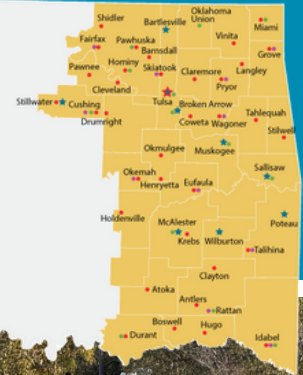


# SERVICE IN ACTION

December 2025



## CCEOK Volunteers are there in a snap!

When the recent issues regarding SNAP benefits impacted our communities, Catholic Charities experienced a significant jump in the number of people coming to The Market in need of groceries to feed themselves and their families. In response, we had many people step up to help us - including our wonderful volunteers who went above and beyond to serve our neighbors in need!

Instead of seeing 175 families in a day in The Market, Tulsa was serving sometimes up to almost 500 families per day, and the pounds of food we are able to give to those experiencing food insecurity grew from about 40,000 pounds per week to up to 120,000 pounds per week.

All CCEOK outreach locations experienced the same thing, showing an increase of 200% or higher due to the SNAP crisis.

The volunteer response to the crisis was nothing short of amazing! Some regular volunteers stayed longer; others took on new roles, and some even volunteered at additional times beyond their regular schedules. People who had never volunteered, and former volunteers, even came to Catholic Charities in our time of need!

"We have the very best volunteers in the world," said CCEOK Volunteer Director Kelly Cassidy. "Our volunteers are compassionate, they care about their neighbors who are struggling, and they don't hesitate to go above and beyond to help someone in need."

**THANK YOU!**



# Welcome Carly, Adult Education's new Volunteer Coordinator

Carly Youngberg is glad to be part of the life-changing ministry in Adult Education as the new Volunteer Coordinator.

As the daughter of a United Methodist Minister, Carly has lived throughout the state of Oklahoma as her dad was appointed to new congregations. She studied English Literature at Oklahoma City University and graduated in 2020. She currently resides in Broken Arrow.

"I strongly believe that education transforms lives, so I am excited to help equip volunteers to transform the lives of their students," Carly said. "I believe that my position is doubly rewarding, as I get to assist both teachers and students! Together, we have the opportunity to change lives!"

Carly's priorities as the Adult Education volunteer coordinator include better connecting CCEOK's amazing team of teachers and fostering a sense of community. Catholic Charities' Adult Education sites include Tulsa, Muskogee, Broken Arrow and St. Pius X Catholic Church.

"I am working to meet all of our amazing education volunteers at our main campus as well as our outreach locations," she said. "Volunteers, please feel free to stop by my desk to chat throughout the workday! I am still getting to know everyone, and I would love to meet you in person!"

In addition to supporting the incredibly important work in the Adult Education program, Carly is also pursuing a master's degree in Organizational Leadership with a focus on Nonprofit Management at the University of Oklahoma. She expects to graduate in May 2026.

If you are interested in transforming lives by joining the Adult Education volunteer team, contact Carly at [cyoungberg@cceok.org](mailto:cyoungberg@cceok.org). Check our Adult Education volunteers and their students pictured below!





# HANDS OF CHRIST

by Faye Aul, MOC volunteer

"Being the hands and feet of Christ refers to the Christian mission of serving others and reflecting Jesus' love in practical ways. This concept emphasizes that believers are called to be active participants in spreading the Gospel and helping those in need. It encourages Christians to step out of their comfort zones and engage in acts of kindness, compassion and service.

I joined the Ministry of Compassion in mid-2022. I worked in the pantry on Thursdays and as a resource volunteer, (dealing directly with clients) on Tuesday evenings. I enjoyed both. Helping our clients with food as well as financial assistance brought so much joy to my life. In 2024, an opportunity to be a volunteer coordinator became available. I put my name in the hat and was given this opportunity. Being the hands and feet for Christ for clients and volunteers has taught to listen more intently when others speak. To being more flexible when dealing with volunteers, I must remember that variety is the spice of life. We all have different talents and finding the right people for the right position can be challenging at times.

I feel that Christ has put me exactly where I need to be. Working with volunteers, I became aware that we all need to pray, work and play together. Because we give so much of ourselves, we need to replenish and recharge. Recently, a small group of us, (nine to be exact), attended a retreat in Subiaco, Arkansas. This was a first for many of our volunteers. I can say that the overall consensus was so positive that we are having another retreat for 2026. In addition, we have started a bible study group, and we are planning several one-day retreats throughout the year. We are in the process of organizing another ministry for evangelization. We have several occasions where clients ask questions about our faith as well as expressing a need for a home Church.

I pray each day that all who walk through the door of Catholic Charities, be it client or staff may see and feel the Love and Mercy of Jesus Christ. It is truly in giving that we receive. Through us we can show the "Pure Love of God".



A big CCEOK

# ≡Welcome≡

to all of our newest volunteers!

Reyna Yareli Gomez Aguilar - Dental  
Sophie Childs - Dental  
Peter Nguyen - Dental  
Ann Reinecke - The Market  
David Reinecke - The Market  
Robert Vnohto - The Market  
Zita January - MMO  
Correll Record - MMO  
Scott Robinson - Muskogee  
Alicia Henderson - PCH  
Jeriah Johnson - PCH  
Patti Landers - PCH  
Murias Family - PCH





"Praise the Lord....Praise him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light! Praise Him, highest heavens."  
- from Psalm 148

The Service in Action newsletter is taking a holiday break! Next edition will be published in early February 2026.



## HOLIDAY HOURS

Please keep this calendar to reference throughout the coming months. We wish you and your family a joyous holiday season!

 Hours different than normal - see calendar  
 Closed

[cceok.org/alerts](http://cceok.org/alerts)

JAN DECEMBER

Sun. 30	Mon. 1 9am - 2pm	Tues. 2 9am - 2pm & 5pm to 7pm	Wed. 3 9am - 2pm	Thur. 4 9am - 2pm	Fri. 5 9am - 2pm	Sat. 6 St. Francis Distribution 9am until we run out
Sun. 7	<b>Mon. 8 CLOSED</b>	Tues. 9 9am - 2pm & 5pm to 7pm	Wed. 10 9am - 2pm	Thur. 11 9am - 2pm	Fri. 12 9am - 2pm	Sat. 13
Sun. 14	Mon. 15 9am - 2pm	Tues. 16 9am - 2pm & 5pm to 7pm	Wed. 17 9am - 2pm	Thur. 18 9am - 2pm	<b>Fri. 19 Closing Early 9am - 11am</b>	Sat. 20 Day of Blessings 9am until we run out
Sun. 21	Mon. 22 9am - 2pm	<b>Tues. 23 9am - 4pm No evening hours</b>	<b>Wed. 24 CLOSED</b>	<b>Thur. 25 CLOSED Merry Christmas!</b>	Fri. 26 9am - 2pm	<b>Sat. 27 CLOSED</b>
Sun. 28	Mon. 29 9am - 2pm	Tues. 30 9am - 2pm & 5pm to 7pm	<b>Wed. 31 Closing Early 9am - noon</b>	<b>Thur. 1 CLOSED Happy New Years!</b>	Fri. 2 9am - 2pm	Sat. 3



Scan this QR code or search "Volunteers Changing Lives" on Facebook to join our group!



**Be a Blessing at the Christmas Day of Blessings!**

Sign up to help us Saturday, Dec. 20, as we bless our neighbors in need with a Christmas meal basket and some extra goodies, too!

Due to construction on campus, this year we are having a drive-through distribution. But none of it can happen without our amazing volunteers!

Scan this QR code to sign up!



After receiving a blessing from Fr. Gormley, a group of Ministry of Compassion volunteers recently set out for a retreat at Subiaco.

## GET INVOLVED



Volunteer with us! [cceok.org/volunteer](http://cceok.org/volunteer)

Join our Facebook Group!

For story ideas, feedback, etc.,  
email: [volcommunications@cceok.org](mailto:volcommunications@cceok.org)

MAKE A DONATION!

