



The Advocate

A NEWSLETTER OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SCHOHARIE COUNTY

Summer 2011

With Gratitude

In May, I submitted my letter of resignation as Executive Director to the Board of Directors. This was not an easy decision on my part. On the one hand, I will be relocating to Pennsylvania, back to a place that is home. On the other hand, I am leaving a Catholic Charities agency that has been a home for me for the last 2 1/2 years. I will miss all those who make Catholic Charities a beacon of hope for so many of our struggling neighbors here in Schoharie County.

When I first came to Catholic Charities in October of 2008, I quickly came to see that the mission and values of Catholic Charities are the driving force behind our success. Our mission is to serve the hurting and hungry, the anxious and the struggling with compassionate, professional support. This begins and ends by the way we demonstrate respect and uphold personal dignity for



every person who comes to our door. Ultimately, the vision of Catholic Charities is to create a more just society marked by dignity and respect and offer empowering programs to

help our brothers and sisters who need a helping hand, to handle their challenges.

I have witnessed our mission in action in the way our staff puts the needs of their clients first. Whether it is a family in need of a food pantry, a counseling client, a domestic violence survivor, a victim of crime, or a young man serving his mandated community service, our programs work with our clients' strengths to make a difference in the short term and long term. Every year, our client satisfaction surveys recount that clients feel valued, respected and are grateful for the services we provide.

I am grateful to our dedicated staff and an outstanding Board of Directors for their commitment to the mission of Catholic Charities. We have made a difference! I am confident that will not change and that you will continue to change lives into the future. May God bless the wonderful work of Catholic Charities.

Tim Mulligan, Executive Director

Farewell to Tim Mulligan

It is with mixed feelings of sadness for our agency and happiness for Tim that I announce he will be leaving the agency on June 17th. Tim and his wife Peggy have decided to move to Pennsylvania to be closer to their families. Tim will be working with at-risk youth in Leigh Valley.

Tim began working at Catholic Charities of Schoharie County in October 2008 as the Executive Director. With his professional skill set and personal commitment to the agency, our staff and most importantly, our clients, Tim has done a wonderful job leading us for the past two and a half years and has positively impacted the agency. This year, he has worked with the Board of Directors of the Child At Risk Response Team (CARRT), and now this program has been added to the services offered by Catholic Charities to our community. It is a valuable program which offers many services to children that have been sexually abused, and their non-offending parents as to support them through the medical, Law Enforcement and court process following a disclosure.

We are pleased to announce that Dan Denofrio, our current Director of Programs, has agreed to step into the position of Interim Executive Director to perform the duties necessary to maintain the high functioning of the agency following Tim's departure.

To Tim we say a heartfelt thank you for all you have done for Catholic Charities of Schoharie County and send you our very best wishes for your happiness and success during the next chapter of your life's journey.

Susan Cimino Cary, Board President

**Peace is not merely a distant goal
that we seek, but a means by
which we arrive at that goal.**

Martin Luther King Jr.



An agency of Catholic Charities of the
Diocese of Albany



July 7, 2011

Over the past three months, so many people have called to ask about our Thrift Shop. What's going on? Are you going to re-open? Are you still accepting donations? Our response has been that the Thrift Shop is under reorganization and we will reopen in July!

Good news! We are happy to announce that the Catholic Charities Thrift Shop has undergone a complete *Makeover* and it is ready to welcome shoppers again. You will see a new attractive layout that makes shopping a pleasure. We removed walls to opened up the store space. Fresh paint and new display shelving will make finding items easier. We hope you will find it a better Thrift Shop and more accommodating to your needs. Join us for our Grand Re-Opening on July 7 at 10:30 am!

New Thrift Shop Hours

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

10 am to 2:30 pm

Thrift Shop Coupon

**Catholic Charities
489 West Main Street
Cobleskill, NY 12043**

20% off any one item

Offer good through August 31, 2011

THRIFT SHOP DONATIONS

Catholic Charities will accept donations of furniture and household items. Please bring items during regular thrift shop hours and drop them off at the donation receiving room

If you have large items and request a pick up, we ask that you help by providing a \$25 pick up fee.

Please make sure that any donations are in good or "gently used condition."

We accept furniture, appliances, household items, bicycles, sporting goods, kitchen equipment and more.



We will no longer accept computers, monitors, or computer equipment.

Beginning June 27, we will accept donations. For large furniture or appliances, please call to arrange a thrift shop pick up. 234-3581

All donations are tax deductible. Catholic Charities provides receipts at time of donation.

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Catholic Charities Names New CEO

Vincent Colonno has been named the new CEO of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany. Vincent is a long time social service leader in the Capital Region who will begin his new position on July 5.

The position has been vacant for more than a year following the death of former CEO Sr. Maureen Joyce, RSM. At that time, Sr. Charla Commins, CSJ stepped in to assume the role of Interim CEO while still guiding Catholic Charities of Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties as Executive Director.

Vincent is a native of Albany and most recently served as Commissioner of Social Services for Albany County and Commissioner of the Albany County Department for Aging. Prior to this, Vincent served for more than three decades in the human services system and has been a friend and supporter of Catholic Charities for many years. Welcome Vince!

2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

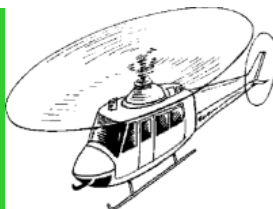
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STAFF

- Elene Berard-Johnstone, Advocate—Crime Victims Program
- Marty Blankowitz, Office Facilitator
- Beth Cash, Counselor—Counseling Program
- Meg Cooke, Advocate—Domestic Violence Program & IDV Court
- Daniel Denofrio, Interim Executive Director & Director of Programs
- Gloria Dori, Hotline Worker—Domestic Violence Program
- Faith Hoffman, Coordinator/Special Victim Advocate—CARRT Center
- Toni Joslin, Fiscal & Assistant Executive Director
- Sarah Keenan, Counselor—Counseling Program
- Gale Kruglak, Advocate—Domestic Violence Program
- Tara McDonald, Counselor—Counseling Program
- Amanda Nelson, Advocate—Domestic Violence
- Bonnie Post, Supervisor—Counseling Program
- Kathleen Reinhart, Coordinator—Community Service Restitution Program & Counselor—Counseling Program
- Barbara Russell, Legal Advocate—Domestic Violence Program
- Kara Singer, Assistant, Community Service Restitution Program
- Liz Tessarzik, Receptionist / Food Pantry Assistant

We drop numbered golf balls from a helicopter. The ball closest to the hole wins! The winning ball might have your number on it!



Clip it
Send it
Support the Mission!



Sky High Jackpot Ticket

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Number of Golf Balls at \$10.00 each _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Make check payable to: Catholic Charities of Schoharie County
489 West Main Street, Cobleskill, New York 12043-4641

Call 518-234-3581 if you wish to know your golf ball number (s)

Drawing to be held August 19, 2011 at Cobleskill Golf & Country Club.
If not present winner(s) will be notified by mail/phone by August 22, 2011

Welcome to New Staff

Faith Hoffman joins Catholic Charities as the new Coordinator/Special Victim Advocate of the Child Advocacy Center. Faith recently completed her Masters in Social Work and formerly worked for Catholic Charities of Schenectady County. Welcome Aboard, Faith!



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www.catholiccharitiessc.org



2011 Sr. Maureen Joyce Award

Catholic Charities is pleased to honor the Schoharie County Suicide Prevention Task Force for its 2011 Sr. Maureen Joyce Service Award. The award honors an individual, group or agency whose efforts reflect compassionate service to the poor, hurting and underserved in the community.

The Suicide Prevention Task Force has made a tremendous impact in the community. The Let's Roc campaign includes outreach and activities designed to help youth connect to one another, create strategies to prevent isolation and support healthy skills in coping with challenges.



The 2011 Sr. Maureen Joyce Service Award is presented to the Schoharie County Suicide Prevention Task Force. Pictured L-R Fred Barnes, Susan Cimino Cary, Linda Meineker, Marlene Jorgenson, Bonnie Post, Melodie Swanson and Norine Hodges. Not pictured Suzanne Mazoff.



The Let's Roc dancers are a youth initiative of the Suicide Prevention Task Force whose aim is to promote the Reach Out and Connect campaign. Eight students performed magnificently at the annual dinner! Great dancing and a great message.