



The Advocate

A NEWSLETTER OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SCHOHARIE COUNTY

Summer 2010

We will miss you, Sr. Maureen



Sr. Maureen Joyce, CEO and leader of Catholic Charities, died on May 21, 2010 after months of battling cancer. Anyone who witnessed her wake service or funeral Mass understood the incredible impact she made in the lives of so many people and her outstanding legacy that is Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Albany. Sr. Maureen

uniquely blended visionary leadership with a personal care and attentiveness for every person she came into contact with. During the years 1988—1990 Sr. Maureen led Catholic Charities of Schoharie County. Sr. Maureen was recognized with two honorary doctorate degrees at Siena College (1979) and College of St. Rose (1987) and she was only the second recipient of the prestigious Centennial Medal awarded by Catholic Charities USA. Sr. Maureen is no longer with us, but her spirit guides us to live the mission of Catholic Charities and to build a more just society for all people.

What is Community Service Restitution?

By Kathleen Reinhart

Most people know that community service restitution is a judicial sentencing option. It is a sentence that mandates an individual to perform unpaid service hours in lieu of being sentenced to incarceration. But did you know that the efforts of community service restitution participants are typically



Community service workers helped to build the Community Garden in Schoharie.

completed without fan-fair or recognition? Community Service is sometimes viewed negatively because it is mandated by the courts. Fortunately there are many who greatly appreciate the service provided by these women and men.

Generally speaking, community service restitution is so much more than a “pay-back”. It is an opportunity for growth, not only for the community service client but for the community as well. For example, a community service placement might be a novel opportunity for an individual to contribute something to his or her community. Here is one example. An individual who worked at a non-profit agency not only participated in project planning, but secured donated equipment and then stayed with the project until its completion.

Continued on page 3



An agency of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

11TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



2010

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Tillapaugh, President
Susan Cimino-Cary, Vice President
Rev. Steffen Zehrhuhs, Treasurer
Marlene Towne, Secretary

Fred Barnes Sr. Connie James Rachael Rys
Cathy Borelli Rose Marie Joyce Tina Shuart
Michele Finin Anne Myers Gary Surman
Martha Harvey-Lucear Diane Pierce Georgia Van Dyke

STAFF

Elene Berard-Johnstone Crime Victim, Advocate
Marty Blankowitz Office Facilitator
Maria Bullock Clinical Director
Meg Cooke Domestic Violence & IDV Court, Advocate
Daniel Denofrio Director of Programs
Gloria Dori Domestic Violence, Hotline Worker
Janet Jackson Thrift Shop, Volunteer Manager
Toni Joslin Administrative Assistant
Gale Kruglak Domestic Violence, Advocate
Timothy Mulligan Executive Director

Sky High Jackpot Ticket

This jackpot is a 50/50 up to \$1000

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone (optional) _____

Number of Golf balls at \$5 each _____

Total enclosed _____



Good News

Catholic Charities of Schoharie County received a \$12,000 grant through United Way for domestic violence services. This grant will directly support families in need and also help women



Annual Dinner

Every year, the annual dinner brings together friends, board of directors and staff to celebrate a year of service to the community. However, this year was especially significant as the Board of Directors renamed our annual awards after Sr. Maureen Joyce.

The Sr. Maureen Joyce Service Award was presented to Butterfly Café. The Café serves up to 75 people on Tuesday nights providing hot nutritious meals to all who come. The Sr. Maureen Joyce Community Builder Awards were presented to John Jarvis, Gloria Wojciacyk, Chuck Finin and Peter Enders for their contributions to building up the community of Schoharie County.

Right: Members of the Board of Directors of the Butterfly Café.



Community Service

Continued from page 1

This contribution although mandated, frequently instilled a sense of pride within the individual. This results from learning a new skill, working with new people, receiving words of appreciation and sometimes from being offered a job from the worksite. The growth within a community results not only from witnessing these beautification projects but also from the sense of positive change that community members might see within their neighborhood. The end result can be an overall greater appreciation for the valuable service these mandated workers can provide the community.

Community Service Restitution succeeds because of the human value of restorative justice. We have a need to make things right. At Catholic Charities our mission statement speaks about mercy and justice that work in partnership, not isolation. This serves as a constant reminder that every person deserves our care and support to move beyond past faults or failures. A community that does not give up on people who are struggling is a community that has hope in its future! We are grateful for outstanding worksite supervisors who are willing to accept community service workers and for the necessary support received through the referring courts, probation officers and attorneys at the district attorneys office. So to make my point complete, Community Service Restitution is much more than a sentencing option – it is a community building experience.



Recipients of the Sr. Maureen Joyce Community Builder Award. Top: Rev. Steffen Zehrhuhs presents award to John Jarvis. Middle: Sr. Connie James presents award to Chuck Finin. Bottom: Sr. Connie presents award to Gloria Wojciacyk.



Summer Reading

Picking Cotton:

A Memoir of Injustice and Redemption

by Ronald Cotton and Jennifer Thompson-Canino with Erin Torneo

This remarkable book is a true story of tragedy. After Jennifer was raped in her own apartment, she was absolutely certain when she picked Ronald Cotton out of a police lineup as the man who had violated her. Ronald pled his innocence from the very beginning despite all circumstantial evidence pointing to him. Ronald was sentenced to prison and remained there for 11 years. When DNA evidence was introduced, Ronald asked his attorneys to pursue it. In the end, DNA evidence proved his innocence and later convicted the right man.

Here is where the story really begins! How can a man unjustly imprisoned forgive the woman who vilified his name? How can a woman who destroyed years of a man's life begin to forgive herself? Ronald and Jennifer may have wanted to go separate ways, but they discovered that they needed each other to piece together their own futures. Their story will undoubtedly speak to your



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Cobleskill, NY

489 West Main Street

E-mail comments to:

services@catholiccharitiesofschoharieco.org



The Thrift Shop Needs your Help!

Please consider making a donation of the following items: beds, desks, tables and chairs, sofas and love seats, stoves, refrigerators, pots and pans, sheets, curtains, towels and blankets, toasters, microwave ovens, blenders, radios, clocks and lamps. We do not accept clothing and please donate only quality items. Call Catholic Charities at 234-3581 to schedule a drop off your donations at 489 W. Main Street, Cobleskill when Thrift Shop is open. Thank you for your continued support.

Hours of Operation

Wed—Saturday 10am– 2:30pm



Legacy Giving

Have you ever thought about creating a Legacy Gift for Catholic Charities? Legacy gifts fulfill a deep need to give while also making a tremendous impact on an agency's ability to serve the community. Here are some things to consider:

- Legacy Gifts ensure that the programs and services you value are continued into the future.
- Legacy Gifts enable individuals to memorialize family members in a special way.
- Legacy Gifts may include cash, bequests, charitable remainder trusts, annuities, stocks or bonds, real estate, life insurance, or other financial resources.
- Legacy Gifts help to advance the mission of Catholic Charities and increase the quality of services and number of people served in Schoharie County.