



Catholic Charities
Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.

 Forward to a Friend

January 2018

Creating Lasting Change - and HOPE!

Thoughts from Cheri Bush, Development Director for Catholic Charities in
Bloomington and Becky's Place



"Give a man a fish, and he'll eat for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he'll eat for a lifetime." - Chinese proverb

Let me start by thanking God for the privilege of working with Catholic Charities and Becky's Place. So often when I talk with our directors about the men, women and children that are building lasting hope and healing through our programs I am moved to tears. Women are finding safe, permanent homes and stable jobs. Families are developing new and better ways to interact. Couples are repairing their marriages. Children are finding someone who can help them cope with trauma and grief. God is making **lasting changes** in the lives of the people we serve. We are blessed to be providing help and create hope for all in need and we couldn't do it without your involvement!

Regardless of how you are involved - volunteer, council member, staff, prayer warrior or financial supporter - you are making a difference. Your life is changed through your generosity. Giving allows us to experience opportunity, healing, joy and - greatest of all, HOPE. **In what ways have you been changed by your involvement with Catholic Charities and Becky's Place?** We want to hear your stories and learn how we can better serve you on your life's journey. Please email your story to me, Cheri Bush, at cbush@archindy.org.

Thank you for your generous spirit! We truly cannot do any of this without you!

Helping Cathy Find Her Smile Again

Cathy* came to Becky's Place the same day she stopped using drugs. She had been through a number of awful situations, including domestic violence and sexual assault, and was also dealing with some serious mental health issues. To say her self-worth and confidence were lacking would be an understatement. **But stepping through the doors of Becky's Place, Cathy had something that had been missing for quite some time: HOPE.**

Cathy was on probation for theft, one of the many consequences she was facing due

to years of drug use. She was beginning the road to recovery, a road that she had been on before. So when Cathy started the program at Becky's Place, she took it slow.

Cathy started counseling and attended meetings for her addiction. Before long, she was taking full advantage of other resources at Becky's Place including support groups and budgeting classes.

After a few weeks, Cathy found a full-time job and began saving her money. In time, she completed probation and paid all of her probation fees. By the time she completed the Becky's Place program, she had saved over \$2,000 and was able to move into her own apartment without any financial assistance.

Cathy struggled with a deep insecurity about her appearance because of prolonged abuse and drug addiction. She had lost both bottom teeth due to domestic violence and hated to smile. Becky's Place connected her with a community member, who paid for Cathy to have her teeth fixed completely. Now, she smiles all the time!



Today, Cathy is part of the Becky's Place Aftercare program. She has a permanent, full-time job with benefits and continues to maintain her beautiful apartment. Cathy has even been able to buy her own car. **Thanks to Becky's Place, Cathy found a reason to smile and hope for the future!**

**Name changed for privacy*

Catholic Charities Receives Community Impact Grant

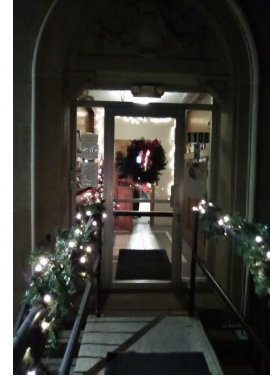
Catholic Charities was awarded a 2018 Community Impact Grant from the Community Foundation of Monroe County for \$10,161.80. The grant will fund Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR*) therapy, a technique proven effective in decreasing or eliminating the symptoms of post-traumatic stress; Theraplay, a family therapy approach for children with reactive attachment disorder and their families; and positive parenting and education coaching sessions.

Thank you to the Community Foundation of Monroe County for supporting Catholic Charities and the expansion of our numerous programs to provide help and create hope for individuals and families in need.

**For more information on what EMDR is and how it works visit <http://www.emdr.com/what-is-emdr/>.*

Event Highlights: Becky's Place Open House

The Becky's Place Christmas Open House on December 14, 2017 was a huge success and lots of fun. Both our former residents and all who attended enjoyed a night of celebration and community. Thank you to all those who helped decorate, baked cookies and attended the open house.



YES, Your Gift Really Makes a Difference!

Here are just a few ways your gift creates hope:

- Funds play therapy sessions for a child to process any kind of trauma, including abuse, a car accident or death of a loved one
- Feeds residents of Becky's Place
- Provides a 12-week social skills group for adolescent boys and girls
- Supplies school clothes and materials for children at Becky's Place
- Assists with private GED instruction and job searches
- Supplements the cost of therapy sessions for children, couples, families or individuals who cannot afford them
- Provides opportunities for growth and development of our staff
- Supports the operating budgets of Catholic Charities and Becky's Place to keep essential needs working, like heat, lights, water and so much more, so we can focus on those in need

Catholic Charities Groups for Teens and Parents

Free classes for parents and teens at Catholic Charities

Positive Parenting Program

4 group classes

February 19 & 26

March 5 & 12

Mondays, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

[View Flyer](#)

G.I.R.L.S Group

Girls In Real Life Situations - for girls ages 12 - 14

January 16 - April 10, 2018

Tuesdays, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

[View Flyer](#)

Social Skills Group for Middle School Boys

February 12 - April 11, 2018

Wednesdays, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

[View Flyer](#)

Spotlight: Agency Council Member Angie Cosner

Secretary of Becky's Place Agency Council
& Office Administrator at Cosner Ice Co.



Why are you passionate about Becky's Place?

I am passionate about Becky's Place because I am able to see the actual changes happen in the lives of these women. We - those who work at Becky's Place, the council members and those who donate - see women who come in with nothing, completely broken down. After staying at Becky's Place, women are changed and many go back out to conquer the world that once let them down.

I feel blessed to hear the stories of women, like Thelma. I briefly met and heard Thelma's story at our October event a couple years ago. When she passed away, I heard how she had reconnected with her family after going through the program at Becky's Place. How can those stories not make you feel passionate about Becky's Place?

How do you see Becky's Place providing help and creating hope for those in need in the community?

The women who work at Becky's Place give the women a "home" that many have not had for years or maybe never really had. Becky's Place provides help through education, vocation and services for support. They provide hope by helping women find new attitudes, new desires and new dreams for a better life.

What is your vision for Becky's Place in the next 5-10 years?

I would like to see Becky's Place be self-sustaining by possibly starting a business where the ladies can learn working skills. All the profits from this business would stay at Becky's Place to cover the general operating expenses. I would also like to see Becky's Place open new, transitional housing for our ladies.

Want to help?

Take a slice out of homelessness

The entire sale price of your \$1.99 fruit pie goes to help homeless women and children at Becky's Place.



What's Your Slice?

Where: Pappas, 2615 Mitchell Road, Bedford, IN 47421 (NEW LOCATION)

What: The entire sale price of your \$1.99 fruit pie goes to help the homeless

When: Every Thursday starting August 10



Providing Shelter, Solving Hunger

Help Catholic Charities by shopping for groceries at no extra cost to you!

1. Register your Kroger Plus Card at Kroger.com/communityrewards (if you do not have one, they are available at the Customer Service desk at any Kroger)
2. Click on 'Sign In' or 'Create an Account'
3. Search for 'Catholic Charities Bloomington' or enter '**15757**'
4. Click 'enroll'
5. Help Catholic Charities every time you shop!



Save the Dates



Please join us for the
Catholic Charities Valentine Open House

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 | 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Catholic Charities

Valentine's Open House

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 | 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Catholic Charities

803 N. Monroe Street, Bloomington, IN 47404

Refreshments will be served.



Becky's Place

Mardi Gras

Saturday, March 3, 2018 | 6:30 pm
Shamrock Center

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
1723 I Street, Bedford, IN 47421

[Tickets](#): \$50/person

Back by Popular Demand:

[Keith Semple & The Semple Band - as seen on The Voice](#)

Dinner by Terry's Catering
50/50 Raffle
And More!

[Click here for for more information on Mardi Gras tickets and sponsorships](#)



Catholic Charities

Annual Breakfast

Wednesday, April 11, 2018 | 7:30 am - 9:00 am

St. Paul Catholic Center

1413 E. 17th Street, Bloomington, IN 47408

Cost: FREE (donations encouraged)

RSVP by April 2, 2018

RSVP

Catholic Charities
803 N. Monroe Street
Bloomington, IN 47404

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Becky's Place
1108 5th Street
Bedford, IN

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