Catholic Charities
OF NORTHWEST CALIFORNIA













2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT


SERVING WITH
LOVE FOR ALL
SINCE 1954



LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jennielynn Holmes
Chief Executive Officer

Shauna Reed
Chief Financial Officer

Alan Finnie
Chief Administrative Officer

Carey Dougherty
Chief Development Officer

Matthew Verscheure
Chief Programs Officer

LETTER FROM OUR CEO

As I reflect on this past year, my seventeenth with Catholic Charities, I can honestly say it has been one of the most challenging, and most inspiring, years in our organization's history.

We faced significant obstacles, from funding reductions and policy changes to an increasingly difficult environment for many of the people we serve. Every day, our team walked alongside families and individuals experiencing fear, uncertainty, and isolation. We heard stories that reminded us how fragile stability can be and how overwhelming life becomes when someone feels unseen, forgotten, or alone.

Yet what stays with me most is not the hardship. It is the extraordinary hope that emerged from it.

Again and again, we witnessed a truth that lies at the heart of our mission: within every challenge exists an opportunity to love more boldly, serve more creatively, and bring hope where hope feels out of reach.

Every day, we stand beside neighbors facing their most vulnerable moments, honoring the trust they place in us with compassion, courage, and an unwavering belief in their dignity.

This commitment is rooted in Catholic Social Teaching and our belief that every person is created with inherent dignity and worth. It calls us to uphold the sanctity of every human life, stand in solidarity with those who are struggling, and embrace a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. It challenges us to pursue social justice, strengthen families and communities, and ensure that every person has the opportunity not only to survive, but to thrive.

These principles are more than ideals. They guide every decision we make and every service we provide. Whether supporting someone seeking safety, helping a family secure stable housing, supporting a senior facing hardship, or creating opportunities for a young person to rebuild their future, we are living out our mission to be a visible sign of hope and belonging.

In a world where many feel unseen or forgotten, we believe our calling is to accompany people on their journey, and remind them that they are not alone, and we never give up.

And while the need continues to grow, so does our resolve.

Every day, I have the privilege of working alongside dedicated staff, volunteers, board members, donors, and community partners who refuse to look away when others are hurting. You are the reason we can respond with compassion instead of fear, action instead of despair, and hope instead of resignation.

Your generosity does far more than fund programs. It tells someone they matter. It reminds a struggling family they are not alone. It creates opportunity, restores dignity, and strengthens the fabric of our entire community.

Thank you for standing with us this year. Thank you for believing in a vision where every person is valued, every family has the opportunity to thrive, and every neighbor belongs.

Together, we are building a stronger, more compassionate community. Together, we are proving that hope is stronger than fear. And together, we will continue creating a community where everyone belongs.

With Gratitude,

Jennielynn Holmes

Jennielynn Holmes | Chief Executive Officer

2025-2026 YEAR IN NUMBERS

6,919

Total individuals served across all programs

140,991

Total shelter/bed nights provided

$590,761

Total amount provided in direct financial assistance

345

Total individuals moved into permanent/stable housing

1,180

Total rides provided to seniors

1,256

Total number of free immigration legal services provided

1,311

Total clients that visited the Drop-In Center

363,209

Total pounds of food distributed

LETTER FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

This year, I had the privilege of stepping into the role of Board President for Catholic Charities of Northwest California. After serving as Vice President for the past two years, I have had a front-row seat to the incredible work happening across this organization, and I continue to be inspired by the people at the heart of it. Throughout my career in healthcare, nonprofit work, and community service, I have learned that taking care of people is rarely about meeting just one need. Our health, housing, relationships, and sense of stability are all connected. Sometimes, having the right support at the right moment can make all the difference in what happens next.

You will see that throughout this report. You will meet families working toward a more stable future, older adults finding connection and independence, immigrants building new lives, and people taking steps toward permanent housing. Each story is different, but each reminds us of what is possible when people have support available when they need it.

Life can change quickly. A medical bill, the loss of a job, an unexpected illness, or another challenge can leave someone seeking help they never imagined they would need. What I appreciate about Catholic Charities is that we meet people in those moments while continuing to see their strengths, their goals, and the future they are working toward.

As a Board, we take our responsibility to ensure that support remains available, not only today, but for years to come, seriously. That means being thoughtful stewards of the trust and resources our community places in us, planning for the future, and helping Catholic Charities remain strong and responsive as needs change.

I am grateful for our Board, our dedicated staff, and every donor, volunteer, partner, and supporter who chooses to invest in this work.

As you read these pages, I hope you see the impact of that investment in the people and stories behind the numbers. Together, you are helping make sure our neighbors have somewhere to turn when they need it, and the opportunity to keep moving forward.

With Gratitude,

Penny Cleary
Board President

Board of Directors

Penny Cleary President	**Santiago Ramirez** Secretary	**Tony Hildesheim**	**Elizabeth Peralta**
Sue Gallagher Vice President	**Jennielynn Holmes** CEO	**Len Marabella**	**Beth Ryan**
Bishop Robert Vasa Chairman	**Dale Flowers**	**Scott Ormerod**	**Mike Sullivan**
Joan Maxwell **Treasurer**	**Dennis Harter**	**Hardik Patel**	**Jennifer Walker**

MISSION

Catholic Charities creates access to opportunities for self-sufficiency by providing innovative and compassionate services to people of all backgrounds, beliefs and cultures.

VISION

The most vulnerable individuals in our community are empowered to achieve their full potential with dignity, hope and self-sufficiency.



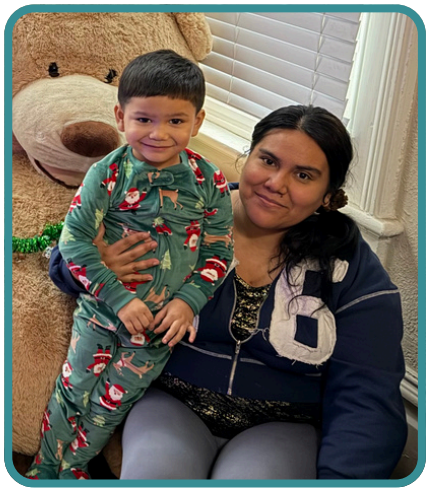
OUR PURPOSE

Rooted in the message of the Gospel, we aspire to create a more just and empathetic world for the most marginalized individuals in our six-county service area.

SERVICES OFFERED:

- Adult Shelter
- Family Shelter
- Drop-In Services
- Street Outreach
- Safe Parking
- Recuperative Care
- Housing Case Management
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Youth & Family Programs
- Mental & Behavioral Health
- Immigration Legal Services
- Citizenship Classes
- Financial Stability
- Food Distributions
- Benefits Enrollment
- Caring Rides
- Caring Voices









Immigration Legal Services & Citizenship Classes



"When we arrived in this country, we didn't know there was support of this kind, and the first time we arrived at the classroom, we were all nervous. And now coming back, it feels like we are at home. The truth is that Catholic Charities gave us great support, and we are very happy and grateful to them." said Guillermo.

When Guillermo and his sons, Eduardo and Alejandro, decided they wanted to become United States citizens, they knew it would take preparation. What they didn't realize was that they wouldn't have to navigate the process alone.

Guillermo learned about Catholic Charities of Northwest California's free Citizenship Classes through a colleague. Shortly after, he and his family came to Catholic Charities and began the process of becoming citizens and signed up for the classes. For the family, the classes gave them a sense of stability and support they didn't know existed. They were able to ask questions and practice throughout the process.

For Eduardo, that support was especially important when it came to preparing for the exam. He expressed his gratitude to his instructor for the patience he showed while he worked through something that had always been difficult for him.

"In my personal life, I am very bad with tests. In the past, when I would be handed a test, I would just freeze. I am very grateful to have been able to practice. Even if I got stuck on a question, and I had to repeat it over and over again to learn it, they were very patient and helped me learn it. So, the day that I had to go to the interview, it was helpful to have had that experience," said Eduardo.

Alejandro valued the smooth citizenship process for his family, as it's often challenging and lengthy.

"What I would tell someone who has supported Catholic Charities Citizenship Classes is that it is a program that is very impactful and important. The classes help a lot of people, and it's very simple to understand while not taking up a lot of time, as people can live very busy lives. Catholic Charities does everything in its capacity to make sure every student feels supported on their journey," said Alejandro.

What began with three family members walking into a classroom feeling nervous became something so much more.

"In the classes, we were one big family. Different cultures, different groups, but in the end, all united by the same purpose," said Guillermo.

2,373
total clients served from 50 countries

286
total students participated in citizenship classes

1,256
Total free services provided

No One Should Go Without Food

An hour before a Catholic Charities food distribution begins, a line is already beginning to form. Some people there are familiar faces. Others are there for the first time, unsure of what to expect. There are parents with young children, older adults living on fixed incomes, working families, and neighbors who may never have imagined needing a food distribution a year ago.

This year, our Food Access team has seen more of all of them.

Each month, Catholic Charities brings food directly into communities across Sonoma and Lake counties, making it easier for people to find the support they need close to home. And lately, that food is going faster. At some distributions this year, an entire supply was distributed in just 30 minutes.

"There's no one picture of what food insecurity looks like," Frankie, Food Access Specialist, shared. "Anyone can find themselves needing a little extra help."

For an older adult, receiving food may mean there is enough money left for medication. For a parent, diapers and fresh produce can create a little room in the household budget. For someone whose circumstances changed unexpectedly, it can help keep one difficult month from becoming something much bigger.

Our distributions are designed to provide that breathing room while making nutritious food easier to access. Tables are stocked with fresh produce, eggs, bread, pasta, chicken, soup and other staples, along with diapers and kid-friendly foods. Through partnerships with local food banks, grocery stores, and food and dairy companies, every $1 invested in the program can provide approximately $21 worth of food.

But what happens around those tables matters just as much.

People talk while they wait. Neighbors help one another carry groceries. Volunteers load food into the cars of older adults who may need an extra hand. And when children arrive feeling a little shy, team members offer them a sticker, small toy, or healthy snack. We want everyone who comes, even the smallest, to know they are welcome.

Those relationships can also open the door to something more. A conversation during a distribution may connect someone to immigration services, benefit enrollment, financial stability resources, or another community program. Food may be what first brings someone to us, but it can also be the beginning of a relationship and a connection to other support.

As more of our neighbors feel the pressure of rising costs, our community continues to show up beside them through donated food, financial support, partnerships, and volunteers.

Sometimes helping someone move forward begins with something simple: making sure there is food on the table and giving them one less thing to worry about.







This past year, your generosity made it possible to distribute 363,209 pounds of food across Sonoma and Lake counties



Rainbow House Family Shelter

A year ago, Janet found herself in a very difficult situation: unhoused while caring for her two young children. For about a month, they lived in a hotel while she tried to figure out what they were going to do next. After that, she rented a room in Vallejo. Although she was grateful to have somewhere to sleep, the family was still struggling financially, and she constantly worried about being able to provide her children with the stability and security they deserved.

Janet's journey led her to Rainbow House, Napa county's only family shelter, and that became a major turning point for her family. Rainbow House gave Janet a sense of stability during a time when she felt like she was struggling just to keep afloat. Not only did it provide a safe space for her family, but it also gave Janet the chance to start rebuilding her life.

While at Rainbow House, Janet found a job as a caregiver and dedicated herself to supporting her family, with the goal of becoming financially stable. Although the work was challenging, it gave Janet a sense of purpose and pride. Every day she went to work, she reminded herself that she was working towards a brighter future for her children.

After months of hard work, Janet and her family finally found permanent housing this past April. It was a moment she will never forget, having a home of her own again, where her family can grow, laugh, and create new memories.

"Rainbow House was there for us during one of the hardest chapters of my life, and I will always be grateful for that. They gave me the opportunity to get back on my feet, but I was determined to take that opportunity and make something of it," said Janet.



Rainbow House warmly welcomes families of all kinds, including pregnant mothers who might not have a place to turn. Mothers like Crystal, who is experiencing her first pregnancy and seeking support and assistance as she embarks on her journey into motherhood.

Crystal is grateful for the sense of security and peace of mind that Rainbow House has given her during her stay. She has received support ranging from food and clothing donations to help with medical care as she prepares to welcome her baby.

"No one can do anything alone. Sometimes just having faith will lead you to the right people," said Crystal.



"From the moment I walked in, I felt accepted, welcomed. The staff have been flexible, kind, understanding, and very warm. The resources available have been great, and everything [is offered] without question, without a financial background check, and without bias. They understand the situation," said Crystal.

Senior Services

Music has taken Norman and Janet a lot of places.

The lifelong musicians have spent years performing together, traveling up and down the West Coast, and building a life around the thing they love. They've played everything from jazz and rock to Motown and the Beatles, written five albums together, and performed for audiences of all ages. These days, you can often find them at home, working side by side in their home studio, tending to their garden, and planning what comes next.

Then, life threw them a few unexpected turns. Work slowed, thousands of dollars in dental bills piled up, and then their car died. For two people who had spent much of their lives on the road, losing their car was difficult. Suddenly, everyday things like getting groceries or going to an appointment required a plan and someone else's help.

"You feel like you failed," shared Norman.

For months, they found ways to make it work. Then they learned about Catholic Charities' Caring Rides program, which connects older adults with volunteer drivers. Janet still remembers how she felt during the first few rides.

"I felt less than," she shared. "Like, here's somebody who has to take care of me."

But that feeling didn't last.

The volunteers showed up with a warmth and ease that put Janet and Norman at rest. They asked them about their music, shared stories, and took the time to connect. Soon, something Janet had been hesitant to accept became something she looked forward to.

"We're making friends and having fun," she said. "I started feeling even better than I did before. Like, `Oh, we've got support.'"

That support means groceries in the refrigerator and a reliable way to get to appointments. Being dropped off at the front of the store allows Janet to save her energy for the things she wants to do at home. But Caring Rides has given them more than just transportation. It has brought connection, friendship, and the reassurance that they don't have to do everything on their own. It also changed the way Norman thinks about accepting help. After a lifetime of believing they needed to be self-sufficient, he now sees receiving support as another way people care for one another.

"Learning how to receive is part of that sacred cycle," Norman shared. "It's giving and receiving. Giving in ways where you're abundant and then allowing others to give to you in their abundance."

Norman and Janet are still writing their story, making music, and dreaming about the places where life might take them next. Things look different than they expected, but there is still a lot to look forward to. And now, there are a few more people along for the ride.

As Norman said before we left, "We have to write a song about this."

1,180
Total Caring Rides provided to seniors

11,416
Total miles driven by volunteers on rides



Moments that brought us together





















Throughout the year, our programs, events, and community gatherings give us countless opportunities to connect. Some moments are big celebrations, while others are the quiet everyday moments that happen across our programs. Together, they tell the story of a community showing up for one another, building relationships, celebrating milestones, and creating moments of joy along the way. Here are just a few of the moments that made this year special.

Community in Action





















Looking Forward





As we look ahead, Catholic Charities of Northwest California is growing in ways that reflect the changing needs of our communities and what we have learned from more than 70 years of walking alongside our neighbors.

In Lake County, we are expanding our presence and bringing more support directly into the community. This includes food distributions, expanded case management, and the launch of a new Safe Parking program for people living in their vehicles. Together, these services will help more of our neighbors access support closer to home.

Additionally, Catholic Charities will soon open Trione Youth Shelter at DeMeo House, creating a safe place for young people ages 14 to 17 who are experiencing housing instability or homelessness. With six beds and stays of up to 90 days, the shelter will offer more than a place to sleep. Young people will have stability, support, and a team helping them determine what comes next, whether that means reconnecting with family, continuing school, or working toward another safe and stable housing option.

Our housing work is growing in other ways, too. Catholic Charities assumed operations of Eliza's Village and Mickey Zane Place, building on the work already happening in these programs while welcoming new residents and staff into our broader network of housing and supportive services.

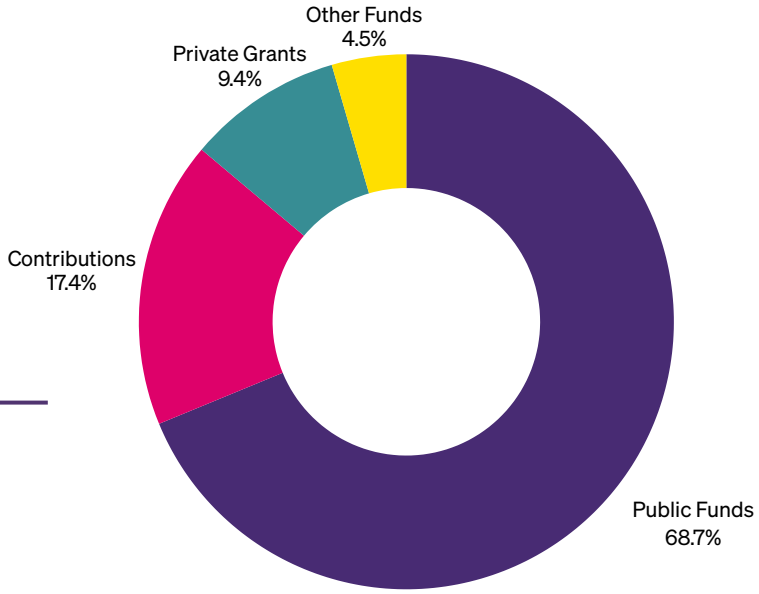
Each of these efforts may look different, but they are rooted in the same commitment to listening to what our communities need, meeting people where they are, and helping create a path forward. As our region changes, we will continue to grow with it while holding onto what has guided Catholic Charities since 1954: seeing the whole person, responding with dignity, and helping our neighbors move forward and thrive.

Financials

Revenue and expenses for fiscal year
July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

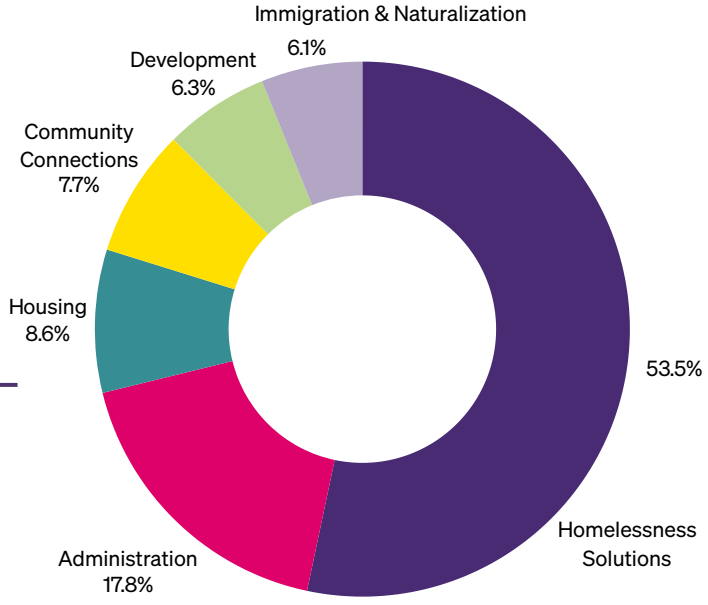
Revenue & Support

Public Funds	$16,678,987
Contributions	$4,208,905
Private Grants	$2,272,650
Other Funds	$1,091,705
TOTAL REVENUE	**$24,252,247**



Expenses

Homelessness Solutions	$11,814,633
Administration	$3,954,435
Housing	$1,914,952
Community Connections	$1,712,391
Development	$1,404,897
Immigration & Naturalization	$1,357,175
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$22,158,483**



How You Can Make A Difference in Our Community

A stronger community is something we build together.

Every meal served, every family supported, every young person given a safe place to land, and every neighbor connected to the help they need, is possible because people choose to step in and be part of something bigger.

There is a place for you in that work, too.

DONATE

Your generosity can change what is possible for a neighbor. A gift can help a family find stability, an older adult stay connected, or someone take an important step toward a more secure future.

VOLUNTEER

Making a difference can start by simply showing up. Share your time, skills, and energy alongside our teams and help make sure our neighbors know their community is behind them.

PARTNER WITH US

When businesses, faith communities, schools, service clubs, and local organizations come together around a shared purpose, we can do more. Bring your team, ideas, and resources, and help us build a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

LEAVE A LEGACY

What we build together today can continue for generations. A legacy gift helps ensure our neighbors will have somewhere to turn and someone ready to walk alongside them for years to come.

Ready to Take the Next Step?

However you choose to get involved, you can make a difference. Scan the QR code to learn more and find your place in what we are building together.








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SCAN ME