act as chefs and wait staff at lunchtime, during which Café Hope operates as a full-service restaurant open to the public. The target population of this program is low-income, at-risk youth ages 14-21 years, primarily consisting of high school drop outs, out-of-school youth, unemployed or dislocated high school graduates and juvenile offenders. With a challenge grant from the Mariposa Foundation, Café Hope was able to complete the necessary capital renovations to get the café up and running.

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center in Tremé is located in one of the most historic and culturally significant areas in New Orleans. Through support from the Mariposa Foundation, this community resource was able to reopen and reestablish services that help to anchor the neighborhood. Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center provides health and wellness sessions, adult and children's education programming, financial literacy and job skills training and entertainment. It is a vibrant hub of activity for the neighborhood, and will continue to grow in importance, as the former residents of the adjacent Lafitte Housing Development return to what will now be Providence Community Housing.

Emergency Response & Recovery

In times of emergencies and unforeseen need, unrestricted funding helps Catholic Charities immediately and flexibly assist those who are most vulnerable. With charitable support from the Mariposa Foundation, Catholic Charities has been able to respond to multiple emergency situations in the community. Following Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike, we served more than one million individuals through counseling, case management, rental assistance, utility assistance, food and other information/referrals.

Most recently, the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has posed a severe threat not only to the environment but also to the economic welfare of coastal communities including companies and individuals involved in commercial fishing; oyster and shrimping industries; shop keepers and small businesses; companies and individuals involved in the wholesale seafood processing and packaging industry; dock and marina owners and operators; commercial and private boat owners; restaurants; property owners and developers; the tourism industry; and city, parish and state government agencies. There is continued need to address the issues of housing, food, physical/mental healthcare, transitional jobs, public education and disaster preparedness for those affected by the oil spill.

As the lead agency responding to human needs resulting from the oil spill, Catholic Charities has served an estimated 29,332 people* (about 11,392 families*) with emergency assistance including rental

assistance, utility assistance, food assistance (in partnership with its affiliated corporation Second Harvest), other direct assistance and case management. Catholic Charities mental health counselors have logged more than 10,000 visits with fishermen and their families struggling in the wake of the spill. Not only has the Mariposa Foundation financially supported these services, their trustees have advocated for our clients on a national level.

** Many individuals and families have received multiple services from Catholic Charities. Numbers as of September 28, 2010.*