



Housing, Services & Property Management

Sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany

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DePaul Housing Management

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Catholic Charities Senior Services in Schenectady

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Rhonda K. Finehout

Supervising Director—Administration, Aging Services & Nutrition Programs:
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Reflections Produced by

Kathleen Ide
Emily Pethic



Housing, Services & Property Management

Catholic Charities Housing Office • Catholic Charities Senior Services in Schenectady
DePaul Housing Management • McCloskey Community Service

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Our Partners in HOPE

Kicking off **Homelessness Awareness Month**, Catholic Charities Housing Office (CCHO) held the annual HOPE for the HOMELESS fundraiser on November 8, 2010 at the Franklin Plaza Ballroom in Troy. At the celebration, Bishop Hubbard and CCHO Staff recognized John Bishop and Bishop Beaudry Construction as CCHO's “Partners in HOPE” for their outstanding dedication to our programs. John has maintained a near 10-year relationship with Diocesan Housing and has given much of his time and expertise free of charge. When CCHO took on the challenge of rehabilitating St. Peter's Residence, a single-room occupancy program



Left to right: Tom Coates, CCHO; John Bishop, Adam Lasik & Brad King, Bishop Beaudry Construction; Deborah Damm O'Brien, CCHO

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Senior Services Celebrated



Rep. Paul Tonko with CCSSS Staff: Deborah Damm O'Brien, Colleen Dacey, and Kathleen Conboy

Catholic Charities Senior Services in Schenectady (CCSSS) held their first annual Community Celebration & Fundraiser on October 5, 2010 at the Water's Edge Terrace in Glenville to celebrate the ongoing success of the services they provide in Schenectady County. The event was attended by many community supporters, including Congressman Paul Tonko, who applauded the efforts of CCSSS. Executive Director Deborah Damm O'Brien also made remarks to the audience and captured the greater message of the evening—the true need for the nutrition, transportation, adult day care and aging services CCSSS provides to the community.

The Schenectady Guild also hosted a CCSSS fundraising luncheon on November 30, 2010 at the Water's Edge, with more than 150 in attendance. Dozens of raffle baskets and holiday shopping from Marigold's Accessories were included in the luncheon. Many thanks go to the dedicated ladies of the Schenectady Guild, whose generous time, energy and creative ability have benefited and enhanced the senior services provided by Catholic Charities in Schenectady for years. A special “thank you” also to Peter and Judy Nocera of Marigold's for their continued great support—they donate a portion of their proceeds from these events to CCSSS. ~Jordan Stewart & Kathleen Ide

Our Resident Artists

Artwork of three residents who make their homes in DePaul Housing communities has been on display across the state since April as part of the New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging's 20th Annual Art Exhibit. Evelyn Edwards' watercolor “The Old Survivors—Another May”; Martha Nero's watercolor “Early Morning in the Park”; and Jeanette Koji Ievolello's untitled work in oil paint are three of 70 works chosen from hundreds of entries for inclusion in the exhibit. The works of art extend to the public sphere the profound insight, and creative and skilled expression of many of our elders across the state. We are thrilled that the artistic merit of Evelyn, Martha and Jeanette has been shared with such an extensive audience. To see a slideshow of the exhibit visit: http://resources.nyahsa.org/nyahsa_org/art_show. ~Kathleen Ide

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in Troy, John and his staff stepped in and produced great results—St. Peter's was recognized as the upstate New York “Residence of the Year” by the Supportive Housing Network of New York.

Our most recent collaboration with Bishop Beaudry Construction resulted in a new award from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance's Homeless Housing Assistance Program for the rehabilitation of 35 North Main Avenue in Albany—an upcoming project for which John decreased our projected costs by nearly 15%. We are grateful for John's expertise and his commitment to our programs—he knows they are so important to the empowerment of homeless and at-risk individuals and families in our region. So this year, we join with our residents in congratulating John, his business partner PJ Beaudry, his dedicated staff, and all those who participated in the Hope for the Homeless event! We are all so grateful for your unwavering support. ~Emily Pethic

Message From Deborah

Today it was my turn to visit one of the assisted living residences in our parish. When I walked into the living room of this residence for women, I saw that the centerpiece of the holiday decorations was a beautiful tree with bright white lights. It lit up the room! When I exclaimed how wonderful everything looked, the ladies smiled warmly and readied themselves for our shared prayer.

I am always touched by these experiences. While many of these women no longer remember all the prayers, they clearly respond to the presence of God and know in their very beings the God who is love. Many of the women gently but firmly hold my hand in both of theirs when we share the sign of peace. Their eyes smile so brightly that they rival the lights of their own Christmas tree.

In this newsletter you have read about the many ways we at Diocesan Housing work together to bring that same bright light of God's love to each other and the men, women and families with whom we work. Our staff are second to none in their dedication...this is hard work and we always ask for just that little bit more. I know that if you were to ask them why they do it...they would say that they do it for the moments and days when they see that their work has brought that same bright spark into the eyes of the people with whom and for whom they work.

We are grateful for your support and for the partnership we have with so many people of good will. We wish you blessings in this holiday season. May the bright light of God's love be seen in your eyes this Advent and Christmas time!

Deborah Damm O'Brien, Executive Director

Reflections

DePaul Housing Management

- St. Vincent's Apartments
Albany, NY
- Bishop Broderick
Apartments
Albany, NY
- Bishop Hubbard
Senior Apartments
Halfmoon, NY
- Carondelet Commons
Senior Apartments
Watervliet, NY
- St. Jude Apartments
Wynantskill, NY
- Branson Manor
Senior Apartments
East Greenbush, NY
- Cabrini Acres
Senior Apartments
Watervliet, NY
- Sanderson Court
Senior Apartments
Watervliet, NY
- Marie-Rose Manor
Slingerlands, NY
- Fontbonne Manor
Senior Apartments
Watervliet, NY
- Delhi Senior
Communities I & II
Delhi, NY
- The Lawrence Commons
Schenectady, NY
- Father Leo O'Brien
Senior Community
Rotterdam, NY
- Franciscan Heights
Senior Community
Rensselaer, NY
- Ávila Retirement
Community
Albany, NY

Welcome Aboard!

We welcome our newly appointed DePaul Housing Management Corporation and senior housing community Boards of Directors members! **Amy Ellis**—appointed to the DePaul Housing Management Corporation Board—is currently president of the Syracuse University Alumni Club for the Capital District and has worked in a variety of non-profit development and fundraising efforts, including the YMCA of the Capital District. **Maureen McGuinness Russo**—also appointed to the DePaul Management Board—has a background in professional journalism, is a former *Evangelist* Reporter, and has extensive public relations experience working freelance in the non-profit sector. **Mary Olsen**—appointed to three of our Albany County senior community boards—is currently Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Relief Services and Disaster Response for the Diocese of Albany, and also serves on two CCHO-managed housing boards. **Marggie Skinner**—appointed to two of our Albany County senior community boards—is a former CPA and has been an active member in community organizations throughout her life, including the Council of Albany Neighborhood Associations and the Food Pantries for the Capital District. **Kathy Trudeau**—appointed to our Latham Campus community boards—is Internal Auditor for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany. Finally, **Mindy Wormuth**—appointed to our Halfmoon senior community board—is currently Town of Halfmoon Supervisor; under her leadership, many of our residents have become active participants of the Town's senior transportation and dining services programs. DePaul's management company and community ownership boards provide fiduciary oversight and ensure that our mission of supporting "active, healthy and independent lifestyles" is fulfilled throughout our 15 communities in the Greater Capital Region. We are very grateful for these and all of the other volunteer board members who bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our communities—thank you! 🏡

St. Peter's Recognized as "Residence of the Year"

On October 25, 2010, staff of Catholic Charities Housing Office (CCHO) were honored to receive the Upstate New York "Residence of the Year" award for the newly renovated St. Peter's Residence in Troy. The award from the Supportive Housing Network of New York (SHNNY) recognizes the accomplishments of the Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) residence, which offers supportive housing services to formerly homeless men and women. St. Peter's also operates an empowerment model of employment whereby residents receive paid job experience with CCHO. Through a \$3.9 million award from NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance's Homeless Housing Assistance Program, the residence has been expanded from 35 to 41 units and offers full accessibility features. Many major improvements were completed in October, including the addition of an elevator, replacement of flooring, extensive remodeling of the interior, and replacement of the building's mechanical, electrical, and health and safety systems. SHNNY's award recognizes these improved accommodations, the quality supportive services, and the unique sense of ownership, respect, tolerance and caring fostered by the St. Peter's community. 🏡



Left to right: Ted Houghton, SHNNY; Executive Director; Deborah Damm O'Brien, CCHO Executive Director; Tom Coates, CCHO Director of Operations; Brenda McAteer, CCHO Assistant Director of Operations; Carole Coppens, Executive Director, YWCA of Binghamton & Broome County (2009 award recipient)

~Kathleen Ide

Thank You to Our Generous Supporters

The Smachlo Foundation of Rexford, NY, a twenty-year supporter of Catholic Charities in Schenectady, has again made a generous donation to be used in our Senior Nutrition and Transportation Programs! Thank you as well to the Rotary Club of Schenectady for their generous donation toward the purchase of grocery store gift cards, which were given to Schenectady seniors in need. Contributions like these help to keep our services and emergency assistance programs going! 🏡

Nutrition Outreach and Education — with Puppets!



The Nutritional Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) at Catholic Charities partnered with the Schenectady Inner City Ministries (SICM) last summer to kick off the "Free Summer Lunch Program," featuring a Puppet Show at the Jerry Burrell Park. Entertainment was provided by Poppytown Puppets & Music, who performed for approximately 65 youths in attendance. Children and parents alike smiled while songs and puppetry touched on important messages about nutrition, hygiene, patriotism and other positive topics. Every attendee was

provided a free healthy lunch and water bottles which advertised the NOEP food stamp program. NOEP Staff reach out to nutritionally at-risk families and individuals at many locations in Schenectady County year-round, providing nutrition assistance and access to food stamp programs throughout the community. 🏡 ~Colleen Dacey

In Other News

The Capital Region Coalition to End Homelessness hosted a televised press conference as a prelude to Homelessness Awareness Month on November 4, 2010 at CCHO's St. Peter's Residence. Many supporters were present to speak about the increasing numbers of men, women, and families affected by homelessness in the Capital Region. Albany County Executive Mike Breslin, Congressman Paul Tonko, Rensselaer County Executive Kathy Jimino, as well as representatives from OTDA and HUD each expressed the significant need for homeless housing stabilization and supportive services in our area. 🏡

Shopping for that Special Gift?

The holidays are fast approaching, and we know that our extended family of men and women, children and seniors could use a little extra assistance in making the season merrier at this time of year, including some help with heart-warming gifts and holiday meals.

If you're looking for a special way to brighten the faces of those served by our homeless and emergency housing programs, senior housing and senior services programs would you consider donating any of the following items?

- Gift cards to Price Chopper, Hannaford; discount stores like Wal-Mart and Target; local pharmacies such as CVS and Rite-Aid
- CDTA bus passes
- Toiletries
- Pajamas and Robes
- Sweat Pants and Sweat Shirts
- Heavy Socks



No gift is too small! Contributions of any amount are greatly appreciated.

Please contact **Emily Pethic** at (518) 459-0183 or Emily.pethic@rcda.org for more information

Gift cards or monetary donations may be sent to:
Diocesan Housing Office, 41 N. Main Avenue, Albany NY 12203

Catholic Charities Housing Office

Center for Community Collaboration

326 Clinton Avenue
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 462-6876

Emergency Housing

- Mercy House
Albany, NY
- St. Charles Lwanga Center
Albany, NY

Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Residences

- DePaul Residence
Albany, NY
- Waldorf Residence
Albany, NY
- Swyer Residence
472 Western Avenue
Albany, NY
- St. Peter's Residence
2335 Fifth Avenue
Troy, NY

Family Apartments

Lexington Avenue,
Third Avenue,
Clinton Avenue &
Broad Street in
Albany, NY

Catholic Charities Senior Services in Schenectady

Aging Services Information & Assistance

Dayhaven Adult Day Services

Meals on Wheels

Nutrition, Education & Outreach Program

Senior Dining Centers

Senior Transportation

Call (518) 372-5667
for more information
about these programs