



WINTER FAITHWORKS

Thank  
you!

Thanks to our donors, supporters, volunteers, community partners and businesses! **We are blessed!**



**FEED** the Hungry. **HEAL** the Hurting. **WELCOME** the Stranger.



2024

# Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

As we look ahead to 2025, we must take the time to THANK YOU, our donors, schools, businesses, partners, and volunteers for another incredible year of your unwavering support of our mission and our Catholic Charities team.

We reached our 2024 Christmas Collection goal thanks to you, our generous donors!! These funds will be used to sustain and operate our programs throughout the year, bringing hope and stability to our most vulnerable community members.

We are so encouraged as many more schools, businesses and partners became involved in our work at our Haven properties, in donation drives, and as volunteers in our programs. Simply put, we cannot do this work without all of you!! Our appreciation runs deep, and our clients, staff and leadership team members offer our sincere gratitude.

Our mission remains steadfast...*Feed the Hungry, Heal the Hurting and Welcome the Stranger*. As we embark into a new year, please know you are in our prayers as you support, volunteer and advocate for our brothers and sisters in need.

Blessings,



**Rob McCann**  
President & CEO  
Catholic Charities Eastern Washington

**Thank you  
to our faithful  
supporters for  
helping us reach  
our Christmas  
Collection goal!**

**Blessings to  
you all!**





# CHRISTMAS BUREAU

**KUDOS** and **CONGRATS** to the CB team and over **500 volunteers** for another amazing Christmas Bureau! It was so calm, smooth and joyous out at the fairgrounds and 27,000+ people in our community had a very merry Christmas thanks to their hard work and Christmas Elf magic!!

## By the numbers:

**2,836** vouchers were mailed to single adults prior to the CB

**8,576** households benefited from the toys, books, wooden toy trucks, vouchers and pajamas at the bureau

**8,608** teddy bears from the Spokane Chief's and EWU Women's Teddy Bear Toss games

**12,601** children had gifts under the tree to wake up to on Christmas morning

**4,373** pairs of pajamas were distributed this year thanks to the community

**14,482** adults received support from a voucher and/or received gloves, hand knit scarves, socks, hygiene packs or Christmas décor

**\$257,310** in vouchers to help put food on the Christmas table

And **27,000+** people in need in our community were helped by the 2024 Christmas Bureau!!!

**PRICELESS!!!!**





# CAPA/PREPARES to Celebrate 40 Years of Opening Hearts!



Next to worship, nothing brings Catholics across Washington together better than the opportunity to help others. And when that involves new moms, babies, new dads, toddlers, families – the potential feels limitless!

CCEW's Childbirth and Parenting Assistance (CAPA) program, a model for the statewide Pregnancy and Parenting Support Ministry (PREPARES) initiative of the Catholic Bishops of Washington, is distinguished by the profound and practical way it brings parish volunteers to the forefront – people who are committed to the value of all human life and who are eager to help young, vulnerable families in need during the first five years of their child's life.

This year, CCEW will celebrate the 40th anniversary of CAPA/PREPARES, tracing its roots from primarily adoption and counseling services, to broader, more inclusive services today: essential supplies, parenting classes and support groups, case management for moms and dads, ESL support for caregivers, play groups, breastfeeding counseling, music and more.

"We know the old saying – 'it takes a village to raise a child,'" says Ellie Toone, Director. "Our moms and dads find a village here -- a community where they get to share and learn and be accompanied on their parenting journey, often coming to understand things their parents didn't know."

From "Lamb's Closet" sponsored by St. Mary's, St. John Vianney and St. Joseph's churches in Spokane Valley, to St. Anthony's "Baby Depot" in Newport, to twice-yearly baby showers at St. Mary Presentation in Deer Park and beyond, more than 317 volunteers are serving their faith in 45 of the 82 parishes in Eastern Washington through this program. Since the beginning, local KOC's (Knights of Columbus) councils have been incredibly supportive of this work.



PREPARES is Pregnancy and Parenting Support Ministry (established in 2014 by the Bishops of Washington State Catholic Conference). It has been known as the Childhood and Parenting Assistance Program (CAPA) in the Spokane Diocese since 1985.

## Clients attest - it's working:

*"I've gotten clothing, diapers - that kind of practical support - but the biggest, most valuable thing has been connection and friends. I've found a community here, where we are raising our kids together. I know where I can reach out and that people will help. I've suffered with post-partum depression - I didn't want to leave the house, and to be honest, sometimes I wasn't sure we'd make it. Meeting up with others who had been there before, who understood what I was going on and knew how to handle it - it's been a life-saver! These folks know what they're doing!!" Amanda, Browne's Addition*

*"I love that CAPA/PREPARES is a place that is good for both me and my kids. The staff is always so welcoming and genuinely care about the families they serve. As a mom you want to raise your kids to be good people, to understand what's important in life, and to be able to rise above their circumstances. It really does take a village and the people here have been a great support to me and my kids. I'm so thankful for each of them! They've helped me become a better mom." Glennnda, Spokane*

Nan, who moved from Myanmar (Burma) to the Palouse with husband Saw 5 years ago, visited St. Patrick's in Colfax for diapers for her two little girls. In conversation, the parish coordinator learned the family also needed clothing, hygiene products and books for the kids (and to help Nan improve her English). The volunteers jumped into action, finding an appreciative new friend in return. *"When we get diapers from you, we can buy some other things we need for the kids,"* Nan shared with her beautiful smile. *"We really appreciate the support. Thank you!"*



*"It's vitally important for people in the pews to support this work through the statewide 'Open Your Heart' campaign,"* says Lisa Green, Vice-President, Family Support Services.



Learn more about the "Open Your Heart" campaign and help support this vital work by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.preparesforlife.org/support](http://www.preparesforlife.org/support).



Catholic Charities was extremely blessed to have an incredible outpouring of love, support, presents, meals and visits from our community this past Christmas Season... We are so very grateful to the parishes, schools, churches, businesses, volunteers and donors who so generously gave their hearts and souls to make the Season a bit merrier for our families and individuals in need... God Bless you All!







With the holiday season behind us and the "Tax Season" upon us, Catholic Charities can help mitigate your tax liability!

Whether you are looking to support CCEW now or with a legacy gift, you have options. You can give a gift with immediate impact by giving to Catholic Charities using our Federal Tax ID # **91-0569880** or consider making an investment in the CC Foundation using our Federal Tax ID # **20-2823241**.

- **IRA's** - consider giving your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution)
- **Stock Sale** - donate a gift of stock to CCEW, CCWW (Walla Walla) or the CC Foundation
- **DAF's** - your donor advised fund donation will make a great difference in our mission
- **Personal Property** - consider leaving your home, lake cabin, or other property in your estate to us!

Either way you give, you support the mission of *Feed, Heal, Welcome*.



If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact:

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For more information, go to [www.cceasternwa.org](http://www.cceasternwa.org) and click on our **Ways to Give** page.



# Save the Date

## Friday, May 9

### Davenport Grand Hotel





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# SALT & LIGHT

A PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY RESOURCE FOR  
OUTREACH, ADVOCACY AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Since the time of the Hebrews in Egypt, the people of God have believed in a special place in God's heart for those on the move. The Church today still responds to the ancient command to welcome the stranger among us, for in this encounter with the immigrant, the migrant, and the refugee in our midst, we encounter Christ. Archbishop Broglio, President of the USCCB, tells us: "Compelled by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and recognizing the inherent dignity of each person as a child of God, we stand in firm solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters who live and labor in these United States." With this in mind and heart, we respond to fear with hope and support as we offer solidarity with the immigrant communities in our midst, following the example and teaching of Jesus.

We invite you to learn more about the Church's teaching on migration at Justice for Immigrants, an office of the U.S. Catholic Bishops at [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org).

To find more resources, visit [www.cceasternwa.org/legal-services](http://www.cceasternwa.org/legal-services).

