Dear Friends,

Every day, my colleagues, our volunteers and partners help people take a step on their journey toward a happier, healthier and more fulfilling life. These journeys continue because our compassion for the people we serve never wanes. Compassion is the most fundamental truth of our shared humanity.

In recent months, that truth has been challenged as we learned how some leadership in the Catholic Church betrayed that humanity, greatly harming the people who put their faith in it. This betrayal is painful and impossible to ignore. Clergy failed by using their position of trust and power to inflict unthinkable harm. Leadership failed by putting the outward-facing reputation and institutional authority of the Church over the care and well-being of human beings.

The Maryland attorney general is conducting an investigation and thorough review of Archdiocesan records related to the sexual abuse of children. It can be hard, when we hear about abuse in any diocese, to support a Catholic organization. I have struggled to digest what we learned over the summer, and you may be struggling as well. I am angry and hurt, as you may be. So are many of our colleagues here at Catholic Charities. Our personal and shared struggle with that pain means our humanity endures. In the face of these revelations, our work — informed by our mission, vision and values — could not be more important. No matter what questions there may be in the Church, the purpose of Catholic Charities is clear and unwavering. The stories we share with you in these few pages are just a handful of examples of how we fulfill it. I am grateful for your friendship and support.

William J. McCarthy, Jr.,
Executive Director

Early excitement means lifelong success

“GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO MY NEW SCHOOL!” said little Claude Johnson into the microphone at the grand opening of the state-of-the-art Arundel Elementary School in Cherry Hill on August 21. Then he ran a few feet to his left across the stage, got a reassuring hug from Mom, and scampered back to the mic to deliver his next line. Weeks later, with school in full swing, Claude is now in kindergarten and the new school is also home to three Catholic Charities Head Start classrooms. “We are excited to be part of the new early learning center in Cherry Hill,” said Catholic Charities Executive Director Bill McCarthy. “Every child deserves the best education.”

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

The Early Education Center is a 10,000-square-foot space equipped to care for children from infancy to 5 years-old. The Head Start classrooms feature care for children from infancy to 5 years-old. The Head Start classrooms feature

WHY IT MATTERS

That’s an important point for the community. Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh, speaking just before the ceremonial ribbon cutting, noted that Baltimore has some of the oldest schools in the

Continued on page 4

An honor to serve

Join us to celebrate staff and community leaders at the Catholic Charities Annual Celebration on Tuesday, Oct. 30, at the Hippodrome Theater.

2018 MISSION IN ACTION AWARD RECIPIENTS:

For the extraordinary ways staff demonstrates Catholic Charities’ commitments of dignity, compassion, humility, collaboration, excellence and integrity...

• Carmel Deckelman, M.D., Psychiatrist, Villa Maria Community Resources
• Susan Maddier, R.N., Nurse, St. Vincent’s Villa Residential Treatment Center
• John Matthews-Bey, Lead Teacher, Head Start of Baltimore City
• Paula Sawka-Ferris, Direct Service Professional, Gallagher Services
• Regan Vaughan, Director of Advocacy

Tickets are available at cc-md.org/annualcelebration

COMMUNITY LEADER AWARD RECIPIENTS:

In honor of a joyful spirit of service that uplifts thousands of Marylanders...

MSGR. ARTHUR F. VALENZANO JOYFUL SERVANT AWARD
Most Reverend Denis J. Madden, Archdiocese of Baltimore

Celebrating his monthly prayer walks for peace through the streets of Baltimore

In honor of personal commitment to compassionate care and service...

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Carl Markowitz, Gallagher Services Volunteer

Acknowledging his 25 years volunteering at Gallagher Services

In honor of outstanding youth volunteer service...

ANNE LINDSEY OTENASEK YOUTH SERVICE AWARD
Severna Park High School Thespian Society, Sarah’s House Volunteers

Thanking the thespians for assisting Sarah’s House

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.— PHILIPPIANS 2:4
For more information on programs and events, visit cc-md.org

The Dragons AWAKENED!

A little rain – at some moments, actually, a lot of rain – didn’t keep paddlers or spectators away from Baltimore’s Inner Harbor Sept. 8, for Catholic Charities of Baltimore’s 11th Biennial Dragon Boat Races.

More than 600 paddlers representing 28 teams from local businesses and nonprofits came together to compete for bragging rights and raise funds for a long list of Catholic Charities programs that benefit children and families, seniors, the homeless, immigrants and people with intellectual disabilities.

The organization estimates a total of $750,000 will be raised from this year’s event.

Each team was partnered with a Catholic Charities program. Brown Advisory, which last won the Dragon Cup in 2010, competed for the Esperanza Center, an immigrant resource center that offers hope and essential services to people who are new to the United States. Brown has raised approximately $40,000 for the center this year alone, support that is particularly vital, as the Esperanza Center was temporarily closed by a fire in Fells Point Sept. 7.

Brown Advisory came in first place in the Financial Services Team Challenge.

Johns Hopkins Health Care “Grateful Bread” filled two teams for the first time, both supporting Our Daily Bread, where its employees volunteer throughout the year.

“The first time I volunteered there, I was cleaning tables and very humbled,” said Donna Chase, team captain and manager of internal communications at Johns Hopkins Health Care. “We served 739 meals in two hours. I thought, ‘this is why you’re raising the money,’ to serve your fellow man.”

Read the full story at cc-md.org/dragonboatsresults2018.

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RAIN COULDN’T DAMPEN THE SPIRIT OF COMPETITION

Executive Director of Catholic Charities Bill McCarthy (l), joined CEO and President of Harkins Builders Gary Garofalo to announce the Dragon Boat races in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor. Mr. Garofalo served as 2018 chair of the Dragon Boat Races. Since 1998, Harkins Builders has been an enthusiastic participant of the races.

It means a lot to me to participate in the Dragon Boat races. This event is such an integral part of Harkins culture. Our past president, Blase Cooke, left big shoes to fill in chairing this committee. I truly value the opportunity that I have been given to carry on his legacy and continue the races which foster camaraderie and financial support for vital programs of Catholic Charities.

Final Results

Division A: M&T Bank (overall champion), CohnReznick, Brown Advisory
Division B: DAP Products Inc., Wells Fargo, Bank of America
Division C: Catholic Charities of Baltimore, Oath: A Verizon Company, Transamerica
Division D: PayPal, St. John the Evangelist School (Severna Park), Johns Hopkins Healthcare’s Grateful Bread Gold


CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Esperanza Center still serving immigrant neighbors after fire

Weeks after a devastating fire at the Budeke Paint store on S. Broadway in Fells Point forced the Esperanza Center to temporarily close its physical office, the staff and Catholic Charities are working to provide continued services to immigrant children and families.

No one was injured in the Sept. 7 fire, but Esperanza did sustain significant water and smoke damage. While assessment, cleanup, and reconstruction continue, so does our work.

“Our attorneys continue to provide services for existing clients’ immigration cases,” said Esperanza Center Director Val Twanmoh, “and our youth and adult ESOL programs are running. We also continue to provide family reunification services and help for victims of human trafficking.”

Partnerships with organizations like Johns Hopkins HealthCare and the Enoch Pratt Free Library have helped make these continued services possible.

For updates, call Esperanza Center at 667-600-2900 or visit www.cc-md.org/esperanza

Catholic Charities launches outreach to older adults in West Baltimore

NEARLY HALF OF BALTIMORE’S ISOLATED OLDER ADULTS need help managing their health, home, or estate plans. Now, through the Senior Connections Community Outreach program, older Baltimore residents will gain a better understanding of available resources to address everything from energy assistance to estate planning, thanks to a new partnership between 12 organizations and a sizable grant from The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation.

This community outreach program, convened by Catholic Charities, will partner with 100 houses of worship from all faiths to host informational sessions that will offer resources and hands-on assistance for older adults program including:

- subsidized HUD senior housing,
- prescription drug discounts,
- free housing repairs,
- utility assistance,
- homeowner’s tax credits, and more.

Each faith partner will receive a resource manual that includes all programs, their description and applications for use by the seniors that can be shared with informational session attendees.

“It’s a one-stop resource for the kinds of comprehensive services older Baltimoreans need to age safely and happily at home,” said Catholic Charities Senior Services Division Director Arnold Eppel. “Hosting these information sessions at a familiar location takes the intimidation and potential confusion out of having to call various offices or hunt down what’s available.”

This innovative initiative was made possible through a $450,000 grant from The Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, one of the state’s most generous and community-health-focused organizations. We are extremely grateful to them.

Outreach initially focuses on West Baltimore and Cherry Hill because data consistently shows that those residents have the lowest life expectancy in the city.

Community collaborators

Access Hears
Alzheimer’s Association
Baltimore City Health Department’s Division of Aging
Benefits Data Trust
Called to Care
Catholic Charities
Civic Works
Maryland Consumer Rights Council
Maryland Office of the People’s Council
Maryland Volunteer Legal Services
Meals On Wheels

Want your company to compete in 2020?
Visit cc-md.org/dragonboats2020

See videos and pictures of the event at cc-md.org/dragonboats2018

DRAGON BOATS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The teams, each made up of 20 paddlers, a drummer and a steerer, raced in 41-foot canoes, carved and brightly painted, replicating Chinese dragon boats. The 1,290-foot course ran from the World Trade Center, on the north side of the Inner Harbor, to the Maryland Science Center on the south shore.

Outreach initially focuses on West Baltimore and Cherry Hill because data consistently shows that those residents have the lowest life expectancy in the city.

“Need help? Call Catholic Charities’ Answers for the Aging at 667-600-2100 or email afa@cc-md.org”

For updates, call Esperanza Center at 667-600-2900 or visit www.cc-md.org/esperanza

For more information on programs and events, visit cc-md.org 3
country. Investing in communities that are historically underserved is vital to giving young people the chance to succeed.

At the opening, Cassandra visited the Early Childhood Center classrooms with her mom. The only part she didn’t like about the visit was not being able to stay and play with the books and toys.

“I love school!” Cassandra said. “I love the learning!”

HOW KIDS SUCCEED

That enthusiasm isn’t just cute. It’s a major part of a child’s potential success, and the earlier it starts, the better off young learners will be. Early Head Start features programming to help from birth to age 3, while Head Start programs go from ages 3 to 5 – just before kindergarten. Catholic Charities operates 15 of these programs in Baltimore City alone, with more in Carroll and Harford Counties.

“So many studies have shown that early intervention is where we must invest,” Gunning said.