Eastern Oklahoma CATHOLIC CHARITIES | Love Changing Lives.

SERVICE IN ACTION

October 2026

A New Twist to Christmas Day of Blessings

CCEOK's Christmas Day of Blessings is a special day to not only hand out a holiday meal and all the trimmings, but it's also a time to show our neighbors in need lots of love and hospitality.

This year, the Volunteer Office is adding a new twist to the annual event. Instead of one big food giveaway on a Saturday, we will also have small family-focused events on that week's Wednesday and Thursday evenings, with crafts, a soup supper, pictures with Santa, live music, special giveaways, and a Christmas meal basket for 50 families each night.

"This will be a fun way to bless families in need in a very personal and special way," said Volunteer Engagement Director Kelly Cassidy. "We're excited to try this new format."

2026 Christmas Day of Blessings Events

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 5:30-7:30 PM
Family Night (by ticket only)

Thursday, Dec. 17, 5:30-7:30 PM
Family Night (by ticket only)

Saturday, Dec. 19, 9 AM – Noon
Drive-through Food Distribution
(first come, first served)

Groups are needed to prepare and serve a soup supper on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, as well as volunteers to help with all of the activities and food distribution on those nights (parking, runners to help people to their cars with groceries, crafts, and much more).

After Thanksgiving, the Volunteer Office will send out a SignUp Genius for individuals and families to sign up to volunteer. Any groups interested in serving should contact Barbara Bird at bbird@cceok.org.

CCEOK Volunteers Help Disaster Survivors Rebuild

In April of 2024, a tornado ravaged the homes of Holdenville, OK residents. CCEOK was able to help survivors recover from storm damage caused by the devastating events of that month and rebuild their lives.

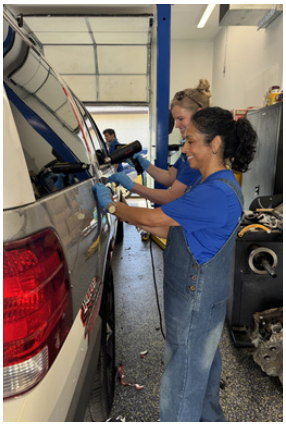
Through money committed by the Long-Term Recovery Group and the capable hands of volunteers in the area from The Church of Latter-day Saints, not only was a home lovingly repaired, but also hope was restored for someone in need. Additionally, the father and son team of Greg and Tanner Seefeldt beautifully rebuilt the home's wooden porch.

“I didn’t think the house was worth repairing, but after the volunteers came out and started working, I had hope again," said the disaster survivor whose house was repaired. "I love my bedroom and my house looks beautiful now! It doesn’t even look like the same place! The volunteers did an amazing job! Thank you to everyone, who made this possible for me!”

If you're interested in being part of CCEOK's disaster team - standing ready to help our neighbors when impacted by a disaster - contact the Volunteer Office at volunteer@cceok.org. The perk of this unique role is that it's very flexible. Disasters don't happen every day. But when they do strike, CCEOK volunteers are ready to help shepherd our brothers and sisters with compassion and love through the recovery process.

Recently, members of the Tuesday Market team gathered to celebrate Elder Jonathan Davis' two years of volunteering at CCEOK. Davis completed his mission for The Church of Latter-day Saints with us - first running carts in The Market, and later excelling at check-in. Wishing Elder Davis the very best as he goes off to college!

United Way Day of Caring



We were honored to welcome 111 ONEOK volunteers for a remarkable day of service. Together, their team completed eight projects and contributed an incredible 555 volunteer hours—all while working through 100-degree heat.

A big CCEOK

Welcome

to all of our newest volunteers!

Robert Burke - Data Analytics
Lukas Bury - Dental
Grace Hahn - Dental
Sydney Koetter - Dental
Madden Robty - Dental
Martha Yanez - Dental
Lia Lewis - Education
Mariangel Moreno - Education (MOC)
Renee Stell - Education (MOC)
Sarha Villalba - Education
Ayvree Urrea - Education
Valeria Raunikar - Garden
Tammy Templeton - The Market
Jesus Sanchez-Vera Rodriguez - The Market
Melanie Leffler - McAlester
Jill Swanson - McAlester
Linda Nicholson - PCH
Wendy Nieto - PCH

In Memory: Bill Hatch
The Market volunteer

Family, friends, and acquaintances remember Bill Hatch for his warmth, thoughtfulness, and the moments shared together. He had been a dedicated CCEOK volunteer since January, 2025.

Bill and his wife Aleyce, shared their Monday mornings with Catholic Charities, volunteering in The Market and were only absent when they were with their children, grandchildren or traveling. Bill had a special friendship with his shopping cart team and will be deeply missed by all.

MOCTOBER FEST

BROKEN ARROW, OKLAHOMA

Supporting Catholic Charities Ministry of Compassion

Saturday, Oct. 24

11 AM-9PM
St. Anne Catholic Church
Free Admission, Family Friendly

Upcoming CCEOK Closure: Monday, Nov. 2 – Solemnity of All Saints

ACTS of Service at MOC

The St. Benedict ACTS group recently volunteered at Ministry of Compassion, helping with bulk breakdown, restocking freezers and shelves and yard work that included gathering 29 bags of green waste from the garden beds and fenceline!

Ascension St. John

Ascension St. John's Roots in Leadership team returned to Catholic Charities for a team-building day that included volunteering in The Market. We're so grateful for our community partners!

GET INVOLVED!

Eastern Oklahoma CATHOLIC CHARITIES | Love Changing Lives.

Volunteer with us! cceok.org/volunteer

For story ideas, feedback, etc., email: volunteer@cceok.org

MAKE A DONATION!