

Branches

Summer 2020

A PUBLICATION OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY CATHOLIC CHARITIES



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OUR MISSION

The Mission of Livingston County Catholic Charities is the work of the Catholic Church, to share the love of Christ by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

VISION STATEMENT

Livingston County Catholic Charities aims to provide human services to Livingston County residents regardless of race, gender, religion, age, disability or financial ability.



LIVINGSTON COUNTY
**CATHOLIC
CHARITIES**
HELPING LIVES GROW

We Couldn't do it without YOU!!

The Volunteer Caregiver Program (VCP) has nearly doubled the number of seniors being served in the last three months, and continues to grow, due to the tremendous need for this vulnerable population during Covid-19. It has been an extremely isolating time for them. Through your donation, we are able to meet this growing demand and provide critical services to vulnerable seniors.

One of our regular clients eagerly awaits his friendly visits, so when he was contacted about the shut down of in-person visits, he was very sad and stressed. He said "these visits are the best part of my week!" His volunteer has been keeping in touch by phone. Another recipient of a friendly visit was in tears at the first meeting, stating that she is so lonely, has no family around. In addition to friendly visits she also depends on Catholic Charities to take her to the doctor. She said that "the staff are Angels!"

Edward Knitter, a driver with the Volunteer Caregiver Program since January 2020, has continued helping elderly shut-ins through the pandemic. Edward picks up and delivers food from Gleaners Food Bank. This gives him the ability to ensure that the food he delivers includes varied selection of nutritious choices.

While he has not been able to take clients to do their own grocery shopping or to doctor appointments like usual, he is happy that has been able to use his time more efficiently. He said "I like that I can now visit three people in my one day volunteering, instead of just one."

We are incredibly thankful for our donors and volunteers; you are the backbone of this service. Volunteers needed – join the team! Contact Jamie or Katie at 517-545-5944 to learn more.



VCP staff, Jamie Hicks-Thacker, assists a client; Volunteer, John Bellanti, makes a food delivery



Reflections and Appreciations of a Caregiver

Because of you, caregivers like Melanie received valuable and creative support at a time of great need." This is Melanie's story.



Kay & Patti

As I sit here getting ready for my day, and mom's (Kay) second week of going back to Be Our Guest Adult Day, I'm reflecting on the three months that I was taking care of her 24/7.

Wow, there is just so much to say I don't know where to begin. From all the beautiful cards and letters (the effort on the cards and letters was amazing) to the colorful things that caught her attention and kept her busy for just even a few minutes during the day were such a big help. The suggestions in the cards with activities (Melissa) worked at keeping her stimulated. Wonderful music videos with Michael singing on them were priceless. I loved those as much as mom did. They, along with the zoom support meetings, kept me as well as mom feeling "part of" and got us out of our heads of feeling very alone.

(Continued on page 3)

Your Donations at Work!

Thanks to all of our regular and special appeal donors, new supporters and local foundations who have invested in strengthening LCCC's services! Your donations helped to provide the following during quarantine:

- 964 individual mental health counseling sessions
- 262 individual substance abuse counseling sessions
- 56 assessments for new mental health & substance abuse counseling clients
- 25 check-in calls each week to family caregivers and Guests in Be Our Guest Adult Day program
- 12,900 lbs. of food delivered by Volunteer Caregiver program staff & volunteers
- 193.5 transportation hours for home bound seniors to critical medical appointments
- 58 child visits by LCCC Foster Care Caseworkers
- 98 family visitation visits through LCCC Foster Care program
- And so much more!

#DrivenbyFaithHereForAll
#LivingstonCountyStrong

Salute to the Stars Covid-19 Update

Sponsors and ticket holders for LCCC's Salute to the Stars 35th Anniversary Celebration stepped up in a big way to help maintain critical services in our communities. These local businesses along with attendees quickly shifted their sponsorship dollars and ticket purchase prices to help LCCC shift to telehealth for mental health and substance abuse counseling and continue to provide critical services for children in foster care and the elderly.

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ON-GOING GROUPS & MEETINGS

Dementia Caregiver Support Group

Please go to www.LivingstonCatholicCharities.org or email Suzi@LivingstonCatholicCharities.org for more information.

Foster Parent Informational Meeting

3rd Monday of each month at 5:00-7:00pm, please email Amy@LivingstonCatholicCharities.org for more information.

Substance Abuse Engagement Groups

Mondays 6:00-7:30 pm, Wednesdays and Fridays 10:00 am-11:30 pm

Program News

Be Our Guest Adult Day – It has been so hard not seeing our guests every day. They enrich our lives so much and we know the activities are crucial to them! Be Our Guest re-opened on July 13 to limited numbers and more precautions to keep everyone safe.

We are happy to once again provide the respite our Guest's loved ones need. Joe F. said, "Be Our Guest has been a real blessing for me. I'm able to look after other needs that need to be done while my wife, Jean, is being well taken care of for a few hours. While Be Our Guest was under shut down we received many phone calls and cards to check if everything was OK and if we needed anything. Thank you to all and God bless all of you!"



Bi-monthly Caregiver Support Group continues to meet via Zoom. Call Suzi or LeAnn at 517-546-9910 to be added. Follow us on Facebook or check our web site calendar for other upcoming caregiver activities.

Special Ministries – Our Special Ministries staff is nothing if not resilient! They came together for many drop-in visits during COVID-19 for shut-in adults with disabilities. They have kept their clients engaged through Zoom Bingo, craft sessions and trivia events; keeping in touch as much as possible.



In July they eased back into in-person events with a trip to Taylor's Beach and haircut appointments. Additionally, there were limited attendance cardio-drumming sessions offered.

By providing multiple sessions we hoped to give everyone the opportunities to join the fun.

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

Do you have room in your HEART for one more child?

Are you interested in providing temporary care for a Livingston County child in need? Livingston County Catholic Charities seeks loving stable Livingston County residents to become Foster Parents and open their lives and home to a child in need.

We would love to hear from you at 517-545-5944 or fostering@livingstoncatholiccharities.org.



Turning 65 this year? Need help navigating the Medicare/Medicaid insurance system? Please contact Melodie or Beth at 517-545-5944 for assistance.

Medicare Part D Sign-up
(Oct. 15 - Dec. 7, 2020)

My main support system there was Patti. She tirelessly called me back. Checking in on me often and making sure things were all right. I know it was more for me than it was for my mom but it directly affected my mom. When I was in a good space, she was in a good space. She listened and pulled me through some rough times, and when I needed her, she was always there. She made me feel capable and reaffirmed that I wasn't losing my mind with this crazy disease of dementia.

The encouragement, support and wisdom that was given to me can not be put into words of how grateful I am to be in touch with such wonderful people at the Be Our Guest facility. Everyone that is employed there cares as genuinely about my mom's final journey as I do!

Forever Blessed,
Melanie S.

A Lasting Legacy

Considering making a Charitable Bequest in your will to LCCC to strengthen our ability to serve future generations?

Wondering what other Planned Giving opportunities are available to you as you plan for your favorite charity's future?

Please feel free to contact Julie or Mark with any questions or desires regarding your interest in leaving a lasting legacy to LCCC. Additionally, please discuss your decision with your financial advisor or attorney.

Leaving a Bequest makes it easy to help without dipping into your income or savings!

LCCC Services

Mental Health Counseling

Nationally accredited family service agency offering counseling for individuals, groups, couples, families and children. Most insurances are accepted and a sliding fee is offered for the uninsured.

Volunteer Caregiver Program

Volunteer services designed to assist older adults to remain independent and in their own homes with grace and dignity.

Community Liaison (formerly Resource Advocacy)

Connecting seniors 60+ years of age to local, state and federal resources and services to aid in living independently.

Prevention of Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation

Providing outreach and education campaigns to increase public awareness of elder abuse and how to prevent it.

Substance Abuse Prevention

Communities Mobilizing for Change in Partnership with the Livingston County Community Alliance and the Livingston Community Prevention Project. Activities include: Big Red Barrel, Safe Homes, Project Sticker Shock and more.

Substance Abuse Treatment

Individual and group therapy provided following an initial assessment and determination of appropriate level of care. Free drop-in Engagement Group offered several times a week for those struggling with addiction. Most insurances are accepted, along with government contracts and a sliding fee scale for the uninsured.

Parish Ministry

A Lasting Promise Couple's Communication, Catholic Council on Aging.

Foster Care and Adoption

Providing temporary care for children while working toward reunification with the biological family. If reunification is not possible, LCCC will seek adoptive parents for the child(ren).

Be Our Guest Adult Day

A supportive and caring environment for memory impaired adults who would benefit from a structured day setting. Our goal is to provide meaningful services that enrich the lives of older adults, families and caregivers.

Special Ministries

Providing quality programming for adults living with cognitive and physical disabilities.



Visit Livingston County Catholic Charities on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram



The Giving Tree

I want to Help Lives Grow by supporting LCCC!

Please designate your gift as indicated below:

\$ _____ Senior Services Programs
\$ _____ Counseling
\$ _____ Substance Abuse Prevention
\$ _____ Foster Care & Adoption
\$ _____ Livingston Co. Catholic Charities Endowment Fund
\$ _____ Special Ministries
\$ _____ One-Time Charge or \$ _____ Monthly Charge for 12 months

****Ask your employer if they have a MATCHING GIFT FORM and mail it in with your donation.**

Please charge my gift to: _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ American Express

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Livingston County Catholic Charities
2020 E. Grand River Ave.
Suite 104
Howell, MI 48843



Thank you!

Donations can be made on-line through
www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org



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