



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

SERVING ALL FAITHS, ALL AGES & ALL WALKS OF LIFE SINCE 1959.

Human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are respected and responsibilities are met.

We seek justice, and change lives.



Addressing the causes and consequences of poverty...



Tackling problems brought on by age, stress, mental illness...



Reducing substance abuse, family chaos, and violence...

WE BELIEVE

Our fundamental purpose is to help people live safe, meaningful, and independent lives in a more just community. Our work attains the greatest benefit when we join with our neighbors and colleagues to create a responsive, compassionate society where all are valued, honored, and have the opportunity to thrive.

OUR WORK

- Improves the lives of our community's most vulnerable citizens and has been providing help since 1959. The Agency serves more than 8,000 individuals and families annually, with 85% non-Catholic. More than two-thirds of CSSW clients report annual incomes below \$15,000 and represent 50% of the poorest members in our community.
- Offers more than two dozen programs to address a wide range of critical social problems and to help families at all stages of life—including food assistance, mental health treatment, substance abuse group therapy, domestic violence and child abuse prevention, adoption and pregnancy counseling, and services for frail elders and at-risk families.
- Brings together local stakeholders to focus on our community's most challenging issues such as quality of life for our aging population, prisoner re-entry, and child sexual abuse.

JOIN US

Your support is vital to providing the comprehensive and meaningful service that will make a real difference in the lives of those in need. The nature of our work demands skilled professionals and the capacity to tackle important problems including chronic mental health issues, lack of parenting skills, domestic violence, and elder abuse. These problems occur in households without sufficient income or education, without the support of family or friends, and often without hope — creating complex social conditions that are not easily resolved. Ninety-two cents of every dollar you contribute supports local programs and services. Your partnership in this work ensures that those who need help most will succeed.



BASIC NEEDS

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF WASHTENAW COUNTY
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A healthy community gives special attention to those who are poor and on the margins of society.

Without basic needs in place, it's difficult to make other progress



Having confidence that my family will not go hungry...

FOOD



Living safely, productively, and with dignity...

INDEPENDENCE



Knowing there is help available...

ADVOCACY

WE BELIEVE

There is an inherent dignity present in each member of our community that compels us to serve those who are poor and struggling at the margins of our society. Through encouragement for families with emergency food needs or daily support of others striving to live independently, we offer a path that maximizes the potential and reality of each person to realize a fulfilling, safe place in our community. Our work demonstrates our respect for each individual and a commitment to the most efficient use of resources.

WHAT WORKS

- More than 1,700 households with an annual income below \$15,000 received a three to five day supply of food. Most recipients are working parents who report regular food insecurity.
- Excessive ambulance use has dropped by an average of 40% for individuals struggling with homelessness, mental illness, and multiple other issues. Before participating in the program designed to develop better support systems, calls averaged 25 times per month, per participant, but have dropped to 10 times per month because now there is someone else to call for help.
- Twenty-six adults with developmental challenges are living independently for the first time in a supportive community setting. Their families treasure the opportunity for their children to benefit from a long-term, safe, productive, and enriching environment.

JOIN US

We ask you to share the bounty in your life with those who need ongoing support to maintain a life with hope, dignity and value. You demonstrate what a caring, compassionate community can be, where all members are valued and take part in achieving the common good.

OUR PROGRAMS

HURON VALLEY AMBULANCE
PATIENT ADVOCACY

INTENTIONAL COMMUNITIES
OF WASHTENAW

EMERGENCY
FOOD



CHILDREN

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF WASHTENAW COUNTY
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The moral test of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members.

Children need our protection



When they are betrayed through abuse and neglect...

NEGLECT



When family struggles overwhelm or obscure their needs...

STRUGGLE



When new family relationships might be the answer...

FAMILY

WE BELIEVE

Every child is entitled to the physical and emotional safety to build resilience, to ensure school performance, and the ability to develop good relationships in the future. Children suffer without the security to grow and develop into strong, productive adults when families need additional skills to parent effectively. Without support and therapeutic services, this vulnerability may lead children into a cycle of dependency and dysfunction. They deserve better. CSSW leads the nation with best practice services in multiple areas including open adoption, foster care, and collaborative treatment to victims of sexual abuse — to give children at great risk their best chance of success.

WHAT WORKS

In the past year, the safety, welfare and hopeful future of more than a thousand children has been strengthened.

- 250 young victims of sexual and physical abuse received crisis intervention, emotional support, and coordinated case management by social work, legal and medical professionals as the case moved through the legal system.
- 202 new parents in specialized groups reported substantive improvement in positive parenting skills and understanding the development and health needs of their children.
- 39 children became the newest members of welcoming, supportive families through adoptions for children with special needs and open adoption where children may maintain a relationship with the birth mother.

JOIN US

Help us improve the lives of these most vulnerable members of our community. Your investment in children offers the best opportunity to change a life and create hope for the future — theirs and that of our community.

OUR PROGRAMS

FAMILY
ASSESSMENT CLINIC

WASHTENAW CHILD
ADVOCACY CENTER

NURTURING FAMILIES
WASHTENAW

PREGNANCY
COUNSELING

ADOPTION

FAMILY TIME

FOSTER CARE

FAMILIES FIRST



COUNSELING

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Human dignity can only be realized and protected within the context of relationships with others and with the wider community.

When does counseling become a critical service?



When poverty intensifies mental health issues...

POVERTY



When problems are complex and affect whole families...

PROBLEMS



When life gets chaotic instead of better...

CHAOS

WE BELIEVE

Human dignity depends on the ability to have positive relationships with others and the ability to successfully navigate the demands of everyday activities. Behavioral health counseling offers help to all members of our community to work through the issues that keep individuals from enjoying satisfying and productive lives. For those with severe chronic issues, maintaining basic stability is a priority and a significant achievement to keep life from spinning out of control.

WHAT WORKS

CSSW provides behavioral health counseling including psychiatric evaluations, medication reviews, and individual and family counseling sessions. The program utilizes culturally sensitive bilingual staff, and offers evidence-based, best practice services for trauma, major depression and substance abuse disorders.

- Eighty percent of our clients report that they are better able to interact with family and others in the community.
- Eighty-five percent achieve two personal goals important to them — such as paying rent on time, taking medications regularly or repairing a relationship.

JOIN US

We ask you to consider a donation to help those with multiple problems and limited resources. Your gift will go where it is needed most. Without behavioral health support, problems get worse and help becomes more involved and more costly. Your support strengthens those most at-risk and our community at the same time.

OUR PROGRAMS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
COUNSELING

FAMILY & INDIVIDUAL
COUNSELING

SUBSTANCE
ABUSE



SAFER COMMUNITIES

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Every person has a fundamental right to share in those things required for human decency — starting with food, shelter and clothing, employment, health care and education.

We prevent new problems from occurring when we help people succeed



Helping ex-offenders find reliable housing and work...

WORK



Practicing new skills for being a better parent or spouse...

FAMILY



Establishing trust with those who have been hurt...

TRUST

WE BELIEVE

Our community is stronger and safer when ex-offenders and others who have made terrible mistakes have a genuine opportunity to make better choices going forward. Too often, a lack of options for housing and work undermines even the most determined. Program services incorporating strong standards of accountability, monitoring, and support of these clients offer the best chance to rebuild devastated lives. CSSW offers compassion and help to those who may seem undeserving or hopeless — with the belief that each of us is worthy of a chance for redemption.

WHAT WORKS

- Recidivism rates for ex-offenders in the Prisoner ReEntry program are 35% lower than the average rate for Washtenaw County prior to program implementation.
- Ninety-five percent of homeless returning prisoners were successfully diverted from the homeless shelter to the housing program. Those who participated in the Housing First programming were more likely to find gainful employment and secure more permanent housing, making them less likely to reoffend.
- Eighty-five percent of domestic violence offenders report a first-time increased understanding of their abusive behavior and less than 2% resort to violence while participating in the year-long program.

JOIN US

Support compassionate and critical service to those who are not often first on anyone else's list of clients. Your enlightened understanding of the larger issues is not only humane but results in a safer community for all of us. Our common good is strengthened when those without hope have an opportunity to restore their lives and place in our community.

OUR PROGRAMS

ALTERNATIVES TO DOMESTIC
AGGRESSION

PRISONER
REENTRY

EX-OFFENDER
SUPPORT



SENIORS

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF WASHTENAW COUNTY
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The dignity of the human person is the starting point for a moral vision in society.

For seniors and their families, help is needed



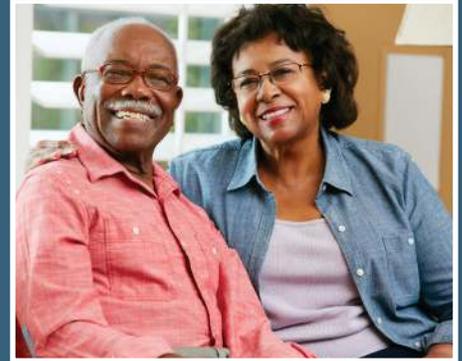
When physical or cognitive abilities are diminished....

ABILITIES



When financial resources are insufficient for essential care...

RESOURCES



When caregiving demands overwhelm all else...

CAREGIVING

WE BELIEVE

Seniors deserve lives of dignity and the opportunity to live safely in a place of their own choosing. Sixty-five percent of our senior clients report incomes less than \$20,000 annually. Purchasing good, safe, reliable support services is cost prohibitive for all but the very few, and adult children often find themselves in a struggle between simultaneously supporting their children and their parents. CSSW Senior Services offers older adults and their caregivers help finding and navigating essential, specific, affordable assistance. These basic supports often determine a senior's ability to remain independent or necessitate more supportive housing situations in institutional or family settings.

WHAT WORKS

For more than 2,000 seniors in our county, specific help from CSSW has changed vulnerable situations to more stable ones.

- 120 caregivers report respite from adult day services and in-home visits have decreased stress levels.
- 286 seniors report feeling more secure through home repair services and installation of home safety devices.
- 620 seniors resolved problems and made informed decisions about complex insurance issues such as supplemental prescription or coverage for veterans.
- 800 seniors received \$450,000 in refunds through tax assistance.
- 45 very frail seniors utilized personal escorts to doctor's appointments to help relay and understand health conditions.
- 600 seniors received referral and advocacy services for issues and problems including substance and elder abuse.

JOIN US

Your support helps older adults live safely with dignity in their own homes. Vibrant community services are an affordable response to keep seniors independent while helping to alleviate the time commitment and financial burden for many families.

OUR PROGRAMS

TAX ASSISTANCE RESOURCE ADVOCACY	VOLUNTEER CAREGIVER RESPITE ADULT DAY SERVICES	RSVP (SENIOR VOLUNTEERS) GRANDPARENTS AS PARENTS	COMPANION SERVICES CHORE SERVICES
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