

WHY WAIT
UNTIL THEY'RE
homeless?

CATHOLIC Eastern Oklahoma
CHARITIES | Love
Changing
Lives.

ANNUAL APPEAL
WEEKEND IS
OCTOBER
4TH & 5TH, 2025



CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL APPEAL PARISH INSTRUCTIONS

We appreciate the support your parish gives by promoting our 2026 Annual Appeal. Please look over the enclosed materials and let us know if we can answer any questions.

Thank you for supporting those served by Catholic Charities.

**Together, we are
Love Changing Lives.**

Catholic Charities serves all 31 counties in Eastern Oklahoma with locations in:

- Tulsa
- Bartlesville
- Broken Arrow
- McAlester
- Muskogee
- Sallisaw
- Wilburton

We provide funding for assistance to 36 Eastern Oklahoma parishes and have monthly mobile food pantries in 13 towns across Eastern Oklahoma.

Some parishes have reason to change their appeal weekend because the pastor may be gone or a parish event may conflict with our Annual Appeal. In order for this collection to be successful, we want the appeal to happen on the best weekend for the parish. Please feel free to choose a different date, if needed, and let us know when you are holding your collection.

QUESTIONS?

Alondra Griffith ▪ 918.508.7178 ▪ agriffith@cceok.org

PRIOR TO ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKEND

- ☒ Please prepare your parishioners by running **BULLETIN REMINDERS** and announcing the appeal the weekend before (September 27th & 28th).
- ☐ We have emailed a link to **BULLETIN INSERT ARTWORK** to be included in your bulletin the week before the collection. If you need for us to provide copies for bulletin inserts, please call Alondra Griffith at 918.508.7178.
- ☐ Please hang **POSTERS** in a visible location and leave them up through January. Let us know if you need more posters or fliers (or replacements).

SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Why wait until someone is homeless? Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma steps in before crisis—keeping families fed, housed, and hopeful. October 4th & 5th is Catholic Charities Annual Appeal weekend and we will take a second collection of your commitment to those in need in our community. Together, we are Love Changing Lives. Thank you for making a difference!

WEEKEND OF OCT. 4 & 5 | ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKEND

- ☒ See the suggested script for the **PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT**.
- ☐ Be ready for the **SECOND COLLECTION**, and make sure there is a sample brochure at the pulpit.
- ☐ Please put a sufficient number of **BROCHURES IN THE PEWS** for each Mass. Have ushers or other volunteers replenish the brochures between Masses and, if it's not too much to ask, place a brochure every few feet in the pews and remove any brochures which have had the envelopes torn off.

AFTER THE SECOND COLLECTION

Within a few days after the second collection, mail the envelopes collected in the manila envelope(s) provided to:

Catholic Charities Appeal
P.O. Box 580460
Tulsa, OK 74158-0460

Please do not open the envelopes so our Catholic Charities' staff can credit the individual donors for their gifts.

Please consolidate the loose cash donations and send one check from your parish; parish checks should be made payable to Catholic Charities for the Annual Appeal (and your parish will be acknowledged for the cash).

WE ASK YOU TO DISPLAY LEFTOVER BROCHURES IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE. This appeal will go on for several months. If you run out, please let us know and we'll send more!

Please mail donation envelopes turned in after the first group to the address to the left, and we will credit the donors and send them thank you letters.

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please feel free to add statistics from the impact page to this information.

Suggestions for the Weekend Before (Sept. 27 & 28)

1 - Why wait until someone is homeless? Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma steps in before crisis—keeping families fed, housed, and hopeful. Next weekend is Catholic Charities Annual Appeal weekend and we will take a second collection of your commitment to those in need in our community. Together, we are Love Changing Lives. Thank you for making a difference!

2 - Homelessness doesn't begin on the street; it begins with a missed paycheck, an empty pantry, a shut-off notice. Catholic Charities intervenes early to keep families housed and stable. Next weekend is Catholic Charities Annual Appeal weekend and we will take a second collection of your commitment to those in need in our community. Together, we are Love Changing Lives.

Suggestion for Annual Appeal Weekend (Oct. 4 & 5)

1 - Why wait until someone is homeless? Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma steps in before crisis—keeping families fed, housed, and hopeful. Last year, with parish support, they distributed more than 9.3 million pounds of food, welcomed 213 babies, and provided safe shelter and care to hundreds. But the need keeps growing. That's why I'm asking you today to give generously to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. Every dollar you give multiplies through the work of 7,000 volunteers, transforming lives across Eastern Oklahoma. Together, we can keep families safe, healthy, and in their homes. Please join me in making a gift—because together, we are Love Changing Lives.

2 - Homelessness doesn't begin on the street; it begins with a missed paycheck, an empty pantry, a shut-off notice. Catholic Charities intervenes early to keep families housed and stable. Last year, with parish support, they distributed more than 9.3 million pounds of food, welcomed 213 babies, and provided safe shelter and care to hundreds. But the need keeps growing. That's why I'm asking you today to give generously to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. Your donation is Christ's merciful love in action — preventing homelessness today. Please join me in making a gift—because together, we are Love Changing Lives.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR *generosity*

9.33 MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD distributed across Eastern Oklahoma in the past year, nearly **25% MORE THAN LAST YEAR!**

47,208 CLIENTS SERVED at The Market at Catholic Charities in the past year, **25,499 CLIENTS SERVED** at our Outreach Locations and **31,730 CLIENTS SERVED** at Mobile Food Pantries throughout Eastern Oklahoma.

330 HOUSEHOLDS are being helped through the recovery process after the recent tornadoes and fire events, as well as floods, wind events and house fires.

86 RETREATANTS received hope and healing at our Rachel's Vineyard and Grief to Grace retreats, more than doubling last year's retreatants!

2,940 HOUSEHOLDS obtained basic needs assistance through our Emergency Assistance program.

378 PEOPLE received end-of-life care at Porta Caeli House.

717 STUDENTS received the gift of Adult Education & **37 STUDENTS** earned their high school diplomas.

925 DENTAL PATIENTS received care worth **\$1.013 MILLION.**

213 NEW BABIES BORN through our Maternity Care clinic.

39 MOMS & 63 CHILDREN found a secure place to learn and grow at Madonna House & St. Elizabeth Lodge.

373 CASES were completed by Immigration Legal Services.

21 CULINARY APPRENTICES graduated our culinary training program and **44 WORKFORCE CLIENTS** were placed in jobs.