



Catholic Charities
Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.

November 2017

Catholic Charities offers counseling to those 'in most critical need'

By Katie Rutter (Special to The Criterion)



A young mother stared into space, clearly preoccupied with her own worries. Her daughter, a girl maybe 8 years old with bright blonde hair and worn-out pink leggings, wandered among the toys strewn about the waiting room.

This young woman came to Bloomington's Catholic Charities office seeking help, but the help she wanted was not food, housing or monetary assistance. She needed mental healing for herself, and perhaps her young daughter as well.

"We want to inspire hope in people that they'll get better, that they'll overcome their barriers," said O'Connell Case, a licensed clinical social worker who serves as Clinical Director of the office where the young mother sought refuge. [Keep Reading](#)

Finding Hope Through Becky's Place

Stuck in a physically and emotionally abusive relationship, 27-year-old Amy worked up the courage to leave and called Becky's Place. When Amy arrived at Becky's Place, her blond haired 2-year-old daughter was filled to the brim with joy. Amy, however, was not filled with joy. In fact, she would often say, "I'm not made to be happy." Amy's life had indeed been sad. She had her first child at age 15 and married young. Now divorced, Amy's three older sons were living with her ex-husband in another state. She had not seen her boys in years. Amy's mother had committed suicide. Amy's father kicked her out when she became pregnant with her youngest child. Amy was battling depression and guilt, leading to an eating disorder. Then the final blow came; Amy found out that her daughter had been molested. She had had enough and Amy courageously came to Becky's Place in search of help and hope.



It was Christmas time at Becky's Place, but Amy had a hard time asking for gifts because of the guilt she felt over not being with her sons. Volunteers helped provide Christmas gifts for her, her daughter and sons. **With tears of joy in her eyes, Amy felt something she had never known: HOPE. "I haven't been able to buy them Christmas gifts for three years!"**

That was the moment Amy's focus changed from what she wasn't able to do to what she could do. She made it her goal to be self-sufficient again and to move closer to her three older sons. In addition to providing counseling, Becky's Place helped Amy find a job and housing in the state where her sons lived. Becky's Place even provided volunteers to help her move.

Two years later, Amy is healing from her depression and is successfully managing her eating disorder with counseling. She is living independently and is no longer relying on men to support her. Amy has even found a better-paying job. Thanks to Becky's Place, Amy and her children are happy and healthy. **Amy has found something she had never had before: HOPE.**

Did You Know?

- This is our **35th year** for Catholic Charities in Bloomington.
- Since May, Catholic Charities has **conducted 2,012 appointments and assessments** with children and adults in need of help and hope. Our counselors expect to meet with **more than 1,500** different individuals this year.
- **38 people** attended our first-ever Beer Tasting and Networking event at The Tap on October 5, 2017
- Becky's Place has been in existence for **5 years**.
- Since May, Becky's Place has provided compassionate care for **44 women and 5 children**. An additional **66 women** called and received referrals for multiple services.

Holiday Giving

As we enter this joyous holiday season, we continue to need your support! Won't you consider donating whatever you can during this joyous holiday season? Learn more by visiting CCBIN.org or BeckysPlaceBedford.org.



Want to help Becky's Place this month?

For the entire month of November, Bedford Ford Lincoln Quick Lane is offering a \$1 donation for every oil change to benefit Becky's Place.



Quick Lane
TIRE & AUTO CENTER

BECKY'S PLACE
Providing Shelter, Creating Hope

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

Pappas **BECKY'S PLACE**
Providing Shelter, Creating Hope

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

1. Register your Kroger Plus Card at [Kroger.com/communityrewards](https://www.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

Becky's Place
Run for Hope 5K & Family Fun Run
Thanksgiving Day, November 23 at 9:30 am
Downtown Bedford
[REGISTER NOW](#)

Becky's Place
Christmas Open House
December 14, 2017 from 6 pm to 8 pm

Catholic Charities
Open House
February 7, 2018 from 4:30 pm to 6 pm

Becky's Place
Mardi Gras
March 3, 2018
Shamrock Center at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

Catholic Charities
Annual Breakfast
April 11, 2018 at 7:30 am
Hosted by St. Paul Catholic Center

In-Kind Needs

Catholic Charities:

- Costume/dress-up materials
- Coloring books, crayons, colored pencils, paper
- Fisher Price Little People
- Glitter glue tubes
- Clean, unused bird or gerbil cages
- Children's books

Becky's Place:

- New, packaged socks and underwear (girls and boys, all sizes)

- Laundry soap
- Toiletries
- Tylenol & Ibuprofen
- 30 and 13-gallon trash bags

We are humbled by your prayers and support for doing what Jesus calls us to do: clothe the naked, feed the hungry, visit the sick and give shelter to the homeless. We offer this blessing for you:

"May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favor and give you His peace."

Num. 6:24-26



[DONATE](#)

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