

Catholic Charities Timeline of Significant Events and Accomplishments (Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson entries begin in 1937 and appear in italics print and larger font)

Background

1727: Ursuline sisters arrive from France to open an orphanage, school for street girls, and health facility in New Orleans. It is the first formal Catholic charity in the present United States.

1845: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States is founded in St. Louis. A national organization will not be established until 1864. By 1920, ten national meetings will be convened.

1891: Rerum Novarum, the foundational document for modern Catholic social teaching, is written by Pope Leo XIII.

1895: The first St. Vincent de Paul Quarterly was published to promote developments in the field of social work.

1900: By the new century, more than 800 Catholic institutions provided care to children, the aged, disabled, and the ill.

1910s

1910: On the campus of Catholic University of America, at the invitation of the Most Rev. Thomas Shahan, CUA's president, the National Conference of Catholic Charities (NCCC) was founded to promote the creation of diocesan Catholic charities bureaus, "to bring about a sense of solidarity" among those in charitable ministries, and "to be the attorney for the poor."

1910: Msgr. William J. Kerby (right) of Catholic University was selected the first executive secretary of NCCC. NCCC met every other year until 1920, when it began meeting annually.

1916: Fourteen diocesan directors, all priests, proposed formation of the Diocesan Directors Committee within NCCC, drawing priests more formally into leadership.

1917: With the support of the Superior Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, NCCC begins monthly publication of the Catholic Charities Review, edited by Msgr. John A. Ryan of Catholic University.

1920s

1920: Msgr. John O'Grady (right) assumes the office of executive secretary of NCCC, which he will hold until 1961.

1920: The Conference of Religious is formed within NCCC to provide women and men religious with opportunities for peer support, to promote specialized training and leadership development, and to foster improved institutionalized care and services.

1922: Thirty-five Central Bureaus of Catholic Charities had been formed.

1922: NCCC publishes the first Directory of Catholic Charities.

1923: NCCC publishes A Program for Catholic Child-Caring Homes, a work of the Conference on Religious to improve standards.

1929: The Depression prompts intense activity by NCCC and diocesan bureaus to promote social legislation based upon Catholic principles. Msgr. O'Grady becomes a major national voice on social reform.

1930s

1934: The National Catholic School of Social Service is founded at Catholic University of America at the urging of NCCC with Msgr. O'Grady, NCCC executive secretary, as its first dean.

1935: The Social Security Act passes Congress for the first time, with strong support from NCCC for the concept of insurance benefits based upon rights as opposed to a needs test for benefits.

1937: Sixty-eight diocesan bureaus had been organized in 35 states.

1937: *Bishop Thomas M. Mc Laughlin named Bishop of the Diocese of Paterson created by Pope Pius XI separating the Counties of Morris, Passaic, and Sussex from the Archdiocese of Newark.*

1938: *Bishop Mc Laughlin establishes Associated Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson, appointing Fr. John Merrick as its first Executive Director.*

1940s

1944: *Fr. John Shanley appointed to succeed Fr. Merrick as Executive Director of Associated Catholic Charities in Paterson.*

1947: An NCCC Standing Committee of Religious is established, parallel to the Standing Committee of Priest Directors.

1949: A new NCCC constitution and bylaws is approved. It establishes a program committee for the annual meeting, inaugurating the use of more panels and workshops in place of speeches and papers. By the mid-1950s the annual meeting blends workshops, sectional meetings, and general sessions.

1949: The National Housing Act is passed with strong support from NCCC and Msgr. O'Grady, culminating 20 years of O'Grady's leadership of the Catholic community and the nation on housing needs.

1950s



1951: The first meeting of the International Conference of Catholic Charities (later [Caritas Internationalis](#)) is held in Rome. Msgr. O'Grady is a prime mover in its founding.

1954: *Mt. Carmel Guild Social Service Center incorporated to care for men suffering from Alcoholism becoming the second Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson. Subsequently the Mount Carmel Guild became Straight and Narrow Inc in 1976 which is today the largest drug and alcohol treatment program in the state of NJ. Fr. Bill Wall was appointed its first Executive Director.*

1960s

1960: President Eisenhower and Cardinal Spellman join NCCC in New York for its 50th anniversary.

1960: The Association of Ladies of Charity of the United States is founded in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of NCCC.

1960: NCCC takes a leadership role in the White House Conference on Children and Youth.

1961: Msgr. Raymond J. Gallagher becomes executive secretary of NCCC, serving until 1965 when he is named bishop.

1964: *Mt. Carmel Guild opens Dismas House, a residential drug treatment program for men.*

1965: Msgr. Lawrence Corcoran (right) is named executive secretary of NCCC, serving in that capacity until 1982.

1965: The Vatican II document, The Church in the Modern World (Gaudiam et Spes), is written, calling the church to dramatically increased involvement in the world and sharpened responsibility for the poor and vulnerable.

1965: *The Department for Special Education established by Bishop Navagh as the third Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson, NJ. The Department initially provided for the catechetical needs of persons with disabilities and quickly expanded services to include pre-school, residential homes for adults with disabilities and adult day services. The founding Executive Director was Rev. (now Msgr.) John B. Wehrlen.*

1967: *Department for Special Education opens the Gruenert (named in honor of Paul Gruenert, the deceased husband of Department friend Dr. Marietta Gruenert) Nursery for children with disabilities (before 3 year old services were offered by the public schools).*

1969: *Department for Special Education opens Camp Alexander (named for a deceased student who attended the Department's Gruenert Nursery School) for special needs children in West Milford, NJ.*

1969: *At the NCCC annual meeting in Houston, Msgr. Joe Alves of Brooklyn moves for a professional study of the conference, beginning the three-year development of the Cadre Study.*

1969: *Rev. Joseph Ciampaglio appointed Executive Director of Associated Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson succeeding Rev. John Shanley.*

1969: *Msgr. Puma appointed Administrator of the Italian Catholic Center in the Diocese of Paterson.*

1969: *Rev Charlie Grieco appointed to succeed Msgr. Bill Wall as the Executive Director of Mount Carmel Guild (later Straight and Narrow) a Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson.*

1970s

1970: *Bishop Casey approves request from Fr. Ciampaglio to change the name of Associated Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson to Catholic Family and Community Services.*

1970: *Phil De Sopo appointed Executive Secretary of the Italian Catholic Center to assist its Executive Director Rev. Michael Castrillo.*

1971: *Hope House becomes the fourth Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese serving all of Morris and part of Sussex Counties. Rev. John O'Brien was appointed the first Executive Director of Hope House.*

1971: Department for Special Education opens Murray House, its first Group Home for adults with disabilities, the first coed group home in the State. Murray House was named in honor of Jimmie Murray the deceased son of Jim and Kit Murray. Then entire Murray family are long standing friends and supporters of the Department.

1971: Mount Carmel Guild opens the Msgr. Wall Social Service Center for methadone treatment.

1972: The Department for Special Education opens the Navagh Adult opportunity Center in Paterson serving adults with disabilities who aged out of the public school system. The Center was named in memory of deceased Paterson Bishop James Navagh.

1972: Rev. Daniel Noonan establishes the Catholic Information Center in Passaic as a nonprofit agency serving the needs of Hispanic members of the community (an independent nonprofit agency that in 2000 became the sixth Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson).

1972: Mr. Joseph Ward hired as full time Assistant Director for CYO Youth Services in the Diocese of Paterson housed at the St. Bonaventure Parish (which in years to come becomes the Fr. English Community Center).

1972: Catholic Family and Community Services assumes responsibility for Mount Saint Joseph's Home for Boys and Girls (MSJ). MSJ had been a parish operated orphanage.

1972: At the annual meeting in Miami, NCCC membership approved Toward a Renewed Catholic Charities Movement (commonly known as the Cadre Study) with its triple goals of quality service to people in need, humanizing and transforming society, and calling the larger church and society to join NCCC in this struggle.

1973: Rev. Norman O'Connor CSP appointed as head of Share Agencies in the Diocese of Paterson by Bishop Casey [Share was a loose affiliation of the Social Ministry (Catholic Charities) agencies in the Diocese].

1973: NCCC begins its parish outreach program, later evolving into the Parish Social Ministry program.

1973: In response to public schools providing more services for special needs children the Gruenert Nursery School closes turning its space over to the Navagh Adult Opportunity Center to expand.

1973: *Italian Catholic Center in Paterson becomes a part of Catholic Family and Community Services and Philomena DeSopo appointed its Director.*

1973: *Department for Special Education dedicates the Wiegand Farm in Jefferson where Camp Alexander is moved to and group homes will be built. Wiegand Farm is named in memory of a deceased child with disabilities Peter Wiegand.*

1974: *Catholic Family and Community Services transitions Mount St. Joseph's Home for Boys and Girls into Mt. St. Joseph's Residential and Day School for boys with behavioral disabilities.*

1974: *Gruenert Adult Opportunity Center opens at Wiegand Farm.*

1974: *The first Congress of the National Conference of Catholic Charities (NCCC) is held at the annual meeting. It was designed to be a forum for members to discuss mutual areas of concern elicited from a regional meeting process and develop policy statements. Some of the more prominent statements were: housing (1985), the feminization of poverty (1986), pluralism (1987), and a just food system (1989).*

1974: *The CYO Office takes on administration of the former St. Bonaventure Parish as the Father English Community Center. Rev. Louis Bihl named as the first full time Director of CYO/Youth Services.*

1975: *Department for Special Education opens its second group home, this one located at the Wiegand farm.*

1976: *Department for Special Education relocates residents from its second group home to a new home built on the Wiegand Farm Grounds and name it Finnegan House in honor of John Finnegan a deceased member of the Optimist Club of Jefferson Township.*

1976: *The Father English Community Center (FECC) was incorporated as Tri-County Youth Services, the fifth Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson. Joe Ward was appointed its first Executive Director. Dr. Daniel Grazer appointed to succeed Joe Ward the same year.*

1976: *Mount Carmel Guild Social Service Center in the Diocese of Paterson reincorporates as Straight and Narrow Inc. The main building was on Straight Street in Paterson on a corner property. Several years earlier then Executive Director Msgr. Bill Wall had the Mayor change the name of the side street to Narrow*

Street. From that day until today we have said when someone graduates from our program they walk the Straight and Narrow.

1976: Straight and Narrow opens Alpha House a residential treatment program for women with addictions.

1976: Dr. David Canavan, Medical Director at Straight and Narrow appointed as acting Executive Director while a search is initiated for a new executive director.

1976: Mr. Lorenzo Hernandez succeeds Fr. Dan Noonan as the Director of the Catholic Information Center in Passaic.

1976: Catholic Family and Community Services contracts with the Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) Office of the USCCB to open an MRS office in Paterson.

1977: Department for Special Education opens the Wayne Marathon House in Wayne.

1977: Mr. Harry Elizarian appointed to succeed Fr. Grieco as the Executive Director of Straight and Narrow.

1977: S&N opens McNulty Halfway House for Men.

1977: Rev. James Termyna appointed Deputy Director for Administrative Services at Straight and Narrow. Fr. Jim holds this position through 1981.

1977: Sister Thomasina Gebhard SSM is appointed to establish the Partnership For Social Services Family Center in Sussex County under the auspices of Catholic Family and Community Services.

1978: Rev Ed Reading appointed as Deputy Director for Treatment Services at Straight and Narrow. Fr. Reading held this position until 1980.

1978: S&N opens St. Nicholas Halfway House for women.

1978: Department for Special Education closes Camp Alexander and begins plans to renovate those camp buildings for use as two additional group homes.

1979: Rev. Robert Vitillo (later Msgr. Vitillo) succeeds now Msgr. Joseph Ciampaglio as the Executive Director of Catholic Family and Community Services in the Diocese of Paterson.

1979: Rev. Norman O'Connor CSP appointed to succeed Harry Elizarian as the Executive Director of S&N.

1979: Gail Manning appointed Executive Director of the Father English Community Center succeeding Dr. Daniel Grazer.

1979: Diocese of Paterson Bishop Frank J. Rodimer appoints a Diocesan Task Force on Social Ministries and commissioned it to review the status of social ministry in the Diocese and to return to him with recommendations for future directions in this integral area of Church mission, and for a definition and structure for a Secretariat for Social Ministry in the Diocese. Msgr. Herbert Tillyer was appointed chair of the Task Force.

1980s

1980: The Catholic Information Center reincorporates as the Hispanic Information Center of Passaic as a nonprofit social service agency in the city of Passaic NJ (HIC would become the sixth Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson in 2000). Lorenzo Hernandez was appointed the Executive Director of the HIC.

1980: The Department for Special Education opens Alexander House and Columbus House as its fourth and fifth group homes and relocates the Gruenert Center to larger quarters at the Wiegand Farm. Columbus House is named in honor of all the support given the Department by the Knights of Cloumbus.

1981: The State mandates paid staff must be on duty at all times licensed programs are operational motivating the Department for Special Education to transition from a primarily volunteer to paid work force.

1981: Bishop Rodimer accepts the final report and recommendations of the Task Force on Social Ministry. Bishop Rodimer establishes the Secretariat model of Governance for Social Ministries (Catholic Charities) in the Diocese of Paterson, appointing Rev. Robert Vitillo as the first Executive Secretary with oversight responsibility for the then five agencies, CRS and CCHD.

1982: Rev. Dan Flores CSP appointed by Bishop Rodimer as acting E.D. for the Department for Special Education following the resignation of founding E.D. Fr. Wehrlen.

1982: Mary Olsen appointed to succeed Fr. John O'Brien as executive Director of Hope House.

1982: S&N begins offering services to persons with HIV/AIDS

1982: Rev. Thomas J. Harvey succeeds Msgr. Corcoran as executive secretary, later president/CEO of NCCC, until 1992.

1983: *Tom Barrett appointed as Executive Director of the Department for Special Education.*

1983: *Navagh Adult Opportunity Center closed in Paterson.*

1983: *Department for Special education opens its first supervised apartment in Paterson.*

1983: NCCC helps found the federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program, providing approximately \$130 million each year to local voluntary organizations across the United States. Through 1999, \$1.8 billion has been distributed in this program.

1983: NCCC publishes the Code of Ethics to promote quality service, Catholic values, and ethical standards. It was reprinted in 1987, 1989, and 1997.

1983: *Diane Kwiatkowski appointed to succeed Mary Olsen as the Executive Director of Hope House.*

1984: *Department for Special Education relocates corporate offices from Paterson to Wiegand Farm Location.*

1984: *E.J. Asling appointed to succeed Rev. Robert Vitillo as the Executive Director of Catholic Family and Community Services*

1985: *Michael Maiello appointed to succeed E.J. Asling as Executive Director of Catholic Family and Community Services.*

1985: *Department for Special Education closes its supervised apartment in Paterson while planning for new location.*

1985: *Parish Social Ministry(PSM) established as a part of the Secretariat for Social Ministries in the Diocese of Paterson.*

1985: *S&N opens Intoxicated Drivers Resource Center (IDRC).*

1985: NCCC celebrates its 75th Anniversary in San Francisco, with greetings from Pope John Paul II and President Reagan.

1986: *Department for Special Education opens its Basile Apartments (supervised apartments for adults with disabilities) in Paterson. The Basile apartments are named in honor of beloved deceased employee Mike Basile.*

1986: Fr. Vitillo leaves Social Ministries in Paterson to become Chief of Service for Europe and North America at Caritas Internationalis (CI). Michale Maiello remains Executive Director of CFCS and in addition is appointed as Executive Secretary for Social Ministries to succeed Fr. Vitillo.

1986: S&N opens its Adult Medical Day Center for persons with HIV/AIDS.

1986: NCCC becomes Catholic Charities USA.

1987: Pope John Paul II addresses the annual meeting of Catholic Charities USA in San Antonio.

1987: Department for Special Education, a Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson becomes accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA).

1988: The Department of Special Education, a Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson changes its name to the Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD).

1988: S&N opens its residential treatment unit for juvenile males age 12 to 17.

1988: Hope House incorporates as Catholic Social Services of Morris County (DBA Hope House).

1989: Sister Mary Catherine Lamb MSBT hired to be the Director of Parish Social Ministry and establish PSM within the Secretariat for Social Ministries (Catholic Charities) in the Diocese of Paterson.

1989: DPD opens Kelleher Supervised apartments in Paterson and names it in memory of deceased resident at its Wayne Marathon House, Joe Kelleher.

1990s

1990: An agreement is entered into with the National Conference of Catholic Bishops for Catholic Charities USA to coordinate domestic disaster response on behalf of the conference.

1991: Catholic Charities USA is "discovered" by the NonProfit Times as the largest voluntary social service network.

1991: The DPD is reaccredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA).

1991: The DPD establishes its People Need Friends volunteer program.

1992: Rev. Fred Kammer, SJ succeeds Father Harvey as president/CEO of Catholic Charities USA.

1992: DPD relocates the Murray House to Clifton.

1992: *CFCS opens a Senior Adult Day Center in Newton, NJ*

1993: The Board of Trustees of Catholic Charities USA launches Catholic Charities USA: Vision 2000 to refocus the work of Catholic Charities locally and nationally in the tradition of the Cadre Study of 1972.

1994: *DPD's Basile Apartments relocated from Paterson to Wayne.*

1994: *Meals on Wheels and Senior Nutrition Centers opened in Sussex County by Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS).*

1995: The Racial Equality Project, on the "early initiatives" of Vision 2000, was created.

1995: *DPD reaccredited by Council on Accreditation (COA).*

1995: *Deacon Bob Vesota succeeds Gail Manning as the Executive Director of Father English Community Center.*

1995: *S&N opens Alpha II residential treatment program for women and accepts pregnant women and women with children under the age of 3.*

1996: *Father English Community Center signs a Covenant Agreement with St. Joseph's parish in Mendham establishing a twinning relationship.*

1996: *S&N opens its La Vida Child care Center*

1996: The Board of Trustees approves the Vision 2000 Task Force final report, concluding three years of intense dialogue within the membership and others in church and society. The national organization began a five-year period of internal implementation of the plan.

1997: The Catholic Charities USA membership approves new bylaws that incorporate the Vision 2000 report's recommendations. The Board of Trustees was reconfigured to represent diocesan directors more directly and member sections were created.

1997: *Bishop Rodimer establishes the Our Lady of Guadalupe Migrant Ministry Program in the Diocese of Paterson appointing Rev Dennis Berry S.T. as its first director within the Secretariat for Parish Life.*

1997: *Joseph F. Duffy appointed by Bishop Rodimer to succeed Michael Maiello as Executive Secretary for Social Ministries and Executive Director of Catholic Family and Community Services.*

1997: *Catholic Charities Paterson facilitates a twinning relationship between St. Therese Parish in Succasunna and the Diocese of Muchakos in Kenya working with*

local Kenyan immigrant Simon Kimatu and his newly incorporated nonprofit Agency Kenya USA Christian Relief and Development Inc (KUSARD).

1998: A varium was approved by the Administrative Board of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops to write a pastoral letter in preparation for the Year of Charity in the Jubilee preparation schema.

1998: *Philomena D'Sa appointed to succeed Diane Kwiatkowski as the Executive Director of Hope House.*

1998: *The Secretariat for Social Ministries in the Diocese of Paterson was renamed the Secretariat for Catholic Charities in an effort to build a brand awareness locally and firmly establish our rootedness in Catholic Charities USA and the Catholic Charities movement and network across the U.S.*

1998: *Catholic Family and Community Services initiates an Assisted Transportation Program for seniors in Sussex County.*

1998: *S&N opens Alpha III a residential treatment program for women.*

1998: *Executive secretary for Catholic Charities, Joseph Duffy announces the establishment of the Catholic Charities Office of Development and Public Relations and the appointment of the Rev. Edward Lambro as its first director.*

1999: *In All Things Charity: A Pastoral Challenge for the New Millennium was approved by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Most Rev. Joseph Sullivan, a member of the Cadre Study team and Episcopal liaison to Catholic Charities USA since 1982, chaired the writing committee. Fr. Bob Vitillo served as a staff person to this committee.*

1999: *The Six Catholic Charities Agencies in the Diocese of Paterson adopt new uniform by-laws.*

1999: *S&N opens La Vida II Child Day Care Center.*

1999: *S&N opens S&N Apartments I, 23 studio apartments for persons with HIV/AIDS.*

1999: *DPD reaccredited by Council on Accreditation (COA).*

1999: *DPD opens the Fitzpatrick House in Pompton Lakes. This house is named in honor of long time Board member and friend Msgr. John Fitzpatrick.*

1999: *Executive Secretary for Catholic Charities author's "A Guide to Legislative Advocacy" and distributes this manual to all parishes during Holy Week.*

2000s

2000: Most Rev. William Skylstad is appointed new Episcopal liaison to Catholic Charities USA, succeeding Bishop Sullivan.

2000: Catholic Charities USA celebrates its 90th anniversary on the steps of McMahon Hall.

2000: *The Hispanic Information Center (HIC) of Passaic becomes the sixth Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson. Lorenzo Hernandez who was the Executive Director of the former agency is named Executive Director of the Hispanic information Center, a Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson.*

2000: *Catholic Charities in Paterson collaborates with the Diocese of Paterson Hispanic Ministry Office and concerned volunteers to incorporate as a nonprofit agency Viento del Espiritu (Wind of the Spirit). Wind of the Spirit is an immigrant resource center empowering immigrants to work for immigrants' rights and lift themselves out of poverty. Catholic Charities Executive Secretary Joe Duffy is one of the founding members of Wind of the Spirit.*

2000: *Catholic Charities Paterson in collaboration with the other four Diocesan Catholic Charities Agencies in NJ and the New Jersey Conference of Catholic Bishops produce and circulate a video titled "Operation Meet Your Neighbor" along with a study guide in English and Spanish. The video places a face on those negatively impacted by national welfare reform efforts. This video is circulated nationally on English and Spanish speaking cable stations and is credited in NJ with opening the door for improved communication and cooperation between nonprofit providers and State Social Service Agencies. Catholic Charities Executive Secretary Joe Duffy in addition to helping in the production of the video, served as the narrator.*

2000: *Catholic Charities in Paterson in response to urgent needs begins providing disaster relief services locally assisting persons impacted by flooding in Sussex County. CC raised \$30,000 locally and in addition received a grant of \$10,000 from CCUSA. The \$40,000 was distributed for direct assistance.*

2000: *DPD opens Wallace House in Sparta naming it in honor and memory of deceased DPD Board Member Joe Wallace.*

2000: *Catholic Charities Paterson along with Catholic Charities held its first Annual Statewide Conference attended by 500 staff across NJ.*

2001: Rev. Fred Kammer, SJ resigns from presidency of Catholic Charities USA; Rev. J. Bryan Hehir is installed as president in September at the Annual Conference.

2001: *Catholic Charities Paterson in collaboration with St. Clare's, St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Hospitals and the College of St. Elizabeth establishes a Congregational Health Ministry (Parish Nursing). Diane Silbernagel hired as the first CHM Liaison.*

2001: *DPD opens Calabrese House in Parsippany. Calabrese House is named in honor and memory of long time board member, friend and active Knight of Columbus, Dominic Calabrese.*

2001: Catholic Charities USA receives and administers \$31 million in gifts to dioceses in response to 9-11 disaster.

2001: *Diocese of Paterson, Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS) and Hope House, Catholic Charities Agencies in the Diocese of Paterson respond to 9/11. Diane Silbernagel accepts added responsibility to coordinate disaster assistance. Catholic Charities reached out starting on 9/12 to affected persons through local parishes and began providing direct assistance in week one. The Diocese of Paterson sent over \$600,000 to CCUSA for 9/11 relief. CC Paterson established a comprehensive program inclusive of case management, direct assistance, counseling, education, advocacy, pastoral care, job counseling and placement. CC Paterson arranged to loan vans to stranded CC staff from Ohio and Kentucky that were stranded at the Meadowlands Hilton following the ending of the 2001 CCUSA Annual gathering in Newark. For security purposes no car rentals were available at that time. In 2001 Catholic Charities Paterson distributed locally over \$400,000 in direct aid. CFCS produces and circulates around the country a parish and community agency resource manual titled "Come Together". CFCS also compiles a manual of manuals on disaster relief and circulates it nationally. These two resources are used by other Catholic Charities agencies and dioceses in developing their own disaster programs.*

2001: *Catholic Charities Paterson established the Somos Familia (We Are Family) sponsorship program with the Parish of San Martin De Caballero in Iztapalapa. In 2001 this program sponsored over 70 children allowing them to continue their*

elementary school and providing case management services for them and their families.

2002: Most Rev. Michael Driscoll is appointed new Episcopal Liaison to Catholic Charities USA, succeeding Bishop Skylstad.

2002: *Rev. Odel Medina S.T. succeeds Fr. Dennis Berry S.T. as director of Migrant Ministry and Luis Arias hired as the Associate Director for Migrant Ministry. With the addition of Luis Arias the Migrant Ministry is assigned jointly to the Secretariats for Parish Life and Catholic Charities.*

2002: Catholic Health Association and Catholic Charities USA hold historic first joint Annual Conference in Chicago.

2002: *The Bishops of NJ issue a statement "Poverty: A Christian Response" attempting to put a face on poverty within the state of NJ. In addition to the Statement a study guide is prepared in both Spanish and English. The Statement and study guide is circulated widely among Catholic Parishes and Schools. Catholic Charities in all five Dioceses provided background information to the Bishops as they prepared the Statement and discussion guide and worked closely with NJCC staff in this effort.*

2002: As part of the Awareness Campaign, Catholic Charities USA and many agencies adopted byline of Providing Help, Creating Hope. A publication with that name reported on the disaster response of Catholic Charities USA during the year post 9-11.

2003: Rev. J. Bryan Hehir resigns to return to the Boston Archdiocese at the request of his Archbishop.

2003: *Catholic Charities Paterson send representatives to Catholic Relief Services training in Chicago on Peacebuilding.*

2003: *DPD reaccredited by Council on Accreditation (COA).*

2003: *S&N opens S&N Apartments II, 50 studio apartments for persons with HIV/AIDS.*

2004: Thomas DeStefano retired executive director of Catholic Charities of Brooklyn & Queens, become interim president and first lay president of Catholic Charities USA.

2003: *Lorna Tangara appointed to succeed Fr. Norman O'Connor as Executive Director of Straight and Narrow Inc.*

2004: *George Lucey appointed to succeed Philomena D'Sa as the Executive Director of Hope House.*

2004: *Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS) a Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson turns the administration of the Somos Familia program (now with over 300 children being sponsored) over to St. Teresa Parish in Summit. Previously CFCS had helped St. Teresa Parish establish a twinning relationship with the Parish of St. Martin De Porres in Iztapalapa Mexico where the sponsored children and their families live.*

2004: *Catholic Charities in Paterson and the Diocese of Paterson collect and send \$800,000 to CRS to assist with relief efforts following the Tsunami in Indonesia.*

2004: *Catholic Charities in collaboration with KUSARD sends its first missionary service team to Kenya under leadership of Catholic Charities volunteer Catherine Weiss.*

2004: *S&N's Msgr. Wall Center accredited by the Commission Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).*

2005: [Reverend Larry Snyder](#) begins his tenure as president on February 1, 2005.

2005: Catholic Charities USA re-institutes the policy paper as part of the Annual Gathering.

2005: Catholic Charities USA and the entire Catholic Charities network respond to the tragedy of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

2005: *Catholic Charities and the Diocese of Paterson support the Catholic Charities USA response to Hurricane Katrina. The Diocese raises and sends over \$1.2 million dollars to CCUSA. Catholic Charities of Paterson is an early leader in the country in endorsing and supporting Operation Helping Hands (OHH). Catholic Charities Paterson will become the largest provider in the country of teams of volunteers that travel to New Orleans (and a few teams to Mississippi), initially to help with clean up and in ensuing years to help with rebuilding. By 2009 over 1000 volunteers had participated in OHH. Catholic Charities Paterson sent 12 tractor trailer truckloads of furniture and supplies to California, Texas and Louisiana and Mississippi to assist displaced New Orleans and Mississippi residents. CC Paterson assisted local parishes in recruiting OHH volunteers and in welcoming displaced New Orleanians who came to live in NJ. Catholic Charities also provided direct assistance, counseling and case management services to those displaced persons that relocated to NJ.*

2005: Diane Silbernagel appointed to succeed George Lucey as Executive Director of Hope House.

2005: Rita Kelly, RN appointed to succeed Diane Silbernagel as Liaison for Congregational Health Ministry and Disaster Response for catholic charities Paterson.

2005: David Mactas appointed to succeed Lorna Tangara as the Executive Director of Straight and Narrow.

2005: The Father English Community Center changes the operation of its food pantry to mimic a supermarket allowing clients to take a shopping cart, go up and down aisles and choose their food preferences.

2006: Catholic Charities Paterson facilitates sending 29 teams, totaling 400 volunteers to New Orleans as part of Operation Helping Hands.

2006: The position of Director of Parish Social Ministry eliminated. PSM is assumed into the Secretariat for Catholic Charities.

2006: DPD closes Wayne Marathon House in Wayne and relocates residents to a new home the Barnet House in Pompton Lakes. The house is named in honor of beloved physician and friend of the department, Dr. Lawrence Barnet.

2006: Catholic Charities sends its second missionary service team to Kenya, again under Leadership of Catholic Charities volunteer Catherine Weiss.

2007: Catholic Charities USA initiates the [Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America](#) with the goal to cut poverty in half by 2020 with the publication of [Poverty in America: A Threat to the Common Good](#).

2007: All six Catholic Charities Agencies in the Diocese of Paterson endorse the Catholic Charities USA Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America. The Diocese of Paterson is recognized by CCUSA for having the highest number of signatories endorsing the campaign of any Diocese in the country. Executive Secretary Joe Duffy negotiates with the Freeholder Boards in Morris, Passaic, and Sussex Counties to obtain resolutions from each endorsing this campaign.

2007: Hope House receives a four year accreditation with commendation from the Council on Accreditation (COA).

2007: *DPD reaccredited by Council on Accreditation (COA).*

2007: *Our Lady of Guadalupe Migrant Ministry Program in the Diocese of Paterson transferred from joint administration by the Secretariats for Parish Life and Catholic Charities entirely to Catholic Charities.*

2007: *Fr. Luis De La Cuadra S.T. appointed Associate Director of Migrant Ministry. Brother John Skrodinsky S.T. succeeds Fr. Odel Medina as Director of Migrant Ministry.*

2007: *S&N's Msgr. Wall Center reaccredited by CARF..*

2007: Father Larry Snyder and Board Chair Janet Valente-Pape appoint the Centennial Steering Committee to begin planning for the organization's centennial celebration in 2010.

2007: *Catholic Charities Paterson facilitates sending of 22 teams totaling 293 volunteers to New Orleans as a part of Operation Helping Hands (693 volunteers since 2006).*

2007: *Catholic Charities Paterson Disaster Services assists persons impacted by spring flooding.*

2007: *Julie Tatti appointed by Bishop Serratelli to succeed Tom Barrett as Executive Director of the Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD).*

2008: *Joe Melosh succeeds Deacon Bob Vesota as the Executive Director of the Father English Community Center.*

2008: Catholic Charities USA moves its National Office from 1731 King Street to Sixty Six Canal Center Plaza, Suite 600 in Alexandria, Virginia.

2008: Episcopal Liaison Bishop Michael Driscoll blesses the new office space in formal dedication ceremonies with the Diocesan Directors.

2008: Pope Benedict XVI (right) visits Washington, DC, and members of Catholic Charities USA attend the Papal Mass and the Papal welcome ceremony at the White House.

2008: Catholic Charities USA publishes [Poverty and Racism: Overlapping Threats to the Common Good](#).

2008: Mount St. Mary's University presents a Medal of Honor to Catholic Charities USA in recognition of its 150th anniversary at the CCUSA Annual Gathering in New Orleans.

2008: A varium was approved by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to designate Sunday, September 26, 2010 as [National Catholic Charities Sunday](#), in honor of the centennial of Catholic Charities USA.

2008: Catholic Charities Paterson facilitates sending 12 teams totaling 184 volunteers to New Orleans as a part of Operation Helping Hands (877 volunteers since 2006).

2009: Catholic Charities USA publishes [The Home is the Foundation](#).

2009: Father Larry Snyder attends the signing of the SCHIP Bill in the White House, one of the first acts of President Obama.

2009: Father Larry Snyder and Board Chair Sister Donna Markham represent Catholic Charities at the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama.

2009: Catholic Charities hosts the first [Centennial Leadership Summit](#) in St. Paul, MN on April 20, 2009.

2009: Catholic Charities USA receives contract to pilot a Disaster Case Management Program in the Gulf Coast.

2009: Following its well-documented provision of disaster services in the aftermath of Katrina, Gustav and Ike, Catholic Charities USA is selected by the government to provide disaster case management nationwide.

2009: *Rev. Rafael Pisso S.T. succeeds Brother John Skrodinsky S.T. as the Director of Migrant Ministry.*

2009: *Catholic Charities Paterson publishes a revised second edition of its Legislative Advocacy Manual and introduces it at a Legislative Advocacy Workshop attended by 100 people from across the Diocese.*

2009: *Catholic Charities Paterson facilitates sending 6 teams totaling 94 volunteers to New Orleans as a part of Operation Helping Hands (977 volunteers since 2006).*

2009: *Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS) a Catholic Charities Agency in the Diocese of Paterson closes its Migration and Refugee Resettlement program.*

2010: *Catholic Charities Paterson Disaster Services program assists persons in Paterson and Passaic County impacted by severe spring flooding.*

2010: *S&N's Msgr. Wall Center reaccredited by CARF.*

2010: *Catholic Charities Paterson and Diocese of Paterson send over \$600,000 to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to assist with emergency response and recovery efforts following a devastating earthquake. Catholic Charities in Paterson becomes an information source to local parishes and groups on recovery efforts in general and CRS efforts in particular also providing prayer resources to local parishes. Catholic Charities assists relatives locally in reaching relatives in Haiti and in finding out how relatives were impacted. CC in Paterson provides some direct aid to families both locally and in Haiti.*

2010: *Catholic Charities Paterson staff attended the tenth and final Centennial Leadership Conference sponsored by Catholic Charities USA and hosted by Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Newark and held at Seton Hall University.*

2010: *Bishop Serratelli separates the joint position of Executive Secretary for Catholic Charities and Executive Director of Catholic Family and Community Services into two full time positions naming Joe Duffy as the first President of Catholic Charities with oversight responsibility for all six catholic Charities Agencies and the Secretariat. Diane Silbernagel was appointed as Executive Director of Catholic Family and Community Services, succeeding Duffy.*

2010: *As of September, Catholic Charities Paterson sends 2 teams totaling 65 volunteers to New Orleans as a part of Operation Helping Hands (1036 volunteers since 2006 – more than any other Diocese in the country).*

2010: *The six Catholic Charities Agencies in the Diocese of Paterson revise and adopt new uniform by-laws to better position those agencies to operate within the spirit of COA, Independent Sector, and Sarbanes –Oxley guidelines/directives for effective nonprofit governance.*

2011: *Scott Milliken appointed to succeed the retiring Julie Tatti as the Executive Director of DPD on February 5.*

2011: *In June 2011 CFCS E.D. Diane Silbernagel announced administrative reorganization. Rev. Michael Burke, Rev. Tom McGrath, and Ms. Linda Ward were appointed as Assistant Executive Directors while retaining their current responsibilities, Fr Burke as director of legal services and special programs, Fr. McGrath as director of counseling and adoptions, and Ms. Ward as director of aging services.*

2011: *Italian Catholic Center at CFCS closes on June 30.*

2011: *Marian Outreach of Mercy/Marian AIDS Ministry at CFCS closes on June 30.*

2012: *Lorenzo Hernandez retires as Executive Director of the Hispanic Information Center of Passaic, Inc on June 30, 2012.*

2012: *CFCS Adoption Service closed effective June, 30, 2012*

2012: *CFCS Congregational Health Ministry (Parish Nursing) service closed effective June 30, 2012.*

2012: *Catholic Family & Community Services (CFCS) acquires through merger the Hispanic Information Center of Passaic (HIC), Hope House (HH), and the Father English Community Center (FECC) effective July 1. Diane Silbernagel appointed as the Executive Director of the merged agencies. Also effective July 1 Deacon Robert Head appointed Site Director at FECC and Delia Rosario appointed Site Director at HIC.*

2012: *CFCS' Special Parents Advocacy Network program closed August 30, 2012.*

2012: *Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS) closes the Sussex Adult Day Center for senior citizens and the Congregate Nutrition Sites programs in Sussex County at the end of the day December 31, 2012.*

2012: *CFCS Passaic County Senior Outreach and Case management Program closed 12/31/2012.*

2013: *The Work Assistance Program (WAP) at FECC closed on May 31, 2013.*

2013: *David Mactas retires as the Executive Director of Straight and Narrow Inc. on June 28.*

2013: *CFCS closes Project Youth Haven in Paterson June 30, 2013.*

2013: *Joseph F. Duffy's appointment as the Executive Director of Straight and Narrow Inc. becomes effective July 1, 2013.*

2016: *Diane Silbernagel resigns as Executive Director of CFCS. Tom Barrett appointed Acting E.D. on March 23, 2016.*

2016: *O'Connor Hall Men's Halfway House at S&N dedicated March 31, 2016.*

2016: *Christine Barton appointed Executive Director of CFCS effective June 9, 2016.*

2016: CFCS' Mount St. Joseph's Children's Center Closed June 15, 2016.

2016: Fr. Alexander Londono succeeds Fr. Raimundo Rivera as Director of the Migrant Ministry program on June 29, 2016

2016: Joseph F. Duffy retires as President of Catholic Charities and Executive Director of S&N on June 30, 2016.

2016: Dr. Sam Pirozzi appointed Executive Director of S&N effective July 1, 2016.