

Love Changing Lives.

Spring 2025 Newsletter

Your gift in action.



Gerald, who lost his home in a fire, is one of hundreds of clients Catholic Charities Disaster Outreach assisted with recovery.

Severe weather and wildfires force Disaster Outreach expansion

Floods, tornadoes, wind events, lightning strikes, house & apartment fires and wildfires...our Disaster Outreach program has had a very busy year! Nationwide, there has been an increase in weather-related disasters, and this is also the case in Oklahoma. Since 2022, we have assisted with three federally-declared disasters, one large undeclared disaster, dozens of home or apartment fires and a trailer park impacted by lightning.

One year ago, Catholic Charities' Disaster Outreach program had two full-time and one part-time staff providing disaster case management. But in April and May 2024, tornadoes tore through multiple counties in Eastern Oklahoma. After twelve storm-damaged counties were federally declared, we were able to increase to ten full-time staff.



The "disaster cycle" contains four basic phases: mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. The phase that gets the most media attention is the response phase. While Catholic Charities does respond in this first phase, our greatest contribution is in the recovery phase. After the first and second responders have left, our case managers stay with the survivors until their recovery is complete, often up to two years.

From the flood of May 2022 until now, our disaster team has contacted more than 5,000 households, offered resources to over 1,000 and provided beneficial assistance to hundreds of others. We help survivors complete home repairs for their roofs, flooring, sheet rock, acquire furnishings and household items and more, to provide them a safe, clean and secure home.

Catholic Charities Disaster Outreach relies heavily on generous donors and nonprofit disaster partners for not only funding, but also repair materials and volunteers. For more information on how you can get involved, visit cceok.org/disaster.

"The joy we felt when we were able to tell our boys that everything was going to be okay, and mean it with our whole hearts, was priceless. You will be in our prayers."

- CCEOK Disaster Client

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Together, we are *Love Changing Lives!*

BRIDGING FAITHS FOR A COMMON MISSION

For the past several years, Catholic Charities has formed a meaningful partnership with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In addition to truckloads of food, multiple CCEOK programs have been blessed by the generosity of their members from across Oklahoma. From soccer balls for refugee children to furniture for an apartment at St. Elizabeth Lodge and prenatal vitamins for pregnant moms to a dental cone beam scanner, their dedication to serving those in need is unmatched. Since 2019, their members have volunteered more than 8,800 hours to our shared mission in Eastern Oklahoma.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints prioritizes support of programs providing food assistance and assistance to mothers and babies, homeless, refugees and immigrants. Their focus aligns well with Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma's 15 programs and we are grateful for the tremendous support that has sprung from this partnership.



Shout-out to **CHUCK & JUDY SCHIFFLI** True champions for CCEOK

Here's a shout-out to this amazing couple with hearts of gold! Chuck and Judy Schiffli go above and beyond in all ways for the mission of Catholic Charities.

- Volunteers since 2007
- Donors for 20 consecutive years
- Members of Caritas Christi Society
- Members of Champions of Hope Recurring Giving Society

Every Thursday, Chuck and Judy can be found serving hot lunches with a smile. They are truly **Love Changing Lives!**





CELEBRATING



COOKING UP
COMPASSION

SINCE 2006,
COOKING UP COMPASSION
HAS RAISED

\$18.7 MILLION

FOR THOSE SERVED BY
CATHOLIC CHARITIES

THIS YEAR,

**1,250
GUESTS**

JOINED US FOR THIS
RECORD-SETTING EVENING

THANK YOU TO 2025 EVENT CHAIRS, BETH & MIKE McANDREWS, & OUR PATRON COMMITTEE FOR ALL THEIR WORK TO MAKE THIS YEAR A GREAT SUCCESS!

Mandy & Blake Atkins | Jessica & Erik Block | Stephanie & Adam Brown | Mary Quinn & Frank Cooper
Ida & T.D. Euseste | Teresa & Matt Gawey | Elizabeth & Brian Inbody | Carrie & J.B. Jarboe | Christy &
Bob Latham | Phillip Moran | Kate Craft Mowry | Jennifer & Karl Neumaier | Melissa Minshall Paulsen &
Steve Paulsen | Amy & Raegen Siegfried | T.J. & Paul Warren | Karla & Jay Williams

**SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026
FEATURING THE PARTY CRASHERS**



Donations from individuals like
you fuel our mission to be Christ's
merciful love to those who suffer.

Many are surprised to learn that
Catholic Charities does not receive
funds from the Diocese of Tulsa's
Faith & Works Annual Appeal.

You may donate using the enclosed
envelope or by going to our website:

cceok.org/donate



Imagine
**MAKING A
DIFFERENCE.**

Each day, the poor and vulnerable
in our community humble
themselves to ask for help. Imagine
the difference we can make by
coming together to be the help
they need. Your donation allows us
to be Christ's merciful love to those
who suffer. Join our mission.

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



Donate to the 2025 Annual Appeal at cceok.org/donate