

# Catholic Charities

SUMMER NEWS 2014



## From the Director

It's hard to believe but 2014 is more than halfway over! We lead such busy lives these days that time seems to literally dissolve before our eyes. I know I am often guilty of not getting all the things accomplished that I really thought were important. So I question, are they really important? If something (people, time, projects) is a priority in our lives, would we not make sure to get them accomplished? Perhaps the midpoint of the year is a good time to re-examine our priorities. I hope that in the last half of 2014, I will take the time to be kind and share my bounty with those in need. God has certainly blessed Catholic Charities with many good, kind, and faithful supporters who share their bounty with our neighbors in need. We are constantly re-examining our programs and their effectiveness in helping those who reach out to Catholic Charities for assistance. Our ultimate goal is to help those in need live free from the stress of poverty. This is a daunting task that requires all of us working together. Your continued support in donations and prayers is appreciated more than I can communicate in this message. Catholic Charities thanks you for sharing in our mission to provide help and create hope as we serve all.

**Joan A. Hess**  
*Agency Director*

## We've been on the Move!

In January 2014, the building that houses Catholic Charities sustained extensive water damage due to pipes that burst during the winter's cold. We had to evacuate the building immediately and were blessed by the Lincoln Hills Development Corporation who had some space we could temporarily occupy, thus allowing us to "stay in business." After four long months, we are back in our home building at 802 9th Street in Tell City. While the building is not yet completely renovated, the smell of new paint and new carpet greeted us as we returned. We plan to hold an open house in late summer or early fall to show you our renovated building and allow you the opportunity to see and hear about our impactful programs first-hand. Stay tuned for details!



## Providing Help through Perry County Food Coalition

Catholic Charities serves as the fiscal agent for the Perry County Food Coalition. This coalition was formed by the United Way of Perry County and brings together all five food pantries in Perry County to share best practices, help each other with problematic issues, and conduct much-needed food drives. Any food collected in a community food drive for the Perry County Food Coalition comes to the Catholic Charities office where it is weighed and then distributed evenly to the participating food pantries. The five food pantries in Perry County also share any monetary donations. The money is placed into an account with the Tri-State Food Bank, allowing the food pantries to purchase needed items at a greatly reduced rate.



**Food is a year-round need.** 1 in 5 children face food insecurity on a daily basis. Please consider providing help through a non-perishable food drive at your church, work place, or community group. This simple act can create hope for many who are in need. For more information, call Catholic Charities at 812-547-0903.

## Adoption Awareness

Last year, we launched an Adoption Awareness education campaign in the area. The goal of this campaign is to educate the general public about the option of adoption, which is a loving, selfless act for both birthparents and adoptive parents. While we are not an adoption agency, we do partner with our sister agency in New Albany, St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities, to assist anyone interested in learning more about the adoption process.



In the campaign's first year, we held a gathering with deanery youth and began the education process with them. We had some give-a-ways in the form of car magnets, plastic bracelets, and lapel pins. Thanks to a compassionate and generous supporter, we were also able to have some beautiful billboards proclaiming "Consider Adoption."

On November 16, we will host another gathering with the deanery youth to continue the educational aspects of adoption. Deanery religious education leaders will be sharing the information with their students. We also hope to institute some adoption ambassadors in area high schools, recognizing they are often the first to hear of an unplanned pregnancy among the classmates. These ambassadors can offer a compassionate heart to anyone needing to contact us. If you are interested in learning more about our Adoption Awareness Program, please contact Catholic Charities at 812-547-0903.

## Harvest Time

As we are in the harvesting time for our gardens, will you consider sharing any excess produce you may have with Catholic Charities? This produce will be shared at our weekly Table of Blessings, as well as with area food pantries and clients who come to our office in need. Any amount of fresh produce – from one tomato to a bushel or more – is a treat for many living in poverty – especially children. Your generosity will reap a harvest of better health and thankful hearts.

Want to join us in making a difference?

**COME JOIN US IN PROVIDING HELP AND CREATING HOPE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED.**

Volunteers are always needed at the Table of Blessings, in the Early Years Store, or occasionally with weighing and sorting food. If you are interested in helping, please call Catholic Charities at 812-547-0903 or email [jhess@catholiccharitiestellcity.org](mailto:jhess@catholiccharitiestellcity.org).

**Catholic Charities**  
Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.