



To members of our Catholic Community –

Gratitude for your partnership and support: Your encouragement, support, and partnership in mission is so vital to the work of Catholic Charities. Our shared purpose as the body of Christ is powerful—to witness a message of mercy and hope, as we accompany and serve people in need each day – regardless of their faith, ethnicity, nationality, gender, or race.

Creating impact across decades: As the largest private human services provider in the Midwest, many lives depend on us. Our Board and staff take seriously our responsibility to serve with compassion and courage, while also thoughtfully managing our fiscal resources on behalf of the Catholic community. We remain steadfast in our mission and deeply committed to delivering on it for decades to come.

We recently launched our Vision 2030 strategic plan -- the culmination of a comprehensive, multi-year effort. The planning process involved our Board, human services thought leaders from across the country, finance professionals, employees, community members, and peer organizations. The goal of Vision 2030 is to set us on a trajectory that maximizes the impact of every dollar we spend on behalf of the people we serve today, while preparing for the needs of tomorrow.

Refining our focus: A key component of our plan was the decision to reduce our government footprint, transitioning out of 75 smaller government contracts – where either funding has not kept up with inflation or the program design has become outdated. Together these contracts currently provide 12% of our funding.

We remain committed to serving for decades to come as the cornerstone human services provider for Cook and Lake counties – meeting need for hundreds of thousands each year. We will maintain a base of \$130MM in government funding, as we anticipate an annual operating budget of \$175-200MM, with your continuing support.

New initiatives for low-income mothers and seniors: We are particularly excited that under Vision 2030, Catholic Charities will pilot several new programs that will increase our reach, scope of services, and impact for low-income mothers and seniors. Through the Church's parish network, we will increase our community-based footprint on Chicago's south, west, and southwest sides. We will also launch a standing Rapid Response Team -- formalizing the unique crisis response capabilities we developed during the pandemic and further honed collaborating with community and government partners in our migrant work. Together, we have resettled 28,000 of the 39,000 migrants arriving to our region since August 2022.

Catholic Charities continues to be on a powerful, spirit-filled, and spirit-fueled journey. We thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sally Blount".

Sally Blount
President and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Monticello".

Michael Monticello
Board Chair