



## A DEVINE FAMILY AFFAIR



John B. and Marnee DeVine, 1949

It was 1959 when Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County first opened its doors in Ann Arbor, offering help and hope to those most in need within our community. This was the same year that the late Marnee Burke DeVine and the late John B. DeVine began their life-long devotion to CSSW and our mission to help people live meaningful and independent lives.

John and Marnee, who met in Boston, Massachusetts, began their married life together in 1949. They soon returned to John's hometown of Ann Arbor to build their family and John's law career.

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**Our Farewell** On Monday, January 23, Margaret "Marnee" DeVine passed away. Marnee's vision of service and philanthropy supported thousands of underprivileged in Washtenaw County and beyond for many years. Her commitment helped CSSW serve the community with Christ's presence and her efforts will continue for years to come. Her passing is a profound loss to all of us at Catholic Social Services, and we will greatly miss her gentle spirit, selfless generosity, and determination to build a kinder world.

## A MOTHER'S JOURNEY

### Pregnancy Counseling

Marie was living with her mother in Algonac, Michigan, when she fell in love with a man she met online. Soon after, she moved to Ann Arbor to be with him. Within weeks, Marie was pregnant.

Far from her family and with no social support in the area, Marie had to navigate her next steps. She began prenatal care at Trinity Health IHA Medical Group. When her providers learned about her history of anxiety and depression, they knew Marie would need more comprehensive support and reached out to CSSW for assistance.

Melissa, a case manager from our Pregnancy Counseling program, met Marie at her home to assess her needs. Marie was in her first trimester and had no money, no job, and she had never learned to drive. But, despite these significant challenges, Marie very much wanted to become a mother. With this in mind, our case manager got to work determining what will be required for Marie to have a successful

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New mother Marie

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Dear Friends,*

Endings and beginnings; beginnings and endings—no matter which order we consider these milestones, one always follows the other, in time. And as the blessed season of Christmas came to an end, on its heels is the beginning of this new year—a year that brings with it new challenges, new opportunities, and hope.

In this issue's Volunteer Spotlight, we recognize the ending of a long career of volunteer service as Judy Johns, a beloved and key member of the Marnee and John DeVine Foundation Board stepped down in December. We also begin our Parish Partners column, where each issue we'll feature one of our local parishes and the ways in which their parishioners' support makes a difference for CSSW clients.

Also in this issue is a summary of CSSW's 2022 philanthropy activities and the impact donations have made on our three programming pillars—Behavioral Health; Senior Services; and Family and Children. A challenge for CSSW in this new year will be our response to the significant cuts in human services funding we will experience in 2023.

Last year, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners recommended that funding, through a New Human Services Partnership, be reduced from \$4.3 million supporting 36 agencies annually, to \$1.7 million supporting just seven agencies. For CSSW, this translates to a funding decrease of more than \$316,000 annually for our most vulnerable populations and a significant challenge for the Agency.

With the continued support of donors like you, we will address the financial challenges we face, create new opportunities to benefit those we serve, and bring hope to those who need it most.

On behalf of the Board, our staff and the community we serve, I thank you.

Peg Bravo, *President and CEO*



Peg Bravo  
*President and CEO*

## PARISH PARTNERS

### *St. Francis of Assisi*

As a Catholic organization, we rely heavily on our local parishes, each of whom brings their unique spirit and strengths to our work. **St. Francis of Assisi** in Ann Arbor, for example, has demonstrated an eagerness to help us in any way they can—collecting food and organizing volunteers for our Northside Food Pantry (even during the pandemic), providing space for our video productions, partnering with our Marriage Preparation program, and just about anything else we ask for. That sort of joyful giving is rare. So, we decided to learn more in a conversation with Scott Wright who leads the Parish Outreach Ministry.

We asked Scott to explain St. Francis's relationship with CSSW. He told us that community plays a critical role in the Catholic faith—but not just Catholic community. God is sovereign over all souls, regardless of their backgrounds. The sheer scope of God's mandate to serve brings us outside of ourselves, and into something wondrously huge and interconnected.

Of course, the enormity of this mandate could discourage some people from giving, at all. Even our best offerings feel insignificant when measured against the need. But, Scott pointed out that giving is meant to be a communal act. When we realize our giving is part of a greater effort, we gain strength and hope instead of separation and defeat. "When we push ourselves to get out of isolation, it's amazing what we can accomplish."

It's a beautiful picture, but sometimes we don't feel we can give anything at all. To that, Scott recalled how God sent the prophet Elijah to be fed by a widow, only to find out she was destitute. But, when the widow gave Elijah what little she had, in faith, God kept her flour and oil jars full for the rest of her days. God could have sent Elijah to a rich widow, but clearly, the story is about what giving does for the *giver*.

Scott explained that charity is like a river—there are many different worthy causes to contribute to.

We asked Scott what CSSW meant to the parishioners at St. Francis. "All of our families have painful stories," he explained. "Even the most privileged among us are connected to vulnerable neighbors, friends, and family members. We all have friends, acquaintances, or family members who have experienced hardships. And, we all want to bring healing and peace to people's lives. We might feel helpless to change their



Scott Wright  
*St. Francis of Assisi Parish Outreach*

Visit our  
**Senior Resource Connect**  
website for the latest information  
about support options for seniors in  
Washtenaw County. Just scan this  
QR code with your phone's camera.



# LEAVING A LEGACY

## Leadership, Integrity, Vision



Stephen Loney  
Former CSSW Board Member and Donor

Throughout our lives we are busy making plans. Some are big and others are small. We make plans for what to do tomorrow and we make long-term plans to improve our health, start a new career or retire.

Legacy giving—also referred to as “planned giving,” is all about planning for the impact you wish to make in the future to benefit others.

The late Stephen Loney, former CSSW Board member and donor, is making an impact today with his planned gift. Steve, to his family and friends, had a passion for supporting the needs of the underprivileged in the community. Through his giving to CSSW and countless other local organizations, Steve not only made a difference in

his lifetime—he is making a difference that continues today.

“In addition to his love for our family, Steve had a personal commitment to good health and caring for others,” said his brother Neil Loney. “He was a runner, cyclist, and sailor and his zest for life was matched by his enthusiasm to give back. Steve knew first-hand the difference he could make—and he planned for it!”

This fall, CSSW’s Northside Food Pantry received an initial gift from Steve’s estate of \$100,000. The Food Pantry, which operates solely on grants and philanthropy, now will have sufficient funding for the foreseeable future. However, with the increased costs for food, infant formula, and personal care items, CSSW will continue seeking support to ensure we are able to provide this essential program to those in need.

It’s because of support from donors like Mr. Loney that we are able to serve the individuals and families who need a helping hand. We are so grateful that he thought of CSSW during his lifetime and when planning his legacy.

If you would like more information about how to include CSSW in your estate plan, please contact Katie Elliott at 734-649-6012 or [Kelliott@csswashtenaw.org](mailto:Kelliott@csswashtenaw.org)



A young Stephen Loney

## OUR BOARD

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CSSW President | CEO

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circumstances, but we’re not helpless, together united with the LORD we find that all of our needs are met. The programs offered by CSSW really do make an impact on the lives of our own parishioners and families. By supporting CSSW, we do help each other, especially those most vulnerable, as the love of the LORD, in a tangible way.”

Scott left our conversation with a radical idea: “The world and economy can be merciless and irreverent. But, our St. Francis community of faith recognizes, along with CSSW, that God is charitable, offering grace, healing, and salvation for free. There needs to be times when we close our eyes and give without criticizing.” To revere God is to emulate Him. Scott summed it up with a quote from Pope Francis: “God’s name is Mercy.”

“God’s  
name is  
Mercy

Pope Francis

# 2022 EVENT PHOTOS

We came together, once again, with our wonderful community of supporters to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.



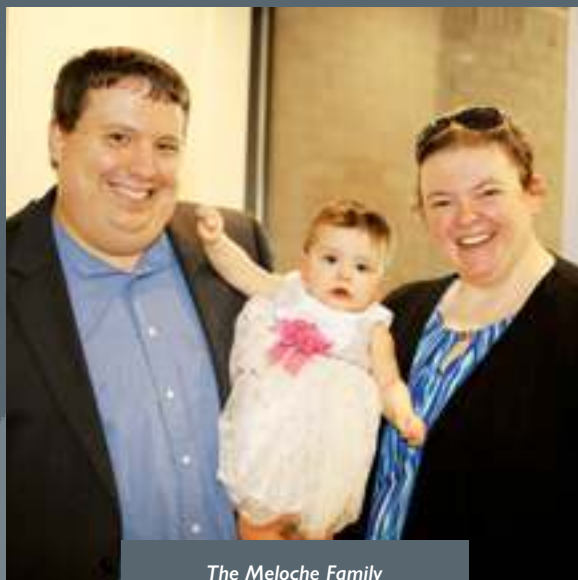
*Kathleen Griffiths and  
Jim Birchler (CSSW Board Member)*



*Honorary Co-Chairs  
Jim and Jean Libs*



*Margot DeVine-Mumby,  
Ashley Mumby (DeVine Foundation Board Member), and Alan Mumby*



*The Meloche Family  
(CSSW Adoption Clients)*



*Linda Edwards-Brown (CSSW Board Member)  
and M. Jeanice Townsend*



Bill and Sara Atwell  
(DeVine Foundation Board Chair)



Mary Kay Pearson and Judy Johns



Robert Donnellan, Herb Black, and the Honorable Steven Pepe



Brunch is served!

Brunching  
for a Cause  
2022

# FAITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Christ the King Catholic Church  
734-665-5040 | [www.ckcc.net](http://www.ckcc.net)

Emmaus Health Partners  
734-930-4020 | [emmaushealthpartners.org](http://emmaushealthpartners.org)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
734-439-2030 | [www.iccmilan.com](http://www.iccmilan.com)

Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County  
734-769-0209 | [www.jfsannarbor.org](http://www.jfsannarbor.org)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church  
734-429-5210 | [www.standrewsaline.org](http://www.standrewsaline.org)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
734-769-2550 | [www.stfrancisa2.com](http://www.stfrancisa2.com)

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
734-483-3360 | [www.ypsilanticatholic.org](http://www.ypsilanticatholic.org)

St. Joseph Catholic Church – Dexter  
734-426-8483 | [stjos.com](http://stjos.com)

St. Joseph Catholic Church – Whitaker  
734-461-6555 | [www.stjosephypsilanti.com](http://www.stjosephypsilanti.com)

St. Mary Catholic Church – Chelsea  
734-475-7561 | [www.stmarychelsea.org](http://www.stmarychelsea.org)

St. Mary Catholic Church – Manchester  
734-428-8811 | [stmarymanchester.org](http://stmarymanchester.org)

St. Mary Student Parish  
734-663-0557 | [michigancatholics.org](http://michigancatholics.org)

Old St. Patrick Catholic Church  
734-662-8141 | [www.stpatricka2.org](http://www.stpatricka2.org)

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church  
734-761-8606 | [sta2.org/church](http://sta2.org/church)

We look forward to featuring  
a faith community partner in each  
issue of “The Gift of Giving.”

## WHO WE SERVE... AND MORE

Did you know?

31%

31% of Washtenaw County households can be classified as working poor\*

50%

50% of CSSW clients reported an income less than \$15,000 annually

4

CSSW has been under the leadership of only 4 presidents since its inception in 1959

50%

Half of CSSW clients reside in zip codes 48197 and 48198. These areas have been identified as areas with highest need by the 2021 Health Equity Index.

22%

22% of clients are below the age of 17; nearly 20% are age 65 and older

77%

77% of clients are non-Catholic

334

CSSW has 334 active volunteers who work with us and partnering non-profits to better serve our community

Stay tuned for the latest  
numbers in our Annual Report  
coming out this spring!

\* United for Alice (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) is an alternative way of defining and understanding households that earn above the Federal Poverty Level but not enough to afford bare-bones household budget.

pregnancy and future with her new baby. Since she did not drive, Marie's most pressing need in the short-term was transportation to physician appointments, medical testing, and counseling to support her mental health.

As a first-time mother, Melissa recognized that Marie should have instruction about pregnancy, labor and delivery, and parenting, as well as help applying for services with other agencies to obtain health insurance, food assistance, and medication management. Melissa also made a list of baby items Marie would need before her baby arrives: a car seat, clothing, diapers, and bottles.

One by one, Melissa began working on her lengthy "to-do" list. She helped Marie secure vital services, such as Medicaid and food stamps and arranged for CSSW to transport Marie to her prenatal appointments. She brought Marie food from the CSSW Food Pantry and connected her with Hope Clinic, a free medical, dental, and basic needs clinic in Ypsilanti, to ensure a steady supply of food and diapers going forward. And, with no experience with infants, our case worker helped Marie enroll in parenting classes that included Infant CPR training.

Thanks to our staff's efforts, things finally started falling into place for Marie. She was in love, excited about her baby, and connected with a high-quality support system.

Unfortunately, her partner didn't feel the same way. With the pressure of parenthood looming, the father of Marie's baby decided to end their relationship and Marie was facing life as a single mother—far from the support of her own family and cut off from the support of her partner's family.

Ready to jump in, our staff quickly found new housing for Marie and her soon-to-arrive newborn. And thanks to the generosity of a CSSW donor, a one-time grant of \$1,000 helped offset her rent expense.

Sadly, all of this upheaval took its toll on Marie. Beyond the physical demands of her pregnancy, Marie desperately needed social and emotional support. So, Melissa made sure she was available when Marie was feeling

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Service to others began early for this young couple, with John becoming CSSW's first Chairman of the Board upon its opening. Marnee, busy with her young and growing family, joined John as a regular volunteer for the Agency, and for many years spearheaded fundraising events that supported priority programs.

Marnee left her mark on CSSW's "After Hours," first introduced in 1982 and later, the memorable "Fall Festival of Music" beginning 1996. These events benefited from her leadership and commitment to creating "a good time for everyone," while raising much needed funding for CSSW clients. According to Marnee's "right-hand gal" Dottie Farhat, "Marnee's enthusiasm and ability to gather



Dottie Farhat, the late Marnee DeVine, and Sheila Cresswell

volunteers around a mission was remarkable. If she worked on a project, Marnee made a great effort to make sure it ran smoothly and was a success."

In 1992, thirty-two years into their commitment to CSSW, this invaluable power couple founded the Marnee & John DeVine Foundation of Catholic Social Services to serve as CSSW's fundraising arm and established the Marnee and John DeVine Endowment Fund to support the Agency's work in perpetuity. Today, the Endowment Fund totals more than \$1.1 million and provides annual revenue for programs, the majority of which receive minimal or no grant support.

The Foundation created an ideal opportunity to engage community members and family in raising money to support and grow the Agency's programs. Two of the DeVines' five children, Margot

DeVine-Mumby and John K. DeVine, have served for many years on the Foundation Board. And in 2015, at the behest of her grandmother, Ashley Mumby took over her mother's seat on the Board, continuing the DeVine family tradition. Both Margot and Ashley have worked on "Cooking for a Cause" and later "Brunching for a Cause," the Agency's signature fundraising event today.

Ashley credits her mother and grandmother with teaching her the importance of giving back. "My grandmother was an active volunteer with CSSW and a number of organizations, and I watched my mother follow in her footsteps," shared Ashley. "I was only 10 years old when my grandparents started the Marnee and John DeVine Endowment Fund, but I knew at the time how important this was for them. It's an honor to carry on their legacy of volunteering and supporting CSSW."

**“What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.”**

Aristotle

**Honor Marnee** In lieu of flowers, the DeVine family requests donations for Catholic Social Services. Please click **here** to support Marnee's legacy with your gift. Or, scan this QR code with your phone and follow the link to make your donation.



# THANK YOU, DONORS!

## \$100,000

Estate of Stephen Loney

## \$50,000 - \$99,999

Trinity Health

## \$25,000 - \$49,999

Community Foundation of South East Michigan

Ms. Mary Kay Pearson

## \$10,000 - \$24,999

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## \$5,000 - \$9,999

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‡ Deceased



The following list includes donors of \$100 and more in 2022.  
*You make serving our community possible!*

**\$500 - \$999**

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‡ Deceased

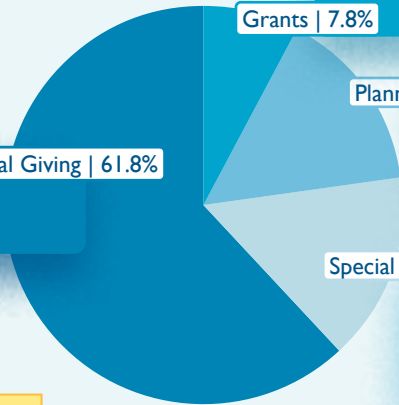
# YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Your tax-deductible donations provide critical support for our programs. Here's a snapshot of the gifts we rely on.



## TYPES OF GIVING

Revenue Sources



There is no understating the impact of individual gifts.

Philanthropic grants primarily from local businesses and foundations provide us with critical support for specific programs.

Planned Giving allows donors to leave a legacy for future generations.

Events like *Brunching for a Cause* help create opportunities for community fellowship while supporting those in need.

THROUGH COMPASSIONATE SERVICE, WE HELP PEOPLE LIVE MEANINGFUL AND INDEPENDENT LIVES.

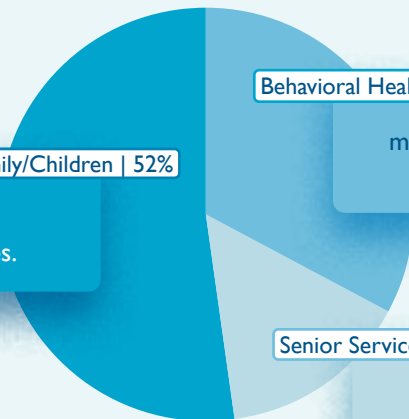
## WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST

Most of our programs would be unsustainable without your support.



## PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION

Where Do Your Gifts Go?



Comprehensive, wrap-around services for pregnant women, babies, children, and families.

Critical mental-health interventions, counseling, and mediations.

A wide range of programs, services, and referrals for elders, their caretakers, and their families.

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## Judy Johns

While she doesn't seek the spotlight, we're pleased to shine a light on CSSW volunteer and donor Judy Johns, who has spent the past 30 years with the Agency in service to others and completed her Foundation Board term in December.



Judy's CSSW journey began somewhat unconventionally when she was volunteering for the 1991 St. Joe's Holiday Ball, assisting fellow Saline community member and event chair, Joann Pearsall. "It was through the Holiday Ball that I met Marnee DeVine. She was very interested in knowing 'what the Saline girls (Joann and me) were all about,'" shared Judy.

Before long, and with Marnee's encouragement, Judy joined the Marnee and John DeVine Foundation Board in 1992, prior to her conversion to Catholicism in 2001. Judy also credits her late mother-in-law Ethel Johns with introducing her to CSSW. "At the time, Ethel was quite active with CSSW, and she gave me a very good sense of the impact the Agency has in the community," Judy said.

Having served on and off the DeVine Foundation Board over the years, her "off" time was more about term

limits than her commitment to the Agency. "I recall asking about when my term was ending, not because I was finished, but because I didn't want to overstay my welcome!" Judy remarked. Her friend and former Foundation Board Chair, Jim Libs, assured her that he always had a spot for her. "Judy has set an exemplary standard of thoughtfulness and compassion that I greatly admire. She has been an invaluable asset to our Board and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work side by side with her over the years," shared Jim.

Judy reflected on what has been most rewarding about her volunteer work. She shared that being involved with people on the Board and other committees and seeing how valuable CSSW is to the community has been a driving force. For Judy, the program areas that are most meaningful are rooted in responding to people's basic needs—food assistance, transportation, assistance for seniors, and the like.

When asked what she would tell someone considering becoming a volunteer, Judy responded with ease. "CSSW

offers volunteers an environment where all ideas are welcome, all input is worthwhile, and everyone is important." And she summed up her volunteer journey saying, "Seeing people working together to make things happen for others is so worthwhile—you see their hearts at work."

**The best way to  
find yourself  
is to lose yourself  
in the service  
of others.**

Mahatma Gandhi

### A Mother's Journey | Continued from page 7

down or if she just wanted someone to talk to. And, our Pregnancy Counselor Anne worked with Marie in therapy to process her traumatic past. When it was finally time for Marie to deliver her baby, staff members headed to the hospital to give her the support all moms deserve.

While Marie is still unemployed, for now, she recently got her driver's license and is working with CSSW and the Department of Health and Human Services to obtain a vehicle. She is caring for her three-month-old baby with confidence, lots of love, and a positive outlook for their future.

Marie's case required hard work, many resources, and lots of attention. And, as with all circumstances like Marie's and her baby, we think they deserved it.

You can learn more about our Pregnancy Counseling program at [www.csswashtenaw.org/bhs/pregnancy-counseling](http://www.csswashtenaw.org/bhs/pregnancy-counseling).



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## NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK

*February 20-26, 2023*

Did you know the second leading cause of mental-health fatalities is eating disorders? Only opioid-related deaths are higher. Our newest program, the Eating Disorder Support Group, is designed to provide **teens and young adults** with a safe place to connect with each other while they unravel the underlying stressors, conflicts, and traumas behind their eating disorders.



## NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

*April*

The pandemic left millions of children stranded in abusive homes, with no access to systems that would normally intervene, such as schools, extracurricular activities, or faith communities. Unsurprisingly, child abuse reporting plummeted during this period, creating an inverse picture of actual child welfare. CSSW's family and child programs, such as the Washtenaw Child Advocacy Center; however, were well aware of this parallel health crisis. Undaunted, they worked even harder to identify, protect, and support children who've had nowhere to turn.

Follow us on social media to learn more during NEDAwareness Week and Child Abuse Prevention Month.



## AMAZON WISHLIST

*Purchase items for our clients. Just scan this QR code with your phone's camera, or **click here**, and start shopping!*



## DONATE

*Scan this QR code with your phone's camera or **click here** to make a financial gift to CSSW. Thank you for your support!*



Please contact us at (734) 971-9781 ext. 385 if you wish to have your name removed from our list used for fundraising purposes.