

Catholic Charities of Delaware and Otsego Counties

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CARING BEYOND BELIEF

Dear Friends,

Board of Directors:

Grace Allidi
Tom Schermerhorn
Sita Fey
Elizabeth Netherwood
Hazel Coyle
Maureen Gallagher
Les Grummons
Rita Hansen
Charlotte McKane
William Pietrafesa
Debra Kelly- Trustee

A grandfather contacted the Dispute Resolution Center of Chenango, Delaware and Otsego Counties seeking assistance with a family matter. He was unsure of where else to turn and saw mediation as a service that might be able to help his situation. His adult son was in the hospital dying with cancer. According to the doctors it would be a matter of weeks. His son's last wish was to see his two children from a previous relationship. There had been no contact between this man and his children in several years. The grandfather was unsure how the mother of the children would react. He asked if Catholic Charities could help. It was obvious that there wasn't time for a typical mediation session; however we did offer conciliation services, which started with a call to the mother. Several calls followed by Catholic Charities to the grandfather and to the mother, attempting to mediate the situation until one day the grandfather called and said the mother had called him and they had set up a date for the children to see their father. The grandfather did not have words for his gratitude to Catholic Charities for the assistance they had provided to him and his family. He found himself joyful at a time in his life where there was much sadness and he was thankful that the staff of Catholic Charities had listened with compassion to his story and had offered him and his family the assistance they all needed.

Catholic Charities is called upon to help those in need every day. We see the homeless, the hungry, the sick, the tired, the addicted, and the hopeless. We offer an opportunity for individuals to be heard and for their stories to be told. We are committed to being a caring presence in local communities, offering help and hope.

Catholic Charities is a community funded, 501c3 charitable human service agency. We are the evidence of a caring community and we treat people with dignity, knowing that they have personal struggles, and want to improve their lives. We believe people benefit from skilled and compassionate assistance, education and encouragement.

For more than 30 years, you have helped us bring hope to others through your donations. Difficult economic times continue, and people who have never needed assistance before, are asking for help to meet their basic needs. Many in our area are living paycheck to paycheck. One small emergency, could cause them to fall behind financially, losing hope. We will be here to help them because you have responded to this appeal.

Your gifts to our annual campaign do so very much, so please be generous in your support of our work. We thank you in advance for returning the enclosed envelope with your tax deductible donation. We promise that your money will stay local, will be used wisely, and will benefit your neighbors and co-workers in these hard times. For more information regarding Catholic Charities of Delaware and Otsego Counties, please visit our website at www.charitiesccdo.org.

Sincerely,

Lynn Glueckert
Interim Executive Director

Grace Allidi
Board Co-President

Thomas Schermerhorn
Board Co-President