## Catholic Charities, Diocese of Norwich, Inc. **Annual Report 2021**

These past couple of years were some of the most challenging times Catholic Charities has had to face. When COVID-19 hit Connecticut in March 2020, schools and long-term care facilities closed, along with many businesses and organizations. However, the pandemic could not keep Catholic Charities from serving those in need. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of all our donors and grantors and the dedication of our staff, Catholic Charities was able to continue "Providing Help and Creating Hope" to our most vulnerable neighbors in our communities.

Over the past year, 10,291 men, women and children received some type of assistance through our Case Management/Basic Needs program. Most clients just needed help over a short period of time to get them through a difficult and unpredicted situation. However, in the midst of the ongoing, challenging economy, the Basic Needs Program truly benefits those living at or below the poverty level, as well as clients in chronic situations. Individuals and families are able to maintain some stability in their lives by receiving assistance for food, clothing, transportation, rent, utilities, fuel and prescriptions. In addition, long term case management is offered for Pregnancy & Parenting Support, Job Preparation and Readiness Training, Resume Preparation, Financial Budgeting Skills Education, SNAP Assistance, Adoption Search, and most recently, Early Childhood Reading Program.

As we celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, Catholic Charities is proud to continue its mission to respond to Christ's call to care for those in need, providing compassionate social services for individuals and families living within the Diocese of Norwich.



Our three Emergency Food Pantries distributed over 87.000 meals to families in need throughout our communities.

**211 Thanksgiving Baskets** distributed to families in need





**Emergency Basic Needs Direct Relief** Provided **\$260,294.00** in financial assistance



