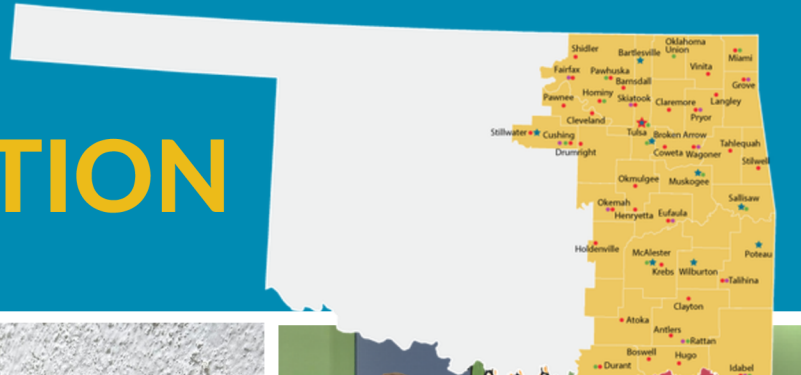


SERVICE IN ACTION

June 2026



Congratulations to our Volunteers of the Year!

Catholic Charities is pleased to announce that our 2025-26 Volunteers of the Year are Mark Ballew, George Simmons and Gina Nill and her family!

These two individuals and one family were recognized for their contributions to the mission of Catholic Charities and for their personification of Christ's merciful love to those who suffer.

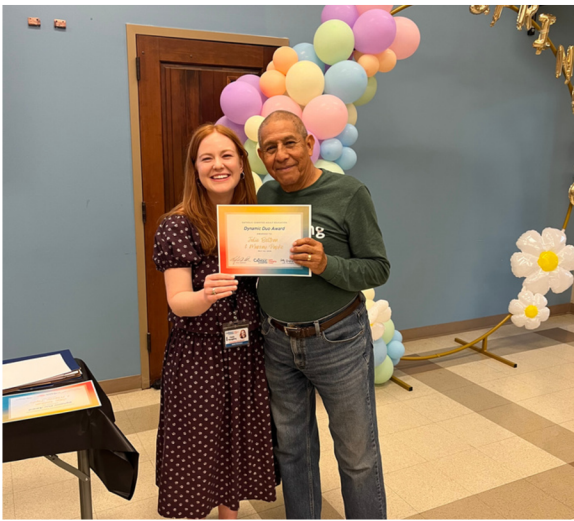
"Our organization is blessed with so many incredible volunteers, which always makes our decision to narrow it down to just three people difficult," said Kelly Cassidy, Director of Volunteer Engagement for CCEOK. "Across Eastern Oklahoma, we have volunteers who generously live out their baptismal calling to serve their neighbors."

CCUSA selects just one volunteer from among the hundreds of submissions from Catholic Charities organizations across the country. Only three nominations per organization can be submitted. This year, the winner did not come from CCEOK, but the three we nominated are our Volunteers of the Year!

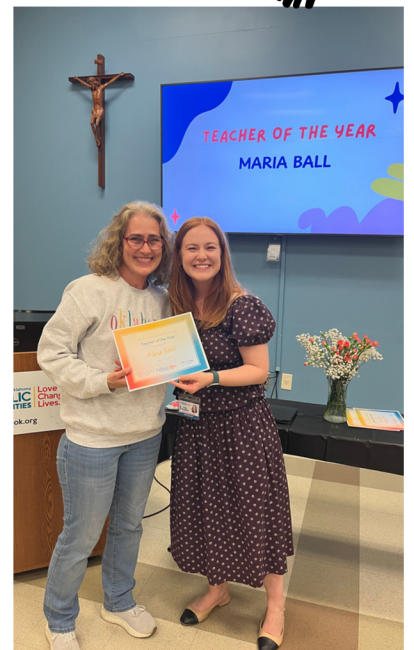
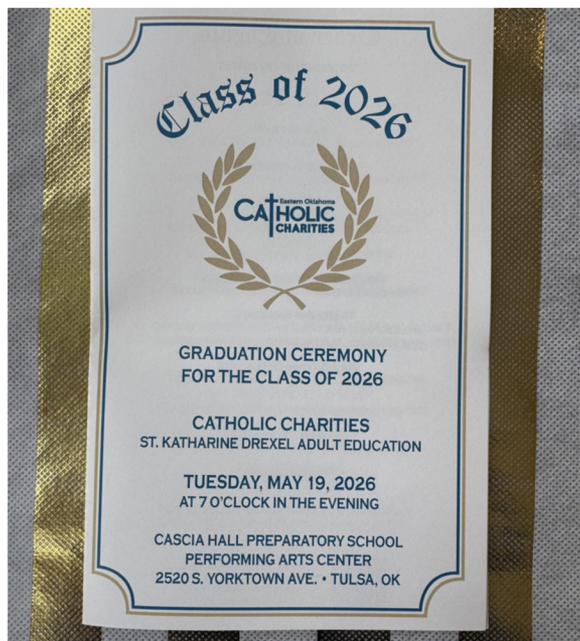
Mark Ballew volunteers twice a week in the CCEOK kitchen, bringing his calm, caring presence to lead the kitchen team and show hospitality to the community and our volunteers through a lovingly prepared meal. Mentoring the students in CCEOK's Workforce Development Culinary Training Program is one of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

George Simmons, a longtime volunteer at CCEOK Sallisaw, 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.

For nearly ten years, **Gina Nill** has been molding servant hearts within her sons, **Paul, Simon, Abraham and Thomas**. Their family is planting seeds of faith, hope and love that will last for generations. 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.



Congratulations to our Adult Education volunteers who helped prepare their students for graduation and a bright future ahead!





On June 11, 2026, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will consecrate our country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of our nation. In response, our diocese is encouraging all the faithful (at each parish and at Catholic Charities) to participate by collectively contributing to **250 Hours of Adoration** and **250 Works of Mercy** from June 11th through July 4th.

As a volunteer, you are already living this out! Every day you show up to serve at any CCEOK location or mobile food pantry, **you are embodying Works of Mercy in a very real way.**

How to participate:

1. Be on the lookout for a special **CCEOK America 250 card** where you can begin your volunteer shift with the prayer printed on the card — either individually or together with others. It is a beautiful prayer offering your service to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Cards will be available on campus or can be downloaded at cceok.org/250. Use this card to record your Works of Mercy or Adoration for this special opportunity. But please still use Volgistics to log your hours!
2. **Adoration:** Volunteers are also invited to join us in our Tulsa campus chapel for Adoration immediately following 11:30 AM Mass, from noon-3:00 PM.
3. Turn your cards in to CCEOK July 6–10, wrapping up with a **special Mass for all on Friday, July 10th at 11:30am, followed by an ice cream social.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect the service that CCEOK volunteers offer every day to something larger — a national moment of consecration and gratitude!

A big CCEOK

>Welcome!

to all of our newest volunteers!

Daiva Alamuri - Counseling
Hannah Darden - Counseling
Jewelita Galarza Otero - Counseling
Melissa Laurel - Counseling
Bradley Breland - Dental
Zac Clafin - Dental
Malana Eureste - Dental
Leanna Kim - Dental
Ben Phelps - Dental
Oludare Taiwo - Dental
Caleb Wagoner - Dental
Kylie Hurd - Education/ILS
Paul Whitmire - Garden
Sister Sofie Anderson - The Market
Reyna Robles - The Market
Reyna Robles
Lori Kinney - MMO
Jazmin Delgado - Muskogee
Clinton Godwin - Warehouse
Joseph Nemek - Warehouse
Christine White - Wilburton
Phyllis Lieb - Workforce



We were so happy to have Owasso Middle School's 7th Grade NHS volunteering with us last month!

PEOPLE OF HOPE MUSEUM



Save the date: August 25th & 26th

Step into an immersive mobile museum that showcases faith-filled stories from Catholic Charities agencies all over the country, including a story from one of CCEOK's own staff members!

More information to come!

QUACKLIC CHARITIES

It's Back!

Join us at the Tulsa courtyard fountain from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

June 23, 24, 25, 26 & 29

for a cool glass of lemonade and a chance to draw for great prizes



MARKET CLOSURES

The Market will close at noon on:
Friday, June 5

The Market will be closed on:
Friday, July 3
Saturday, July 4



Women from the Church of St. Benedict recently put on a Mother's Day brunch for the moms in our Transitional Living Program. Thank you for blessing these moms on their journey to stability and strength.

GET INVOLVED!

