

FISCAL YEAR

25

ANNUAL REPORT



Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri

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Leadership



Ken Palermo
Chief Executive
Officer



Suzanne Cronkhite
Chief Advancement
Officer



Jeremy Rowland
Chief Regional
Officer, Eastern



Jeff Wiskur
Chief of Finance



Claudia Baer
Chief of Human
Resources



Susan Cox
Chief of
Compliance

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gerry Salter, *President*

Mark Weidenbenner, *Vice President*

Del Elfrink, *Treasurer*

Steven Frye, *Immediate Past President*

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Very Rev. Shoby M. Chettiyath, V.G

Nicki Gamet

Craig Henley

Jodi King

Kent Lammers

Matthew Maxwell

Letter from the CEO

Faithful Stewardship in Service of the Gospel

To the supporters of CCSOMO, stewardship is a moral responsibility rooted in Catholic Social Teaching. Every gift entrusted to us is an act of faith; your faith in action, and we honor that trust with transparency and care.

Financial transparency reflects our belief in honesty and accountability. You expect and deserve confidence that resources are managed responsibly and aligned with our mission to uphold human dignity and serve those in need. Clear oversight and responsible reporting strengthen trust and ensure integrity in all we do. We receive every dollar with care, prioritizing intentions, ensuring each is met, and documenting impacts. This discipline enables us to serve more people effectively while respecting the sacrifices behind every gift.

As a business, we invest in efficient systems, reduce unnecessary overhead, and continuously evaluate ministries to ensure they are effective and responsive to community needs. Stewardship sometimes requires making difficult choices, prioritizing what delivers the greatest impact, and adjusting when circumstances change. We approach those decisions with prayer, data, care, and compassion.

Through these efforts, your Catholic Charities is better prepared to adapt to changing needs and growing demand. This ensures our mission remains strong today and sustainable for the future.

As I enter my fourth year leading CCSOMO, I'm humbly reminded every day of the many blessings you provide through your time, treasure, and talent. Thank you for placing your trust in Catholic Charities. Your generosity makes our work possible, and together, we can continue serving across the Diocese with compassion, today and for years to come. For any questions, comments, and critiques, you should always feel free to reach out to me directly at kpalermo@ccsomo.org or 314-882-2410. I would be grateful for the gift of your time and interest in Catholic Charities.



Ken Palermo

Chief Executive Officer

Organization Overview

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri serves individuals and families across the 39 counties of southern Missouri through programs rooted in dignity, compassion, and service. Guided by our Catholic faith and open to people of all backgrounds, we provide life-changing support across five core service areas: housing, veteran services, maternal and family care, construction services, and programs serving individuals and families with developmental disabilities. Our work focuses not only on meeting immediate needs, but on helping neighbors build stability, self-sufficiency, and hope for the future. Through strong community partnerships, dedicated staff and volunteers, and faithful donor support, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri continues to respond to the most urgent needs in our communities while helping those we serve move toward long-term independence and success.



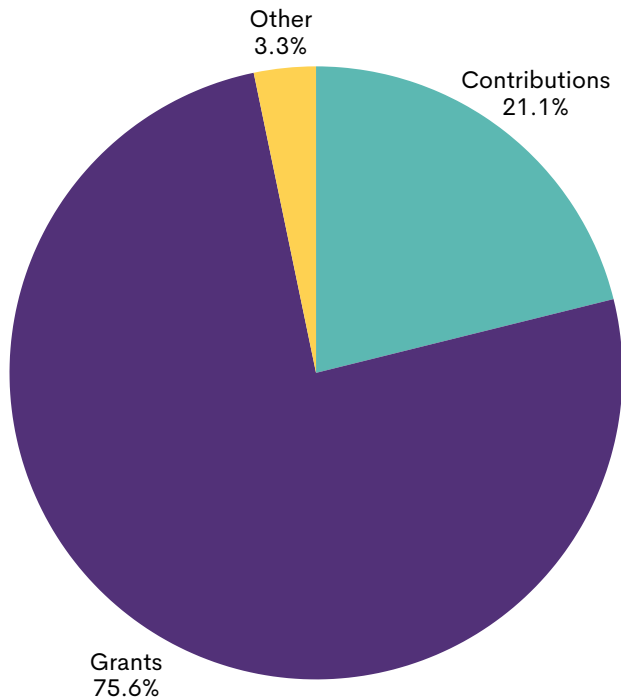
Vision

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri envisions local communities and individuals working together so that people in need receive necessary social services, obtain a sense of hope and achieve self-sufficiency.

Mission

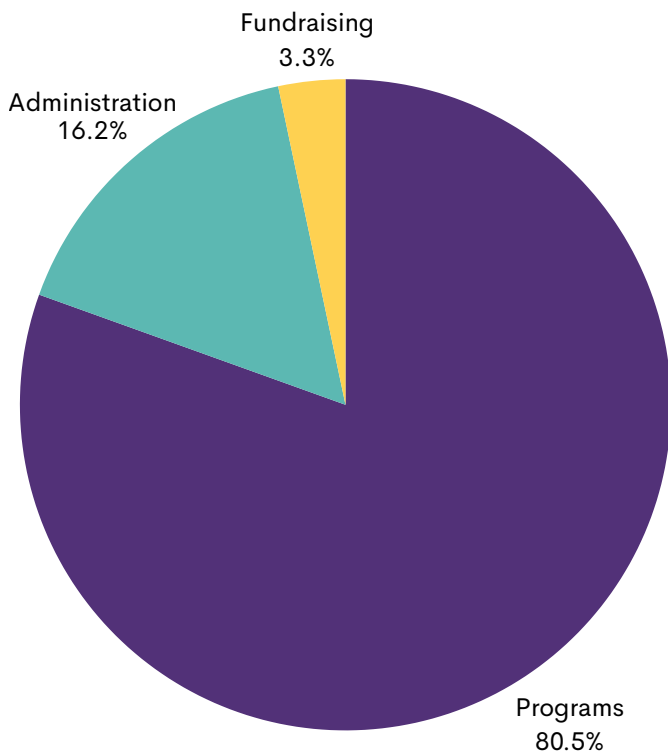
Motivated by the love of Christ, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri seeks to improve the lives of the vulnerable by providing quality, compassionate social services, which meet local needs.

Financial Highlights



REVENUES

Contributions*	\$2,263,821
Grants	\$8,099,853
Other income	\$349,478
TOTAL REVENUES	\$10,713,152
<i>*In-Kind Donations</i>	<i>\$56,574</i>



EXPENSES

Programs	\$8,109,646
Administration	\$1,631,058
Fundraising	\$334,273
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,074,977

LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home



LifeHouse is Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri’s crisis maternity home program providing safe, stable housing and comprehensive support for pregnant women experiencing homelessness. Through a nurturing residential environment, individualized case management, life skills education, and parenting support, mothers are empowered to build healthy futures for themselves and their babies. LifeHouse focuses on long-term stability by helping women secure safe housing, develop sustainable income, and grow in confidence as parents, ensuring both mother and child have the strongest possible start.



30

residents lived at LifeHouse in Springfield



18

babies born to LifeHouse moms Springfield



20

residents lived at LifeHouse in Cape



14

babies born to LifeHouse moms in Cape

Maternal and Family



Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri’s Maternal and Family Programs provide comprehensive, life-affirming support to pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and families working toward stability and independence. Through residential services, short-term housing support, case management, education, and resource connection, families receive individualized support designed to meet their unique needs. These programs focus on strengthening the entire family unit by promoting healthy pregnancies, safe housing, parenting education, and long-term stability. By walking alongside families during critical moments, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri helps create stronger, healthier futures for both parents and children.



29

moms utilized the program



48%

were victims of domestic violence



14

Babies born to mothers in the Healthy Moms Healthy Babies program



115

survivors helped through the domestic violence support services

Impact Testimonials



“I was raised well, but I got involved in the wrong crowd, if you will. That slowly progressed until I ended up struggling with addiction. I was homeless and couldn’t get back on my feet.

I became pregnant with my son. Thankfully, I was told about LifeHouse. I am over a year sober. I’ve grown as a parent, as a person, and as a friend. I was at rock bottom, and since then, everything has been up from here.”

-Brooke, Former LifeHouse Resident

“I learned I was pregnant with my son while I was living in my car and looking for resources. I am extremely grateful for all of the help, time, and resources that everybody involved has put into creating and building this place, because I know personally my life wouldn’t be the same without it. When I look at my life now compared to where I was even two years ago, it’s about a complete 180.”

-Imori, Former LifeHouse Resident



Construction

The Construction Services program at Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri provides essential home repairs for low-income families, seniors, and individuals with developmental disabilities who face financial barriers to maintaining safe housing. The program also assists homeowners whose properties have been damaged by natural disasters, helping restore safety, accessibility, and stability. By addressing critical repair needs, our team helps preserve affordable housing and ensures vulnerable neighbors can remain safely in their homes.

**17**

families gained safer homes through repairs

**1500**

volunteer hours



Impact Testimonials



Being on disability, I'm not able to work. I haven't worked in almost a year, and it was a blessing that they did what they did. They're one of the greatest charitable groups I've ever met in my life. To do what they've done to help people in need — and I need that — God sent them.”

-David, Construction Services Client

“The impact from Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri has been amazing. When she was first born, we knew she had a long road ahead of her. We had a long road ahead with her — through her mental and physical disabilities. You just don't know what to expect. The services we've been able to take part in with her have been life-changing.”

-Mike, Developmental Disabilities Services Client



Developmental Disabilities

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri's Developmental Disabilities Program provides support coordination services for individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities who are eligible for services through the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities. Our Support Coordinators partner with individuals and families to identify needs, connect them with resources, and navigate access to state-funded services and community supports. Through person-centered planning and ongoing advocacy, we work to empower each individual to live as independently as possible, pursue meaningful employment, and be valued, active members of their communities.



1350

people and families served



29,756

total hours in case management



76%

increase in employment services



5

counties served



Veterans



Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri serves veterans and their families through our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, assisting those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or facing limited income and employment barriers. Our experienced case management team works alongside veterans to overcome challenges and build pathways toward lasting stability and success. Through a combination of rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention services, SSVF helps veterans secure immediate housing or maintain current housing. Once housing is stabilized, case managers and clients work together to address barriers that could threaten long-term stability. Veterans are connected with essential resources, including budgeting and financial counseling, as well as community partners who support long-term independence and well-being.



248

veterans households served



85%

entered from homelessness



41

households with children



87

victims of domestic violence

Impact Testimonials



“I was in the Air Force. I joined in November of 1977 and was active duty for four years until November of 1981. In 1983, I joined the reserves for six more years. I never realized there were services out there for veterans, and I’m grateful to have found them. They’re a resource, and they’re there especially for veterans. If someone had not told me, I would have never known. I had just been continuing in the cycle of self-destruction. The way the program is set up helps us create plans to move forward. I don’t feel alone because of Catholic Charities. It’s helping me get out of a hole I got myself into. I can actually look forward to waking up in the morning. I’m more than grateful.”

-Tony, Veteran Services Client

“They helped me move into my place. They helped me get settled, and they still follow up with me. It just blows my mind. I get to go to bed every night with my babies, and that’s a miracle.”

-Morgan, Housing Client



Housing



Mountaintop Homes in Mount Vernon, opened June 2025.

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri’s Housing Program helps individuals and families experiencing housing instability secure and maintain safe, affordable homes. Through individualized case management, resource connection, and housing navigation, our team works alongside clients to address barriers that threaten long-term stability. By focusing on both immediate housing needs and sustainable solutions, the program helps neighbors move toward greater independence, financial security, and lasting housing success.



503

people were assisted



56%

households entered from homelessness



204

households served



118

entered with a disabling condition

Locations

Joplin
 2650 E. 32nd St, Suite 200
 Joplin, MO 64804
 Phone: 417-624-3790

Poplar Bluff
 2008 Westwood Blvd
 Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
 Phone: 573-323-4044

Springfield (Administrative)
 620 W. Republic Rd, Suite 103
 Springfield, MO 65807

Cape Girardeau (Administrative)
 231 Main Street
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
 Phone: 573-335-0905

Springfield (St. Anne's Campus)
 424 E. Monastery St.
 Springfield, MO 65807
 Phone: 417-720-4213

Cape Girardeau (Little Flower Campus)
 535 Main St.
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
 Phone: 573-803-5433

Ellington
 PO Box 417
 Ellington, MO 63638
 Phone: 573-323-4044

Sikeston
 205 West Malone, Suite B
 Sikeston, MO 63801
 Phone: 573-481-0659

