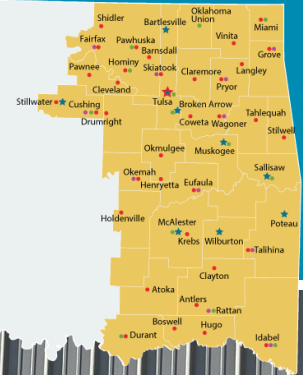


SERVICE IN ACTION

April 2026



Talihina: Food Pantry Serves Area Needs

On March 24, a special blessing was bestowed on a food pantry serving Southeast Oklahoma.

Bishop David Konderla, along with a group from CCEOK Tulsa and our rural outreaches, traveled to Talihina for the special occasion. Bishop blessed the building, saying "Bless all those who will use this building either as clients, donors or staff, so that by respecting justice and charity they will see themselves as working for the common good and find joy in contributing to the progress of the earthly city."



The building was funded and is owned by Kiamichi Valley Ministerial Alliance (KVMA), of which St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Talihina is a long-time member. Catholic Charities assisted KVMA through the building and opening of the pantry and will continue to partner with them as needed. The pantry serves Leflore, Latimer, and Pushmataha counties and, in addition to CCEOK's monthly mobile food pantry outreach in Talihina, helps area residents experiencing food insecurity.

The KVMA food pantry typically serves more than 130 households per month, according to Elfie Bowling, KVMA's food pantry director as well as coordinator of CCEOK's outreach location in Wilburton.





Loving
IN LENT

Thank you to everyone who helped make our second Loving in Lent a great success!



HANDS OF CHRIST

Cassie Fletcher, PCH Volunteer Coordinator

In August of 2024, I started to look for Catholic jobs in the community, as I had just resigned from being a FOCUS Missionary. I knew I wanted to stay in Tulsa as I fell in love with the community and southern hospitality here. I applied to be a Resident Assistant at Madonna House as I love working with moms and children. It was such a gift to journey with these women as they transitioned out of homelessness and trauma. I started to recruit volunteers for Transitional Living as the mothers would attend Bible Study weekly and needed childcare. I saw the huge impact of volunteers in the ministry of Catholic Charities.

The Volunteer Coordinator role at Porta Caeli House opened in March last year. I applied because I enjoy working with volunteers to enhance our mission, as well as providing love and dignity to those who are dying. Thankfully, I was accepted and started working for this program with over 140+ volunteers. I have been **AMAZED** by their commitment and dedication to extending Christ's love to those who are dying. I had never seen a program run so well with the help of so many volunteers!

I have really enjoyed my time at Catholic Charities, as I have been able to practice my faith daily alongside other faithful Christians. It is such a gift to be able to attend Mass and Adoration throughout the week so that I can be filled up by the Lord. I have been able to encounter Christ deeper through our employees, volunteers and clients. I will miss it so much, as I feel I have found a new family here. I **WILL** be back to volunteer!

Now, I am going to start working in women's health as the Natural Family Planning Coordinator for the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma. I have a huge passion to help support women through their struggles because of my own story and suffering. I will be praying for everyone at Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma because together, we are **LOVE CHANGING LIVES!**



A big CCEOK

>Welcome

to our newest volunteers!

Madeleine Bushrod - Counseling
Jose Gomez - Dental
John (Garrett) Largent - Dental
Khalid Shamis - Dental
Anabel Benavides - Education
Bella Hale - Education
Cathy McKenzie - Garden
Joel Dudley - Market
Jordan Pickup - Market/PCH
Joshua Nixon - MMO
Erika Self - Muskogee
Tracy Atyia - PCH
Jessica Bray - PCH
Kathryn Dunn - PCH
Jane Kurek - PCH
Morgan Leigh - PCH
Melody Loveless - PCH
Patrick Maher - PCH
Mary Rockwell - PCH
CeCi Stansill - PCH
Leslie Evans - Sallisaw
Michelle Hamilton - Sallisaw



Holy Family Classical School, 3rd Grade



Cascia Hall choir recently held a Social Justice Concert where attendees were asked to bring donations to help those served by our Maternity Care Clinic. We greatly appreciate the many people who attended, the students' work to plan and present the concert, and their desire to help those in need. The donated items will truly benefit the mothers and babies supported by our clinic.

Cassie (PCH), Carly (Adult Education) and the Volunteer Office participated in a philanthropic fair hosted by Union High School. Student council members from across the Tulsa area took time to visit the many great non-profits of Tulsa and learn about ways to give back. We were able to share about the mission of CCEOK and all of the ways they can get involved in helping our neighbors in need.



All CCEOK locations are closed on Friday, April 3rd through Monday, April 6th for Easter as well as Friday, April 17th, for Employee Appreciation Day. (PCH and Transitional Living programs do not close.)

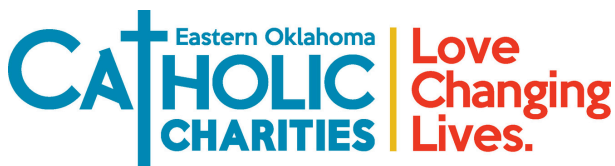
National Volunteer Appreciation Week is coming up, April 19-25! We'll be celebrating our fabulous volunteers all week!



Volunteers in Miami serve their neighbors in need every month by volunteering at one of our Eastern Oklahoma Mobile Food Pantries. Way to be Love Changing Lives in Northeast Oklahoma!



Students from a TCC Spanish class are volunteering in several areas of our Tulsa campus, including Emergency Assistance, Adult Education and The Market. We're thrilled they chose CCEOK to both serve and learn!



Volunteer with us! cceok.org/volunteer
Join our Facebook Group!
For story ideas, feedback, etc.,
email: volcommunications@cceok.org

MAKE A DONATION!

