

75 YEARS OF *Love Changing Lives*

2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Eastern Oklahoma CATHOLIC CHARITIES | Love Changing Lives.

Catholic Charities celebrates 75 years

From humble beginnings in north Tulsa...

1951 — In 1951, Catholic charitable work begins in north Tulsa, distributing food and clothing at Immaculate Conception Parish on North Denver.

1950s 1960s — Catholic Social Services was a local Catholic response to poverty, family needs, and social service needs in Tulsa. Notable programs included St. Joseph's Nursery, operated by Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict, and Maria Goretti House Residence for young women seeking stability.

1973 — With the creation of the Diocese of Tulsa in 1973, Catholic Social Services becomes Associated Catholic Charities - a part of a newly formed local Church structure serving Eastern Oklahoma.

1975 — After the fall of Saigon, Catholic Charities becomes part of the Church's national response to displaced families. Approximately 150 Vietnamese people, including 15 Catholic families, settle in the Tulsa area.

1980s — St. Anthony Assistance Center provides groceries and other assistance from the location on North Denver. Hispanic Helping Center provides citizenship counseling, form assistance, legal help, and ESL classes.

1982 — Catholic Charities incorporates as a 501(c)3 with its own Board of Governors on December 8, 1982.

1983 — Two new transitional living homes open on North Denver - Madonna House serving women in crisis pregnancies and St. Elizabeth Lodge serving families in transition.

1987 — St. Joseph Residence opens in Tulsa, providing compassionate care for people living with HIV/AIDS during the AIDS crisis.

1990 — Catholic Charities assumes operation of the Community Helping Center in Sallisaw in 1990, establishing its first outreach center and beginning the extension of its mission across Eastern Oklahoma.

1995 — Catholic Charities Muskogee joins the Outreach program in partnership with St. Joseph Parish, providing food, infant supplies and other services to the Muskogee area.

2001 — Xavier Medical Clinic opens in partnership with Saint Francis Health System, providing free medical care for the uninsured and underserved in Tulsa.









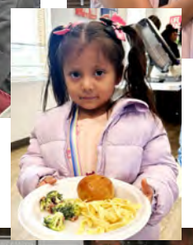














...to Love Changing Lives across Eastern Oklahoma

2009 — New 72,000 square foot campus on North Harvard opens, bringing services together in one place and expanding capacity.

2010-2011 — Catholic Charities opens Dental Care, Adult Education, and Maternity Care, expanding its mission beyond emergency assistance to help neighbors find healing, stability, education, and hope for the future.

2011 — Catholic Charities McAlester opens, bringing food, clothing, and financial assistance to families in Pittsburg County.

2017 — Catholic Charities partners with St. Anne Parish to operate Ministry of Compassion to strengthen food and emergency assistance for families in Broken Arrow and Coweta.

2017 — Porta Caeli House opens, continuing the mission of St. Joseph Residence, by providing compassionate end-of-life care, when dying at home is not an option.

2018 — Catholic Charities assumes operation of Mary Martha Outreach in Bartlesville, broadening its service to the northern part of Oklahoma and expanding the organization's capacity for food distribution.

2019 — Disaster Outreach expands to assist Eastern Oklahoma residents after extensive flooding affects the entire state, providing long-term case management services to thousands of flood victims.

2020 — Catholic Charities remains open during COVID-19. Meeting a 600% increase in need for food assistance, Catholic Charities kept every program open except Dental Care, adapting quickly to meet urgent needs.

2021 — CCEOK opens its Wilburton outreach location in May 2021 as the need for food and social services skyrocketed during the pandemic.

2021-2022 — Catholic Charities answers the US State Department's call to welcome and resettle 800 Afghan refugees to the Tulsa area.

2022 — The Market at Catholic Charities opens, shifting food assistance from pre-packaged bags to choice and dignity. The renovation includes a production kitchen, providing food for clients and culinary training for a new Workforce Development program.



Last year...

8,455
VOLUNTEERS
worked
148,425
HOURS
which is equal to
75
full-time staff
added to our
95 FULL-TIME &
38 PART-TIME
employees.
335
people volunteered
100+ HOURS

LaTonya Brown, Kevin Legleiter, Donna Riddle
Debra Vloedman, Rosalba Pickens
& Michael Canfield each volunteered
more than **1,000 hours** last year!

Volunteers double our impact!

Volunteers are essential to our mission, generously giving their time and talents to help us serve more people, expand our reach, and make the most of every donated dollar. Their dedication allows Catholic Charities to provide more services, touch more lives, and bring hope to more neighbors in need.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026

Volunteers of the Year!

Mark Ballew

Mark volunteers twice a week in the CCEOK kitchen, bringing his calm, caring presence to lead the kitchen team and show hospitality to the community and our volunteers through a lovingly prepared meal. Mentoring the students in CCEOK's Workforce Development Culinary Training Program is one of Mark's lesser-known, but generous acts of solidarity with others.

The Nill Family

For nearly ten years, Gina Nill has been molding servant hearts within her sons, Paul, Simon, Abraham and Thomas. This continued example of service to the poor draws Gina and her children closer to Christ, as Christ himself was always close to the poor. Abraham volunteers in the CC Kitchen, while Gina and the others serve in the Warehouse.

George Simmons

A longtime volunteer at CCEOK Sallisaw, George not only treats clients with love and compassion, but his co-workers feel it as well. Rooted in the example of Jesus, who exemplified humility, patience and quiet service in fixing anything that needs to be fixed, George never expects accolades, yet he provides the best example of what Christian service looks like.



3 WAYS TO Volunteer!

AS AN INDIVIDUAL
From shelf stockers to tutors to teachers - there is an opportunity for everyone to serve, families and kids included!

AS A GROUP
Church groups, school groups, civic groups, friend groups - all groups are welcome!

CORPORATE TEAM BUILDING
Build your team by serving others. To bring your team, contact bbird@cceok.org

cceok.org/volunteer



8.63 million pounds
of food was given out last year to more than 100,000 families



Of all the food given,
37% was fresh produce



22,578 hot meals
served from our kitchen

Restoring Hope

On a cool winter evening, Tom Wolfe, a Catholic Charities volunteer, was finishing his shift at The Market when he met a woman named Nikki. She was standing outside the building with her bicycle, shivering and clearly in a difficult situation. She had arrived just after closing and was overwhelmed. Her family had no food, their electricity had been shut off, and their vehicle had broken down. Even though The Market was closed, Tom brought her inside and helped gather food she could eat without cooking, along with produce, sandwiches and other items she could carry home on her bike.

Before leaving, Nikki asked Tom for a hug and shared something he has never forgotten. She had a little boy waiting at home and, with nothing left to feed him, she had gone out that night intending to steal food because she did not know what else to do. Instead, she found help, dignity and compassion. Tom watched her ride away, knowing that Christ's merciful love was there to meet Nikki that night. As for Tom, he cried all the way home. "I guess it's just Jesus reminding us all—that's what Catholic Charities can do for people," he said. For Tom, this moment was a powerful reminder that sometimes meeting an immediate need can also restore something much greater: hope.



231 volunteers
spend 1,900 hours tending to our community garden



155 babies
were born under the care of our pregnancy clinic last year



Expectant mothers received care through
2,771 appointments



1,156 dental patients
received care worth
$2.273 million
More than twice last year's amount!

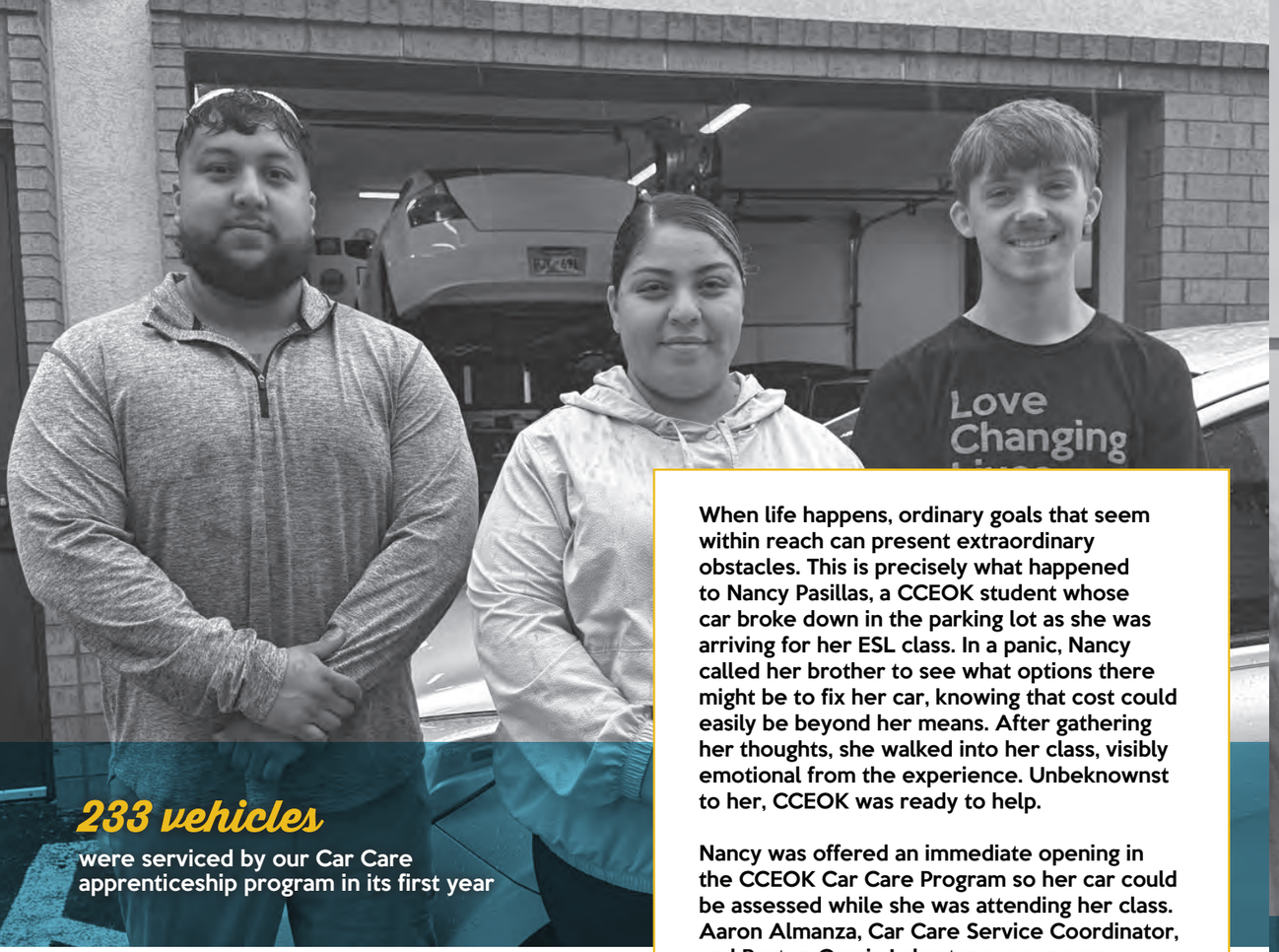
Creating Health & Wellbeing

- PREGNANCY CARE
- DENTAL CARE
- THE MARKET
- KITCHEN & GARDEN MINISTRIES

Leonard "Doc" Sohn has spent much of his life serving others—from his years in the military to the many people he has helped along the way. So when serious dental problems left him in pain and without an affordable path forward, asking for help was difficult. After learning about Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma, Doc drove to our campus several times but turned around, convinced someone else needed the help more than he did. Eventually, the pain became too much, and he finally walked through the doors.

At our Dental Care Clinic, Doc found more than the extractions he expected. Dr. Jennifer Cook and the dental team were able to provide the care he needed and fit him with dentures—giving him a new smile and an experience marked, in his words, by "professionalism and kindness and giving." His first instinct was to find some way to repay that kindness, even offering to scrub floors. "No, I just wanna show gratitude," he told Dr. Cook.

For Doc, Catholic Charities' impact went beyond dental care. It helped a man accustomed to caring for others discover that receiving help can be an act of grace, too. "The hardest thing for me was to learn how to ask for help and learn how to give myself grace."



233 vehicles
were serviced by our Car Care apprenticeship program in its first year

Offering a New Beginning

ADULT EDUCATION

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

When life happens, ordinary goals that seem within reach can present extraordinary obstacles. This is precisely what happened to Nancy Pasillas, a CCEOK student whose car broke down in the parking lot as she was arriving for her ESL class. In a panic, Nancy called her brother to see what options there might be to fix her car, knowing that cost could easily be beyond her means. After gathering her thoughts, she walked into her class, visibly emotional from the experience. Unbeknownst to her, CCEOK was ready to help.

Nancy was offered an immediate opening in the CCEOK Car Care Program so her car could be assessed while she was attending her class. Aaron Almanza, Car Care Service Coordinator, and Payton Garcia Labretone, a car care apprentice, fixed Nancy's car the very same day. "I just couldn't believe they did all of this so fast. I also had no idea this program existed, and I am incredibly grateful that it does," Nancy remarked.

Reliable transportation is frequently reported by CCEOK clients as a barrier for accessing services, going to work, school, and everything in between. Through this first of its kind apprenticeship program, the CCEOK Car Care Program is taking action to be Love Changing Lives for those they serve, while training students to continue helping others beyond our walls.



THE IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY

22 apprentices
graduated with new skills from our workforce training programs and were placed in jobs

684 students
took Adult Education classes to better their futures

15,320 hours
were spent learning ESL, HiSET/GED, computer skills, financial literacy and more!

44 new jobs
were found for our Workforce Development clients

1,296 clients
from 55 different countries were helped through the immigration process

199 cases
were closed, bringing stability for families with immigration issues

16 moms & 18 babies
found support and community at Madonna House

17 moms & 42 children
found safety and stability at St. Elizabeth Lodge

120 retreatants
found hope and renewal through healing retreats

A hand to hold in suffering

TRANSITIONAL LIVING
HEALING MINISTRIES
COUNSELING
PORTA CAELI HOUSE





Rebecca came to the United States from Uganda in 2014 with her then-husband. She had a lot of free time and chose to volunteer at Catholic Charities. She had no idea that six years later, she would return to Catholic Charities – not as a volunteer, but as a client.

In 2020, Rebecca's marriage ended and she needed a safe place for herself and her two children who were five and three years old at the time. Rather than scouring the internet for places she could go, she instantly remembered the place she once volunteered. "I wanted to feel safe," Rebecca recalled. "I wanted to find a place where I didn't have to worry about bills and where I had support." At St. Elizabeth Lodge, Rebecca found more than just stability; she found a renewed confidence in herself and her ability to thrive.

Rebecca recently graduated with her nursing degree from OU and is working in a local hospital cardiac unit.

For her, Catholic Charities was never simply the place she stayed with her children. It was more than that. "I called it a sanctuary, a place of new beginnings. It was my happy place."

338 souls
entered the "Gate of Heaven" at Porta Caeli House



Because of you, no one has to face the end of life without dignity, compassion, and the comfort of knowing someone is there. Wendy Benford, a Porta Caeli House volunteer, never imagined that volunteering in end-of-life care would become such an important part of her life. While discerning where she felt called to serve, she began wondering who cares for people when they are seriously ill or dying. That question led her to Porta Caeli House, where she became a Guest Companion. What she found surprised her: not a place filled only with sadness, but a peaceful, loving community where simple moments of presence can mean everything. "There are times after I pray with somebody, or when I finish a shift, that I'm just like, wow, I really felt God's presence today," Wendy shared. "Knowing that maybe in some small way I helped comfort someone right here at the end—that's where the joy comes from."

Your support makes those sacred moments possible. Through her time at Porta Caeli House, Wendy's own fear of death has been replaced with a deeper sense of peace, faith and purpose. During the most recent remembrance ceremony, Wendy had the privilege of reading the names of PCH guests who passed away in the past six months. "It was a truly special and sacred moment," Wendy remarked. "I am just so grateful I can be part of such an incredible organization."

Counseling clients received healing across
992 sessions

The value of counseling services provided was
$247,395

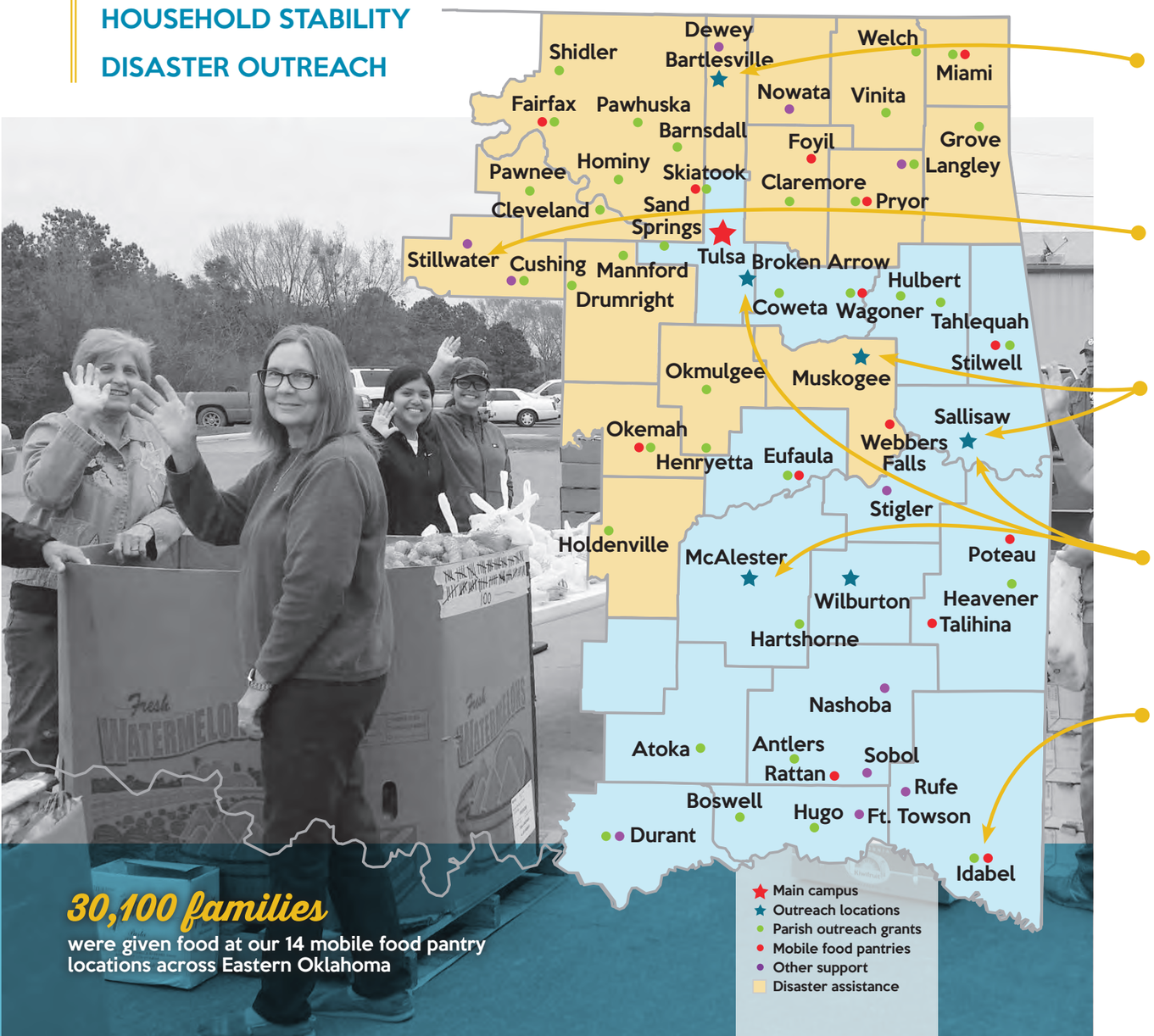
Our Counseling program served members of
59 parishes

Bringing Help Closer to Home

EASTERN OKLAHOMA OUTREACH

HOUSEHOLD STABILITY

DISASTER OUTREACH



30,100 families
were given food at our 14 mobile food pantry locations across Eastern Oklahoma

At Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma, our mission extends far beyond Tulsa. We recognize that families in rural communities often face additional challenges accessing essential services. This past year, we expanded our reach through new programs and community partnerships, bringing compassionate care and practical assistance closer to those who need it most.

Removing Barriers to Opportunity

Through a partnership with the Bartlesville Regional United Way, Mary Martha Outreach is providing vouchers to help individuals obtain state-issued identification cards. This simple but essential resource opens doors to employment, housing and other critical services.

Preventing Utility Shutoffs

Through a new partnership with the United Way of Payne County, we are providing emergency utility assistance to households at risk of disconnection, helping families maintain stability during difficult times.

Building Community Partnerships

By working with organizations such as CREOKS Health Services in Sallisaw, we are bringing crisis intervention and counseling for veterans, individuals and families. In addition, Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma now provides services monthly at our Muskogee and Sallisaw locations, with plans to expand to additional outreach centers.

Expanding Access to Counseling

Counseling is available in Sallisaw, Broken Arrow and McAlester. Virtual counseling also allows individuals and families throughout Eastern Oklahoma to receive professional support, regardless of where they live.

Expanding Food Access

We added a new Mobile Food Pantry in Idabel, reaching families in far southeastern Oklahoma. Additional mobile pantry locations are planned for Muskogee and Hugo in early 2027.

OUR MISSION KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES.

Whether in a large city or a small rural community, we remain committed to meeting people where they are, removing barriers to assistance and bringing Christ's merciful love to those who suffer.



25,200 families
were served at our Outreach locations in Bartlesville, Broken Arrow, McAlester, Muskogee, Sallisaw and Wilburton



8,970 people
received assistance with basic needs through our Household Stability program



415 households
received disaster case management to recover from fires, tornadoes, floods and wind

Abundant Blessings

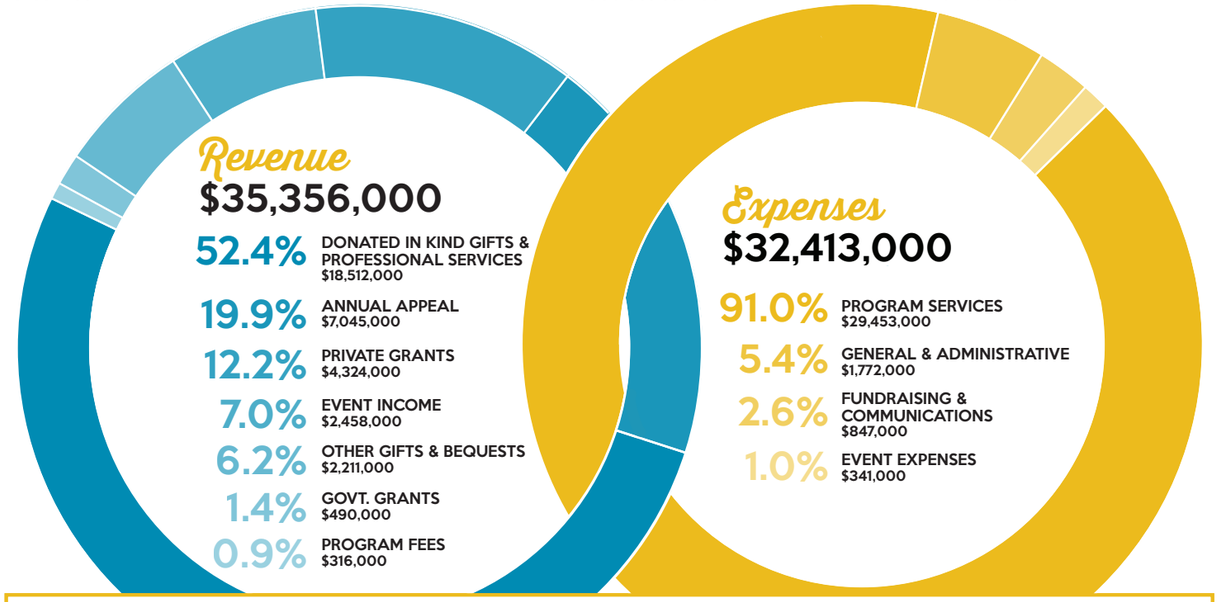
We exceeded our goals across all three primary fundraising channels: the Annual Appeal, grants, and our signature fundraising event, Cooking Up Compassion. This success reflects the continued generosity of our donors, the strength of our community partnerships, and growing support for our mission. Several significant, nonrecurring factors contributed to these record fundraising results:

ESTATE GIFTS: CCEOK received multiple estate distributions totaling more than $2 million, reflecting the lasting commitment of donors who chose to extend their generosity beyond their lifetimes.

MULTI-YEAR GRANT: A $1.5 million multi-year grant was fully recognized as revenue during the current fiscal year.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO INCREASED FOOD INSECURITY: Following the disruption of SNAP benefits in November 2025, individual donors responded generously to help CCEOK meet a sharp increase in demand for food assistance.

DENTAL CARE EXPANSION: A substantial new grant was awarded to support the expansion of our Dental Care Clinic, strengthening our capacity to provide essential care to underserved individuals.



Limited State & Federal Funding

Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in partnership with the Catholic Church. While we collaborate with state and federal agencies to enhance the delivery of services, only 1.4% of our annual budget comes from government funding. These limited funds are directed primarily toward disaster case management after severe storms, security enhancements (such as cameras and badge scanners), and expanded capacity for food distribution.

Matching Gifts

double the impact!

$73,282

Total giving matched from 111 donors
Does your employer match donations?
cceok.org/matching

Endowments

$34,955,000
value of endowments

$4,026,000
endowment investment gain

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Financial numbers are pre-audit and represent management's best estimate at this time for the fiscal year 7/1/25 to 6/30/26.





DONATE TO OUR ANNUAL APPEAL
cceok.org/donate

OUR FIRST 75 YEARS. YOUR LEGACY FOR THE NEXT 75.

For 75 years, Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma has brought hope and Christ's merciful love to those in need. Through a gift in your will, you can help carry that legacy of compassion into the next 75 years and beyond.

Contact Christen Miles at 918-935-2658 or cmiles @cceok.org for more information.

CARITAS CHRISTI SOCIETY

Have you named Catholic Charities in your will or estate plan? Let us know so we can include you in our Caritas Christi Society.

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Tulsa, OK

75 years of love changing lives...

THEN. NOW. ALWAYS.

GRATITUDE has defined Catholic Charities' 75 years in Eastern Oklahoma. Generation after generation, donors and volunteers have chosen to serve others and, in doing so, experienced the truth of the prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: "It is in giving that we receive."

There is gratitude, too, among those who come to Catholic Charities in a time of need and leave knowing they have been seen, heard and accompanied by a Christian community willing to walk with them through a difficult season of life.

So many stories could fill these pages. I have seen donors stand in The Market, moved by the dignity and care extended to families seeking food. I have watched widowed volunteers discover a renewed sense of purpose through service and community at Catholic Charities.

I have seen refugee families find hope for their children's future, including parents who could begin to imagine their daughter one day becoming a doctor because she had been given an opportunity to pursue the American dream. There are stories of adoption, healing after abortion and marriages strengthened through counseling. The list is long.

Many of these stories are rarely told in detail because of the deeply personal nature of the circumstances. We know but a few of the many miracles the Lord performed during his lifetime, and even fewer that he works in our midst today.

None of this would be possible without those who came before us. We stand on the shoulders of Catholic families, clergy, board members, staff, donors, volunteers, and community partners who built the Catholic Charities we have inherited today. Much of what we now rely upon was created through their faith, sacrifice and persistence.

That legacy brings with it a responsibility: stewardship. We are called not only to care for what has been entrusted to us, but also to prepare Catholic Charities for the next generation—for people we have not yet met who will one day face hardship and need a place of welcome, dignity and hope.

At 75 years, we find ourselves at an important moment. We receive the past, serve faithfully in the present and prepare for the future. I am grateful that the Lord has called us, in this time and place, to continue being an instrument of His merciful love in a world that greatly needs hope.



Deacon Kevin M. Sartain

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER