YOU MADE THE DIFFERENCE!

The Catholic Foundation is delighted to share a handful of stories that represent the profound impact you, our 28,573 donors, have made on the lives of tens of thousands of individuals and families in the 20 counties of the Diocese of Sacramento. We hope you will find joy and spiritual satisfaction in the part you play in this worthwhile effort to build the kingdom of God in our Northern California communities. Thank you for your support in 2012. Please take a moment to celebrate all that you do.
DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST:

EACH YEAR I appeal to your generosity on behalf of tens of thousands of individuals and families throughout the Diocese of Sacramento who need our help. And each year you respond.

In the 2012 Annual Catholic Appeal 28,573 of you contributed gifts and pledges which surpassed all previous Appeals, amounting to $3,555,340. Twenty-five percent of funds collected went back to each of the 102 parishes to serve a wide variety of local social service needs. Twenty-five percent helped with the cost of educating the 36 seminarians and many Catholic school students who needed help with tuition. The more than 100 Catholic charity programs that received grants were able to help upwards of 100,000 people.

I am proud of what we have accomplished together. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

We gratefully praise God for His many blessings. May our Heavenly Father give us the joy and hope to share what He has given us with our brothers and sisters.

Respectfully,

Jaime Soto
Bishop of Sacramento

Every time a family had a breakthrough...

A mother and one of her young sons survived years of domestic violence at the hands of a husband who eventually killed her other son, her sister and himself. The road to recovery has been long, but made bearable by the caring staff at Catholic Social Service of Solano.

...you made the difference.

8,000 people received hope and help through programs of Catholic Social Service of Solano.
Every time
a child found safety and hope...

A young child lost both her parents to prison sentences of life without parole. Through the supportive environment at Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center, she is learning to cope with the unimaginably adverse circumstances in her young life.

...you made the difference.

375 families
received hope and help through programs of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center.

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST:

I AM FILLED WITH JOY, hope and gratitude when I see the marvelous work being done for those in need by Catholic charity programs and parish ministries with funding from the Annual Catholic Appeal.

It has been a privilege to witness the sometimes mundane, many times heroic efforts of staff and volunteers to carry out the prophetic mission of ministry to those who suffer the ravages of a life of poverty.

It has been an enriching experience to work alongside competent, faithful, committed and compassionate professional staff. It has also been humbling and inspiring to meet people in their need and then see the generosity of all those who respond to those needs.

It has indeed been a blessing beyond measure to serve the church in the Diocese of Sacramento as the Director of Catholic Charities/Social Service Ministry for the past 12 years. I thank God every day for that honor.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Michael F. Kiernan
Director of Catholic Charities/Social Service Ministry
Every time someone could build a life with dignity...

Morgan found support, care and advocacy through the Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Program (TAPP) of Northern Valley Catholic Social Service in Butte County. She’s now a proud mother, nearly finished with community college and excited about her son’s future — and her own.

...you made the difference.

16,619 people received hope and help through programs of Northern Valley Catholic Social Service.

Every time a senior achieved stability...

Henry had been living on the streets of Sacramento when he walked through the doors of the Catholic Charities Downtown Senior Outreach Program. Through the advocacy of an empathetic case manager, Henry has found his own apartment and a much lower level of isolation.

...you made the difference.

65 seniors received hope and help through this program of Catholic Charities.
SUSTAINING HIGH QUALITY Catholic schools is a priority for the Diocese of Sacramento. Once again, you have made a difference! Your generosity has provided our schools with the ability to offer tuition assistance to deserving families in our most economically challenged communities.

The future of our Church and our country relies on our ability to effectively educate Catholic youth in an environment where our children learn and grow with Christ. As Catholics, we share the obligation to ensure that we prepare our youth to be the future leaders in our parish communities. That responsibility starts with education. Today’s students will be tomorrow’s politicians, doctors, teachers, business leaders, priests, nuns and social workers. We must ensure that our Catholic youth are ready to lead in a 21st Century global economy.

What’s most special about your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal is the fact that your generosity will impact a student whom you may never meet, and you gave anyway — and for that, we are grateful.

With gratitude,

Rick Maya
Director of Catholic Schools
THIRTY-SIX SEMINARIANS are preparing themselves to serve God and His Church here in the Diocese of Sacramento. The journey towards priesthood starts with the calling, that is, when an unmarried man feels in his heart the invitation from God to be a priest of Christ. Formation includes four years of college focused in philosophy, two years of theology, a pastoral year (the experience of living in a parish for a school year), and another two years of theology.

Your support has allowed us to once again ensure the preservation of a supportive community for those who have committed themselves to this journey in service to Christ.

I am grateful for the difference you have made to the seven who are at college level, the eight in pastoral year and twenty-one at theology level who, after success in their preparation, will have the opportunity to be ordained to the priesthood and to serve the people in our parishes.

We are all humbled by your generosity.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Francisco Hernandez
Director, Office of Vocations

On June 2, Bishop Soto ordained Fredelito Gucor to the priesthood. He has journeyed many years toward this milestone event in his faith life. Thirty-six others are moving closer to ordination, too. This year, you made the difference in their ability to focus completely on their formation.

...you made the difference.

$35,000 a year is the cost to educate one seminarian. The Appeal offset this growing expense.
Every time a parish helped someone in need... you made the difference.

St. Vincent de Paul Church, Rancho Murieta (a mission of St. Joseph Parish, Elk Grove) rallied around a parishioner who was struck with an aggressive cancer, abandoned by her husband and had lost her home. A small community, yet large on giving, the parish used its appeal funds to help pay for medicine and food and to keep her in shelter.

...you made the difference.

102 parishes are able to receive funds for their own ministry to local people in need.
“Without this grant Catholic Social Service of Solano could serve only half our clients and it would be a real challenge to keep the doors open.”
— Kurt Chismark, Executive Director

“Wellspring Women’s Center is a safety net for the women and children of the Oak Park Community who are in need, sustained by grants such as this.”
— Sr. Judy Illig, IBVM, Executive Director

“Bishop Gallegos Maternity Home has been providing shelter for poor and homeless pregnant women and their children for 20 years but we could never have done it without so many wonderful donors.”
— Richard White, Board of Directors

“This grant will literally save lives. The children at the Moral Values Program will not be consumed by the streets, gangs and negative influences that plague our south Sacramento community.”
— Frank Victorio, Director

“The Catholic Ladies’ Relief Society in Chico depends on your generous donations in order to buy food in bulk which we then give to those in need.”
— Jean Mayer, President

“This grant has been instrumental in helping clients of the Downtown Senior Outreach Program of Catholic Charities to move from the isolation of single-room occupancy hotels to more appropriate, safe, and community-centered senior housing.”
— Beth White, Program Manager

“This grant allows Northern Valley Catholic Social Service to live out the gospel mission to feed, clothe, shelter and welcome those in dire need. It is much needed and very appreciated.”
— Don Chapman, Executive Director

“Loaves and Fishes serves according to Matthew 25: ‘When you did it to the least of your brothers and sisters you did it to me’. Donations such as this make it possible for us to continue that mission.”
— Sr. Libby Fernandez, RSM, Executive Director

“At Sacramento Life Center, 82% of clients are uninsured, 75% are under age 24, 30% are Hispanic and 9 out of 10 women who seek our services choose life!”
— Marie Leatherby, Executive Director

“All of the programs of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center foster resiliency, the ability to thrive, mature and increase competence in the face of adverse circumstances and funds for this type of intervention are not readily accessible.”
— Sr. Jeanne Fenton, SSS, Executive Director

“Clients at Anderson-Cottonwood Christian Assistance are in greater need due to part-time employment, long-term unemployment and decreases in aid programs.”
— Deacon Mike Evans, Secretary/Treasurer

“This grant comes at the perfect time. The Salvation Army food locker is depleted and the need for emergency food, especially families with children who are not receiving breakfast and lunch at school, is at an all-time high.”
— Juanita Williams, Director

“Community Assistance Network (CAN) is serving 5% of the population of Quincy.”
— Beth White, Program Manager

“This grant supports the strong pro-life presence of Yuba-Sutter Right to Life in Yuba, Sutter and Colusa Counties which is provided by a completely non-paid volunteer staff.”
— Maureen Guth, Director
To the volunteers who

worked an estimated

300,000 hours

this year, and the more than

400 staff

throughout the Diocese of Sacramento,

who graced

the lives of more than

110,000 people in need

at agencies and parishes:

Thank you for your dedication
and tireless efforts in the building of God’s kingdom
here in the Diocese of Sacramento.

In memoriam

Remembering with gratitude Bob Michels who served for 20 years as the Butte County Director of Northern Valley Catholic Social Service. Bob was dedicated to carrying out the NVCSS mission to “reach out in care and love to those in need” and to using that mission as a guide in his daily life.

Bob passed away on Nov. 9, 2012
The Annual Catholic Appeal assists over 100 social service programs, seminarians training for the priesthood, Catholic education and local parishes for their own ministries to people in need.