# Providing Help & Creating Hope



THANK YOU FOR JOINING **CATHOLIC HUMAN SERVICES** IN CONTINUING THE WORK OF JESUS BY AFFIRMING, ASSISTING, AND ADVOCATING FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES.

#### RILEY FAMILY FOUNDATION AMBASSADOR EVENT

#### When you give alms, sound no trumpet. MATTHEW 6:2

Barb and Brian Riley established the Riley Family Foundation in 2020. Their love for their Catholic faith, their family, and those in need throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia was the catalyst for their commitment to creating a legacy of support for Catholic Social Services (CSS) programs. Starting in 2020, the Riley Family Foundation forged a partnership with CSS to provide financial resources to the charitable works of CSS in the Philadelphia area. At the heart of the Foundation's mission is practicing the corporal works of mercy, such as feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless.



As practicing Catholics involved in their parish, the Riley family had no idea of all the Church does prior to partnering with CSS. It is currently their quest to share and introduce the Church's works because they know others will want to get involved.

Over the past three years, the Riley Family Foundation's primary focus has been supporting several programs within CSS that provide critical and life-sustaining services to men, women, and children. This support has helped impact over 200,000 of "Our mission, history,"

our neighbors in need.

On October 4th Barb and Brian graciously hosted a lovely event for their friends and family to share an introduction to the charitable works of Catholic Social Services. Joined by Archbishop Nelson Pérez, Bishop John McIntyre, and administrators from Catholic Social Services, the evening was filled with testimonies of the love, faith, and the passion to share the charitable works of the Church. As Brian shared, "The Church commits these charitable works of mercy in secret because that is what Jesus taught us, the church will not share and brag that they served over 600,000 individuals directly through CSS last year, but we can!"

Archbishop Nelson Pérez shared, "For over 200 years the church has been serving individuals in Philadelphia. From that point on, Catholic Social Services has been doing wonderful workday in and day out. Over the last year:

- 6,400 pregnancies and parent services were provided.
- Nutritional Development Services served 7.5 million meals.
- 300 individuals facing homelessness were served in our shelters.
- 2,800 seniors benefited in our senior centers.
- 471 independent seniors live in our Catholic Independent Senior Housing.

The Church does this as a consequence of celebrating the Eucharistic. It doesn't happen without the generosity and support of charitable partnerships like the Riley Family Foundation and the faithful of Philadelphia."

and ability to meet changing needs are built on our Catholic faith and our relationships with key stakeholders," added James Amato, Secretary, Catholic Human Services. "Our partnership with the Riley family exemplifies this through their faithfilled generosity and presence in our programs and with those we are privileged to serve."



#### PREGNANCY & PARENTING SUPPORT SERVICES

## PHILLY'S BIGGEST BABY SHOWER







CSS is dedicated to providing support for expectant mothers and with the partnership of the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia, "Philly's Biggest Baby Shower" was born! Approximately 500 mothers and families received gifts for their babies and children, as well as prayers and education about the many programs available to them. CSS and the Pro-Life Union distributed over 1,700 baby items including diapers, clothes, bottles, and self-care bags to all who attended. The outdoor event also featured 15 vendors – including providers of health insurance, financial services, and social services, in addition to the raffles, prizes, educational tents, and food. Beyond the tangible support and provisions, expectant mothers and families left knowing that their family is valuable, and the CSS community is praying for their bundles of joy.

## HOUSING & HOMELESS SERVICES



## 4TH ANNUAL MERCY HOSPICE RECOVERY WALK

Mercy Hospice, part of the Housing and Homeless Services Division of CSS, has looked forward to the Annual Mercy Hospice Recovery Walk since the first walk was held four years ago. The Recovery Walk continues to be an event to commemorate loved ones lost to addiction as well as to celebrate those in recovery. Participants also hope to raise awareness of Mercy Hospice and the work it does to restore the health and well-being for women recovering from substance abuse disorders.

During this year's walk, residents and staff were joined by the community and supporters, including Most Reverend John J. McIntyre, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia. The walk served as a time of prayer, reflection, and joy as the route went through Washington Square West ending at CSS's Women of Hope.

## COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Northeast Family Service Center (NEFSC), a ministry of CSS, hosted a special Christmas in July event! On July 25th, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus stopped by to have lunch with families from the Parenting and Pregnancy Program before reading to the children who participate in the summer Out-of-School Time Program! NEFSC is the first point of contact for individuals, families, and parishes seeking assistance in Northeast Philadelphia. The center offers services such as counseling, mentoring, education assistance, adoption counseling, enrollment in benefit programs, and prenatal and parenting support groups.







# SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday, November 4, 2023, St. John's Hospice (SJH) will host its Annual Boot Up Philly distribution day! Boot Up Philly is inspired by the work of St. John Neumann, who would give the shoes off his feet to those in need. Last year, SJH significantly exceeded their goal by raising over \$161,000, which allowed them to serve over 500 men, women, and children and distribute thousands of undergarments, feminine products, coats, food, and boots to those in need. This year's goal is to serve 1,000 individuals in preparation for the winter months. To learn more about Boot Up Philly, please visit saintjohnshospice.org.

#### Catholic Human Services: CSS & NDS

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United in our common call as children of one God and Father to serve our brothers and sisters in need and build a just and compassionate society.