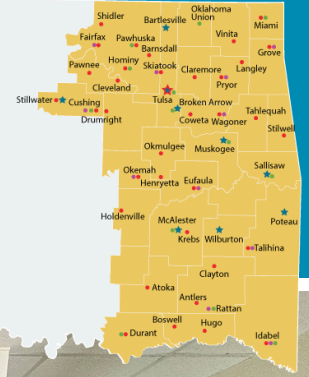


# SERVICE IN ACTION

July 2025



## CC McAlester Volunteers Fill Community Need

The employees and volunteers (staff) of Catholic Charities McAlester have settled into their new space, now located in a 4,000 square foot building at 503 S. 2nd Street near downtown McAlester.

“We love it,” said Eastern Oklahoma Outreach Director, Carey Fabrizio. “I think it’s really worked out. It’s very functional, we have offices, a big warehouse, and even plans for future expansion with a walk-in cooler and freezer.”

Serving up to 150 families per week, the CC McAlester runs so well thanks to the efforts of its dedicated volunteers. The McAlester team saw 1,931 unique clients just in the first four months of 2025. As of the printing of this newsletter, 28 volunteers gave 2,860 hours serving their neighbors.

Recently, volunteers gathered for two training sessions and enjoyed lunch together. The camaraderie of the volunteer team was evident.

Dcn. Bill Anderson, a longtime McAlester volunteer, was also able to bless San Damiano crosses that were given out to all McAlester volunteers. (top right photo)

The work done by the staff of Catholic Charities is extremely important to the communities in Pittsburg County, where McAlester is located. Data indicates that over 18% of the residents in Pittsburg County live below the poverty level and 18% suffer from food insecurity.

The new facility includes a clothing center with racks of clothes, diapers for infants, baby clothes, shoes, and other assorted items. There is a well-organized food pantry where neighbors can shop for the food items they like and will eat, a kitchenette for volunteers and employees, as well as a conference room and a warehouse. There is ample parking and a fenced area where a CCEOK box truck parks when not on the road picking up or delivering food.





**What a joy it is to celebrate YOU, our wonderful volunteers! Thank you to all who came to our volunteer appreciation dinner!**





# HANDS OF CHRIST

By Ruby Redington,  
Mary Martha Outreach volunteer

Dear God,

As You know, I rise in the morning with a song in my heart for You, immediately followed by a cup of coffee.

As I feel Your loving presence, Your help is needed to prepare the chocolate chip cookies, trail mix and at least one special breakfast treat for all the volunteers at Mary Martha Outreach. Breakfast can be a rushed chore for the volunteers that arrive early. Gratefulness is shown in their hearts when the food arrives each day. That alone is fuel for everyone to have a wonderful day.

You walk with each of us during the entire day. You are with me analyzing the decisions needed when organizing food distribution. I am totally aware of Your guiding hand in every situation. If an event sparks my inability to understand reasoning, you have laid out the testing so that a great response can be made according to Your will. However, failure arrives when we do not listen and creates an unrest of the heart. My path of freedom is to run to Your loving arms for guidance. Thank You for being on my racetrack and running with me.

But the day is not over. As You have commanded, our hands are never idle because of the great plans You have designed for each of us. You lead me through the steps of preserving fruits and vegetables and when complete, the items are freely given to others. Although a bit tired, my heart is filled with joy realizing how thankful and blessed for another day of celebrating the wonderful organization of Mary Martha Outreach. I wait patiently to learn what more I can do.

As I close my eyes in sleep, I am comforted with knowledge that You will watch over and protect Your children. Thank you for leading me to Mary Martha Outreach family about 10 years ago. Continue showing me the way and I will follow. Thank you for being my Father.

Sincerely,

Your child, Ruby



A big CCEOK

**Welcome**

to all of our newest volunteers!

Isabel Deffit - Counseling  
Bryn Van Buskirk - Dental  
Ashton Mason, DDS - Dental  
Anlu Morgan - Dental  
Eli Nguyen - Dental  
Lili Tran - Dental  
Audree Stockham - EA  
Rick Laden - Education  
Mark Swiney - Education  
Addison Welborn - Education  
Shaelyn Zelnick - Education  
Hannah Tate - Garden  
Marci Hayhurst - MMO  
James Dum - Muskogee  
Gabriel Torres-Arenas - Muskogee  
Leslie White - Muskogee  
James Jackson - Sallisaw  
Suzie Dillon - PCH  
Kimberly McCoy - PCH  
Tim McCoy - PCH  
Kimberly Reif - PCH  
Angelique Robinson - Wilburton



# Fun at the Fountain: Quacklic Charities 2025



**July 12-18**

**Summer Sizzle**

When volunteering the week of July 12-18, be sure to log in on Volgistics or sign in on a sign-in sheet. Those are the names that will be entered in the drawings for **AWESOME** prizes!!

Daily drawings will be held for morning, afternoon, evening and weekend shifts, across all CCEOK locations and programs!

## GET INVOLVED



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

Join our Facebook Group!

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

MAKE A  
DONATION!

