

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SERVICES Connections

SPRING-SUMMER 2018



EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

Lori VanAuken

Executive Director

Primed for Success

In this ever-changing field of health and human services, the need for strong partnerships and creativity are more critical now than ever to ensure that the people we serve receive our very best care. This July, our organization will be part of a new endeavor called Prime Care Coordination.

To comply with the federal and state mandates of conflict free case management, our traditional Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) program can no longer be offered. We will continue to provide: supervised and supported residential programs, community habilitation, supportive employment (SEMP), Self-Directed Services, Fiscal Intermediary Services, Broker Services, and Individual Support Services. Medicaid Service Coordination has been critical in helping individuals and their families secure needed services but this function will now be done by an independent and state-approved care coordination organization.

For over the past 18 months, our leadership staff have been working with over a dozen partner agencies to create Prime Care Coordination, LLC. Prime Care is one of the 7 approved Care Coordination Organizations in the state of NY and will be providing care management to individuals to coordinate services that support health, wellness and life goals. It covers 42 counties and will initially serve over 8,000 individuals.

Our 350 individuals, who have received MSC services at Catholic Charities Community Services, have a choice of joining Prime Care Coordination. Our dedicated MSC staff will transition to the new Prime Care Coordination organization as care managers—many of them will be working

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Breakfast With Friends

Good times at Breakfast with Friends 2018.

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Day of Caring

Many hands make light work. **PAGE 7**



Catholic Charities

Community Services



Our Mission

Catholic Charities Community Services, in conjunction with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester and those we serve, is deeply committed to enhancing and strengthening the independence, inclusion, and individuality of persons with disabilities and those who are living with significant health challenges.

We provide services that support, coordinate, advocate, and educate in order to foster individual and community empowerment. We strive to build a just and compassionate society for all individuals to live with dignity as people of God.

Board of Directors

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Lori VanAuken, *Executive Director*

Catholic Charities Community Services

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Rochester, NY 14611

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Fax: 585-339-9377

Email: cccs@dor.org

Regional Office

One Keuka Business Park

Penn Yan, NY 14527

Phone: 315.536.2749

Fax: 315.536.2451

Services are provided to all people without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, gender or ability to pay.

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News & Notes

NEW LEADERSHIP ON STAFF

Welcome Marilyn

Marilyn Palmieri is the new Supportive Services Director at Catholic Charities Community Services and is responsible for the oversight of Employment and the HIV/AIDS Housing programs. Marilyn began her career in the field of supporting people with disabilities 15 years ago in Tampa, Florida.

Throughout her career, Marilyn has worked in a variety of settings and has become well versed in advocacy and programs funded by Medicaid.

Her experience has been primarily leadership in programs that support adults receiving services with the Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver, Nursing



Marilyn Palmieri

Home Transition and Diversion Waiver and OPWDD Waiver Programs.

Marilyn prides herself on building a cohesive team and developing relationships with the staff and people supported in the programs that she oversees.

"I look forward to working closely with the employment and housing teams," she explains. "My primary focus is to strengthen the employee experience and secure opportunities for expansion, which ultimately will diversify and enhance the quality of supports provided to the people we serve."

Marilyn lives in West Irondequoit with her daughter, Avery. ✚

PEER TO PEER OUTREACH

Navigating His Future

Ron Carthen, Peer Navigator in the Clinical Services Department at Catholic Charities Community Services, officially received his New York State Peer Worker Certification at his Commencement Ceremony on June 5th in NYC. The certification is awarded through Stony Brook University School of Health, Technology and Management on behalf of the New York Aids Institute. At the graduation, Ron delivered a well-received and memorable acceptance speech.

Since becoming a Certified Peer Worker I am more confident in my ability to reach and assist others and to be an example.

To help others see there is a light at the end of their struggles encourages me to move forward and to know that what I do is valued, appreciated and powerful and at the end of the day enriches my spirit and soul.

Since becoming a Peer Navigator at Catholic Charities Community Services with the support of my team, Supervisor Tonette Ferrante, Case Managers Deb Kluss, Sonia Lawrence and Health Education programs and the Consumer Advisory Board, the difference we make in



ESS Supervisor Tonette Ferrante and Ronald Charthen celebrating success.

the lives of Clients is powerful, transforming and uplifting.

I want to help remove the stigma associated with being HIV positive and continue the dialogue to improve services and educate people about HIV. As a New York State Certified Peer Worker, I can do this proudly, as a professional, in a field that has helped me to become the man I am. ✚



Celebrating success: Tiffany Love (3rd from left).

STATEWIDE RECOGNITION

For the Love of Others

Congratulations to Tiffany Love on winning the Direct Professional Award from the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation, North Western Direct Support Professional Conference. Tiffany was given this honor because she embodies the organization’s code of ethics, job skills and competency in her work with individuals with developmental disabilities. We are so proud to have Tiffany as part of Catholic Charities Community Services. Thank you Tiffany for your dedicated service to others!

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with the same individuals with whom they have already formed close relationships.

In partnership with IBERO, Happiness House, CP Rochester, and Community Place of Greater Rochester, Catholic Charities Community Services is an integral part of Prime Care’s Finger Lakes Hub which provides regional support to 5 of the 42 Prime Care counties. We are renting space to Prime Care at our Main office in Rochester and contracting some other administrative services.

Along with our partners, we have made significant contributions of time, expertise and some financial investments to ensure the success of Prime Care Coordination. We aligned with those agencies which are forward thinking, transparent in policy and practice, and thoughtful in planning with the individual client at the forefront of policy decisions. They are culturally diverse, and respect the value and strength of multifaceted community-based organizations.

It is a privilege to work alongside our staff and partners who have taken great care in building an organization that will support the inclusion, individuality and independence

of some of our most vulnerable community members and continue our important work.

For more information on Prime Care Coordination services, please call Laurie Scott at 1-844-347-3168 or info@primecareny.org.



Prime Care Partners

- AIM Independent Living Center
• Catholic Charities of Broome County
• Catholic Charities of Onondaga County
• Cayuga Centers
• CDS Life Transitions
• Central New York Quest
• The Community Place of Greater Rochester
• Epilepsy-Pralid
• Happiness House/CP Rochester
• IBERO American Action League
• iCircle
• Lifespan
• Lochland School
• Southern Tier Independence Center
• Summit Center
• Western NY Independent Living Center



Linda Hartnett leaves legacy of service.

IN MEMORY OF

Linda Hartnett

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of our Board of Directors Member, Linda Hartnett on May 17, 2018.

Linda was an integral part of the Catholic Charities Community Services Quality Management Committee from 2016-2018. She not only served our agency with distinction, she spent 40 years in service to others in nursing, teaching and administrative capacities.

“Linda was a wonderful asset to our agency—generous with her time, expertise and passionate about the work we do and the staff who do it. She was a community treasure and will be sorely missed,” said agency Executive Director Lori VanAuken.

Donations to the Linda Hartnett Employee Recognition Fund may be made directly to our Agency at Catholic Charities Community Services, 1099 Jay Street, Building J, Rochester, NY 14611.

For more information, please contact CCCS Development Director, Joan Brandenburg at (585) 339-9800 ext. 305 or joan.brandenburg@dor.org.



A Snowy Reception for Breakfast with Friends 2018

Mother Nature and Winter Storm Riley tried to take center stage at Breakfast with Friends on Friday, March 2nd, dumping a foot of the heavy wet stuff on the Greater Rochester Area, starting at midnight the night before the show. Fortunately, guest speaker Elizabeth Vargas, co-host of the ABC News Magazine *20/20* had flown into Rochester the night before. A sold-out crowd was expected but with a traveler's advisory in effect, staff organizers were unsure who was going to be able to attend. Event emcee Ginny Ryan called to explain she would be late and that her husband was shoveling snow in her drive way as fast as he could so she could travel. The event photographer never made it.

Rochester residents are nothing less than hardy, determined and adaptable. With a focus on safety and slow travel about one-half of the expected guest list was seated by 8 a.m. The result was a very warm and intimate morning of sharing, celebration and recognition.

Xanthe "Zan" Everett explained her call to fame as the "Mother of 49." It was an inspiring story of love, faith, and motherhood in action.

With her signature candor and insight, Elizabeth Vargas gave attendees a behind-the-scenes look at today's live news reporting and ever-evolving media. She also shared a powerful and personal story surrounding her struggles with anxiety and alcohol. It was a message of hope and healing and well deserved of a standing ovation.

Each year, Catholic Charities Community Services presents the Heart and Soul award to an individual who has significantly advocated, supported, encouraged and promoted a just and compassionate society for all. Jack Balinsky, Director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Rochester received the award for his vision in 1992 that helped to vastly expand the services and presence of Catholic Charities in the 12-county diocesan service area. Jack continues to be instrumental in the formation of the future direction of all Rochester Diocese Catholic Charities Organizations.

Celebrating 50 years of service to our community, Ibero American Action League has been the voice of the Latino community and has an impressive history of advocating and serving so many people, including those with developmental disabilities. The Community Champion Award is presented to an individual or organization which advocates for a just and compassionate society for the individuals we serve. The award was presented to Hilda Rosario Escher, Ibero President and CEO with specific mention of the Puerto Rico hurricane relief efforts which brought 1,300 displaced people to Rochester.

Emerging Epidemics—A Community Call-To-Action was a post-breakfast educational presentation to be hosted



Event emcee Ginny Ryan congratulates awardees Hilda Rosario Escher and Jack Balinsky.



by Catholic Charities Community Partner, Trillium Health. Panelists planned to engage the audience in conversations surrounding the opioid epidemic, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and other major health challenges facing our community. Due to the weather, the presentation was re-scheduled and held in June. Gratitude is extended to the Trillium staff, Andrea DeMeo, Trillium Health President and CEO, Dr. William Valenti, Dr. Robert Biernbaum and Dr. Michael Mancenido for the flexibility they showed and for sharing their expertise with CCCS staff and community stakeholders.

ABC's 20/20 news magazine anchor and BWF guest speaker Elizabeth Vargas.

Each year, Breakfast with Friends brings together new and established stakeholders who believe in our mission and support those we serve. ✚

Join Us! BWF 2019 – March 15
Rochester Riverside Convention Center



BWF Attendees: Father James Kennedy, The Most Reverend, Bishop Salvatore Matano, CCCS Executive Director Lori VanAuken, Bishop Emeritus Matthew Clark, Father Daniel White.

One Mother's Story

At Breakfast with Friends 2018, guests celebrated the dedicated service of Xanthe "Zan" Everett. Who explained that, when she says she is the mother of 49 children, people look at her differently . . . until they hear her story.

Facing an empty nest, Zan and her husband William filled it with a long succession of foster children. As four of those children began to show signs of serious developmental disabilities, Zan turned to Catholic Charities Community Services. It has been a fifteen-year relationship that has benefitted the entire family.

"Throughout our journey, my family, my husband, my children and Catholic Charities Community Services, formed a circle of love and support," said Zan. "We could not have seen the beautiful blessings we have seen without the help and hope provided by Catholic Charities Community Services."

The story of Zan and her family is not unique at CCCS. We serve over 3,000 men, women and children. Each with a story of success to share. We are grateful that Zan took the time to tell hers to our guests at BWF 2018. ✚



Xanthe, Sharita and William Everett.

We are Grateful!

Thank you to our sponsors and underwriters who made this event possible:

BREAKFAST SPONSOR

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*Finally, we wish to extend our most heartfelt gratitude to the **Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation** for their continued support of the Breakfast with Friends event and their generous matching gift challenge.*



Consumer Advisory Board Members set the example for eating and living healthy.

CAB CORNER

Eating Healthy, Feeling Good

Catholic Charities Community Services in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County offers nutritional education to clients who choose to attend the Positive Lifestyle program.

Extension nutritionist Iluminada Vilca presented 6 workshops as part of the Eat Healthy, Be Active Community Workshop Series. Topics included Making Healthy Eating Part of Your Total lifestyle

and Eating Healthy on a Budget. Iluminada presented hands on activities as well as power points and handouts.

Participants received a certificate of completion for attending 4 of the 6 classes as well as a \$5 voucher to the Foodlink Curbside Market and a re-usable shopping bag. Future nutrition education programs will include a more hands on approach as the focus continues on eating healthy and feeling good. Congratulations to all! ❖



Holy Runners Sue Schmidt and Seana Denning reach the finish line at the Chase Corporate Challenge 2018.

THE HOLY RUNNERS

They Did It!

Catholic Charities Community Services sponsors The Holy Runners, fitness enthusiasts who also work hard to advance our mission and support those we serve. Congratulations to James Kennedy, Travis Rankin, Seana Denning, Emily Schmerbeck and Sue Schmidt for making it to the Chase Corporate Challenge finish line. Look for them at more walks and races around town all summer long.

If you are interested in joining The Holy Runners, contact Sue Schmidt at (585) 339-9800 or Sue.Schmidt@dor.org. We are currently looking for a team corporate sponsor. Get your company logo on the shirts of The Holy Runners . . . you will be doubly blessed!

For sponsorship information, contact Joan Brandenburg at (585) 339-9800 ext. 305 or Joan.Brandenburg@dor.org.



UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING 2018

100 Pair of Helping Hands

The United Way Day of Caring was held on May 10th and over 100 helping hands volunteered to work on a myriad of projects for our residences.

Each year, the United Way of Greater Rochester invites area corporate volunteer crews out to make a difference in our community. For Catholic Charities Community Services that means that our houses and properties get a face lift. Projects included painting (inside and out), landscaping and general property improvements.

Thank you to Salvatore's Pizza for donating a complimentary lunch for our hard working volunteer crews from Xerox, Thomson Reuters, Paychex, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, and Alesco Advisors.



Yes! I will support Catholic Charities Community Services

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$50 \$250 \$1,000 OR donate online at www.ccsrochester.org
- \$100 \$500 Other: _____

Form of payment:

- Check enclosed Please charge my: VISA MC AmEx Discover

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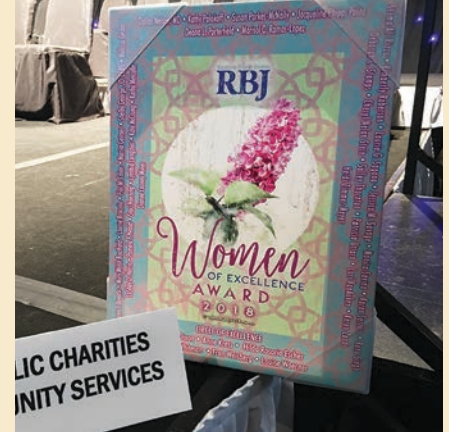
You may contact me via email at: _____

Additional information:

- Make your gift count even more with a gift matched by your employer. (Please enclose a completed matching gift form from the company.)
- I have included Catholic Charities Community Services in my will.
- Please contact me about leaving Catholic Charities Community Services in my will.

Please clip out this form and mail it along with your donation to:

Catholic Charities Community Services, Development Department, 1099 Jay Street, Building J, Rochester, NY 14611



2018 WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE

Recognizing Great Leadership

Congratulations to Catholic Charities Community Services Executive Director Lori VanAuken, 2018 Women of Excellence. Lori was recognized by the Rochester Business Journal for her excellent leadership and mentoring.

PURPOSEFUL GIVING

We Are Amazed!

We are grateful for the level of generosity given by those who support our clients and the work that we do. Donations are often used to help offset financial emergencies through our Client Emergency Fund. Because of you, we have been able to provide baby formula for a new mother, medications not covered by health insurance, emergency food supplies, clothing, shelter and so much more.

We work with some of our most vulnerable citizens every day and it is through your generosity that we are able to give help that works and hope that lasts.

For more information on how to support our Client Emergency Fund, contact: Joan Brandenburg at (585) 339-extension 305 or Joan.Brandenburg@dor.org

Join our Legacy Society

We invite you to become a member of our Legacy Society to ensure that our services continue for years to come. Contact us for more information on our planned giving program.

SAVE THE DATE
Monday, July 22, 2019

Don't miss your chance to play!
COUNTRY CLUB OF ROCHESTER



REGISTER NOW!
Monday, July 23, 2018

22nd Annual
Celebrity Golf Tournament

To benefit people with disabilities and
those living with significant health challenges.

Sponsorship opportunities available!

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
www.ccsrochester.org/golf

OR CONTACT
Marianne Tucker at 585-339-9800 x378