



CARING BEYOND BELIEF

VOLUNTEERS ARE AT THE CORE OF OUR PROGRAMS' SUCCESS

Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties has relied upon the kindness and skills of volunteers to run the agency and the programs we provide for many years. The number of services we have been able to provide with the assistance of volunteers was three to four times what we could provide with only our staff. Since 2020, the number of volunteers has decreased dramatically. Many did not return to service for a variety of reasons. Since then we have struggled to find new volunteers.

April is the month that celebrates volunteers with Volunteer Appreciation Week. As we look at celebrating our volunteers this year, we are taking this opportunity to highlight the volunteer opportunities that we are currently recruiting for.

Caring Connections: Provides emergency assistance to members of the community who are struggling to meet a basic need such as food, heat/utilities, transportation, housing, etc. Volunteers are trained and work with the staff. The most important skills needed for volunteers in this program are listening and empathy. (Oneonta and Cobleskill)

Summer Food Service Program: Makes and delivers bagged lunches in Oneonta during the week in the months of July and August. The volunteer coordinator makes and sends out the schedule, keeps inventory, and sends shopping lists to the staff of the program. Volunteers are provided training and work alongside of seasoned volunteers and staff. (Oneonta)

Aging Life Services: Trained volunteers provide help with running errands such as shopping or taking clients to appointments, enabling people to safely stay in their homes for as long as possible. (Otsego County)

Mentoring: Caring adults act as role models for at-risk youth in Delaware County. In as little as six hours per month, a mentor spends time with their mentee doing activities of interest and providing life skills guidance. (Delaware County)

Food Pantries: Our food pantry volunteers help pick up food orders, delivering them to the pantry, help in putting the food away and stocking/re-stocking shelves. In Cobleskill, the volunteers manage the raised bed garden. (Sidney and Cobleskill)

Domestic Violence Program: Provide support to the program and residential clients including light housekeeping and light maintenance, picking up and delivery of donations and food deliveries.

Dispute Resolution Program: Volunteer mediators provide alternative dispute resolution to parties having a disagreement about a variety of things such as small claims, neighbor and family disputes, parenting issues. Training and an apprenticeship program required. Service in seven counties, mediations provided both virtually and in person.

Our Board of Directors currently has 10 members. They too are volunteers who give of their skills and their time. They advise on many things related to running the agency. They offer their expertise and their opinions. They spend hours each year attending meetings and fundraising. We appreciate their time and work very much.

If you are interested, please call one of our offices to discuss opportunities and get a volunteer application. We hope to add you to our wonderful team of volunteers!

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176 Main Street, Oneonta, NY 13820
489 West Main Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043
21 Liberty Street, Sidney, NY 13838

607-432-0061
518-234-3581
607-604-4071

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Catholic Charities is proud to say that we are able to help the surrounding communities in multiple areas of focus. We offer a variety of programs and services that meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

As an agency we appreciate the commitment and support of our volunteers.

- 6 volunteers donated **407** hours to the Food Pantry.
- 2 volunteers donated **69** hours to the Caring Connections Program.
- **21** volunteer mediators donated **471** hours to the Dispute Resolution Center.
 - 9 volunteers donated **1,734** hours to the Thrift Shop.
 - 2 volunteers donated **6** hours to the Domestic Violence Program.
- **40** volunteers donated **456** hours preparing and serving lunches to children in the Summer Food Service Program.
 - **13** volunteer mentors donated **648** hours to the Mentoring Program.
- **19** volunteers donated **1,025** hours to the Senior Support Services Program in Otsego County.
 - **11** Board Members donated approximately **525** hours.



In 2023 Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties was able to serve approximately 13,238 individuals in various programs that we offer:

- **71** individuals participated in the Alternatives to Incarceration Program (ATI).
- **73** children were served through the Child At Risk Response Team.
- **107** individuals attended a Victims Impact Panel (VIP) presentation.
- **396** individuals were served through the Domestic Violence Program, including **56** individuals who were housed in our 9 bed residential safe house.
- **681** individuals received an emergency supply of food from our Food Pantry in Cobleskill.
- **153** individuals received an emergency supply of food from our Food Pantry in Sidney that opened in July 2023.
- **10** legally Exempt Child Care Providers enrolled.
- **9,044** completed transactions in our Thrift Shop in Cobleskill.
- **265** mediations, conciliations and facilitations were conducted by the Dispute Resolution Center in areas such as custody/visitation, divorce, special education, small claims, and agricultural mediation. The Dispute Resolution Center served **948** individuals.
- **101** individuals were provided with counseling and mental health services through the Clinical Support Services Program.
- **1,604** adults, children and seniors were helped through our Caring Connections Program.
 - **\$192,000** in financial assistance was given to families and/or individuals seeking assistance with basic needs.
 - Caring Connections assisted **241** individuals with their transportation needs; **166** individuals with their utility needs; **118** individuals with their housing needs; **121** with food and **474** with other basic needs.
- **55** individuals served through the Family Support Services Program.
- **240** individuals sought temporary shelter in Schoharie & Otsego County Warming Stations over cold winter months.
- **3,800** lunches were served to children and adults through the Summer Food Service Program.
- **10** day care providers participated in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, receiving **\$53,010** in reimbursement for **28,280** nutritious meals served to children in child care.
- **532** individuals were served through the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program.
- **100** grocery gift cards were provided to families in the Oneonta School District during the Christmas/New Year break.
- **71** backpacks were given out to students in the Sidney School District through the Backpack Program.
- **6** at-risk youth served through the Mentoring Program.
- **240** individuals were served through our housing programs in Otsego and Schoharie Counties.



Sidney Food Pantry

In this picture is our first order from the Regional Food Bank being unloaded. Thanks to the Regional Food Bank we are able to help more people in the Sidney community with food.



Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic Violence Program staff went to WSDE 1190 am and 94.3 fm to record an interview for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The owner, Ed Sherlock, helped us to shine the light on domestic violence.



Star Route Farm Grant

This year, 24 families were helped through the Star Route Farm LLC Grant for 2023. The program ran for 6 weeks, with a delivery of fresh vegetables once a week. The recipients of the program loved the fresh variety of food included in the food box, from vegetables to meat to dairy!



Southern Tier Credit Union Alliance

Sidney Federal Credit Union and the Southern Tier Credit Union Alliance chose us as one of the two recipients to donate to this past holiday season. We appreciate the donations of personal care items and food to help our Caring Connections Program the food pantry in our Sidney office.



Week of the Young Child Celebration!

On Thursday April 11th our Child Care Support Services team held their Week of the Young Child celebration event at the Oneonta Boys And Girls Club! Child care programs across Otsego County were invited to come enjoy a morning of music, crafts, obstacle courses, parachutes and face painting - celebrating all things child!



Summer Food Service Program

The Future for Oneonta Foundation awarded us a \$1,000 grant for our summer food program.



Domestic Violence and CARRT

Catholic Charities' staff members went to Schoharie County Head Start programs to teach the Care for Kids Programming!



Cobleskill Food Pantry

The Walmart distribution center in Sharon Springs, donated "Everything but the turkey" bags, along with other miscellaneous pantry items.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
OF DELAWARE, OTSEGO, AND SCHOHARIE COUNTIES
176 MAIN STREET
ONEONTA, NEW YORK 13820

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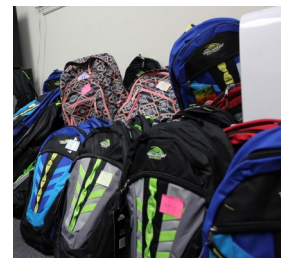
COMING SOON!



Summer Food Service Program
July - August
Oneonta, NY
Our Summer Food Service Program will be transitioning to grab-and-go lunches at a new location!
Details to Follow!



Let Us Do The Cooking!
Our 11th Annual All You Can Eat Pasta Dinner on Thursday, May 16th will be the last.
We wish to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Quality Inn and Kayla and her staff for all of the support over the past 11 years.



Back to School Program
Backpacks and back to school supplies for children enrolled in the Sidney School District
August 2024
Sidney, NY

