



Catholic Charities  
of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

1

# ONE MISSION ONE TEAM

DONORS AND STAFF MAKING A DIFFERENCE



20  
13  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

Dear Friends,



Our theme for the past year has been “One Mission, One Team.” Our ministry is richly blessed with diversity in our 300+ staff members, our donors and volunteers as well as a huge group of supporters. While we celebrate this diversity — we are one team — joined together by our one mission of charity, love, and justice. Catholic Charities had many accomplishments in 2013 as we served more than 77,000 individuals, enough to fill and overflow the NRG Stadium through our broad range of services offered.

Just as we did in 2013, we continue to provide caring, compassionate services; to be good stewards of our financial, volunteer, and staff resources; to work for social justice in collaboration with the Archdiocese, parishes, and communities; and perhaps most importantly — because it is the core of our vision — to create an integrated services model aimed at alleviating poverty.

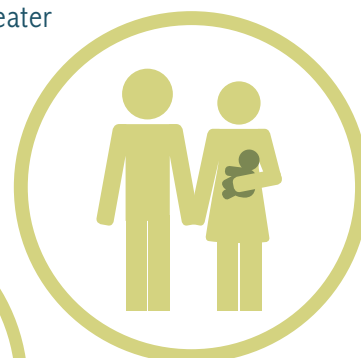
Our 2014–2017 strategic plan is our blueprint to becoming even stronger as one team, believing in one mission. Throughout the year, we have helped provide food, shelter, financial assistance, counseling, and other supportive services to assist individuals in their journey out of poverty and into self-sufficiency. If you have donated one dollar, 92 cents have gone directly to service programs. You have helped put food on a family’s table, welcomed and provided shelter to a refugee in a new foreign land, given counsel to a child that was being bullied, and helped a senior remain safely in their own home.

I am proud to be a part of Catholic Charities and its mission to empower lives in our community. We are grateful to have many partners who have joined us and become part of our One Mission, One Team. Thank you for all that you do to reach out to children, families, refugees and immigrants, and seniors. May the charity of Christ continue to inspire and impel us to greater service to God and neighbor.

In the peace of Christ,

*Cynthia N. Colbert*

Cynthia N. Colbert, MSW





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# ONE MISSION ONE TEAM

**DONORS AND STAFF MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Our mission states “Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities helps people in southeast Texas by providing caring, compassionate services and advocating for social justice in collaboration with parishes and communities.”

Last fiscal year, our donors and volunteers changed more than 77,000 lives by supporting our mission. That number includes 44,744 clients who were served through food fairs, immigration legal service outreach, and other community presentations. Another 32,179 unduplicated clients received direct services through 15 programs which nurture and care for children, strengthen families, support refugees and immigrants, and promote independence for seniors and other vulnerable adults.

“Volunteering as a board member and now as Board Chairman, I know we worked hard through 2013 and created a Strategic Plan that highlights the importance of collaborating with our donors, parishes, community organizations, and volunteers. Each of you are important in helping us to fulfill our mission.

I receive as much as I give to Catholic Charities when I see our vision come to reality as we are “people of faith, helping people in need achieve self-sufficiency and live with dignity.”

**JEB BASHAW**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES BOARD CHAIRMAN

# YOUR DOLLARS HARD AT WORK

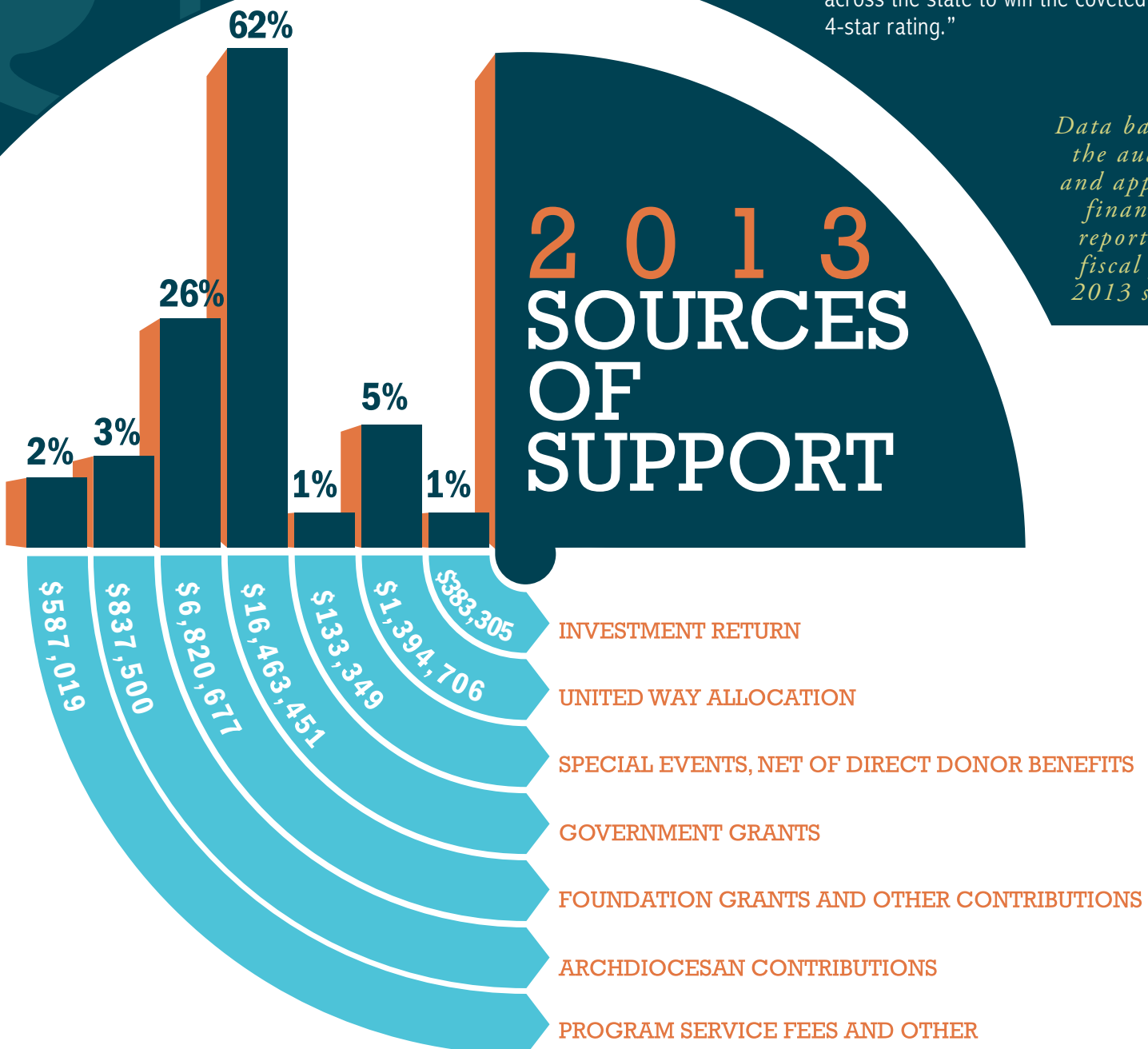
Ninety-two cents of every dollar goes directly to program services. That rate has qualified Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston to the 4-star rating for financial accountability from the national Charity Navigator for the 13th year in a row. Less than one percent of the charities rated by Charity Navigator

has received at least 13 consecutive four-star evaluations, indicating that Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston outperforms most other charities in America.

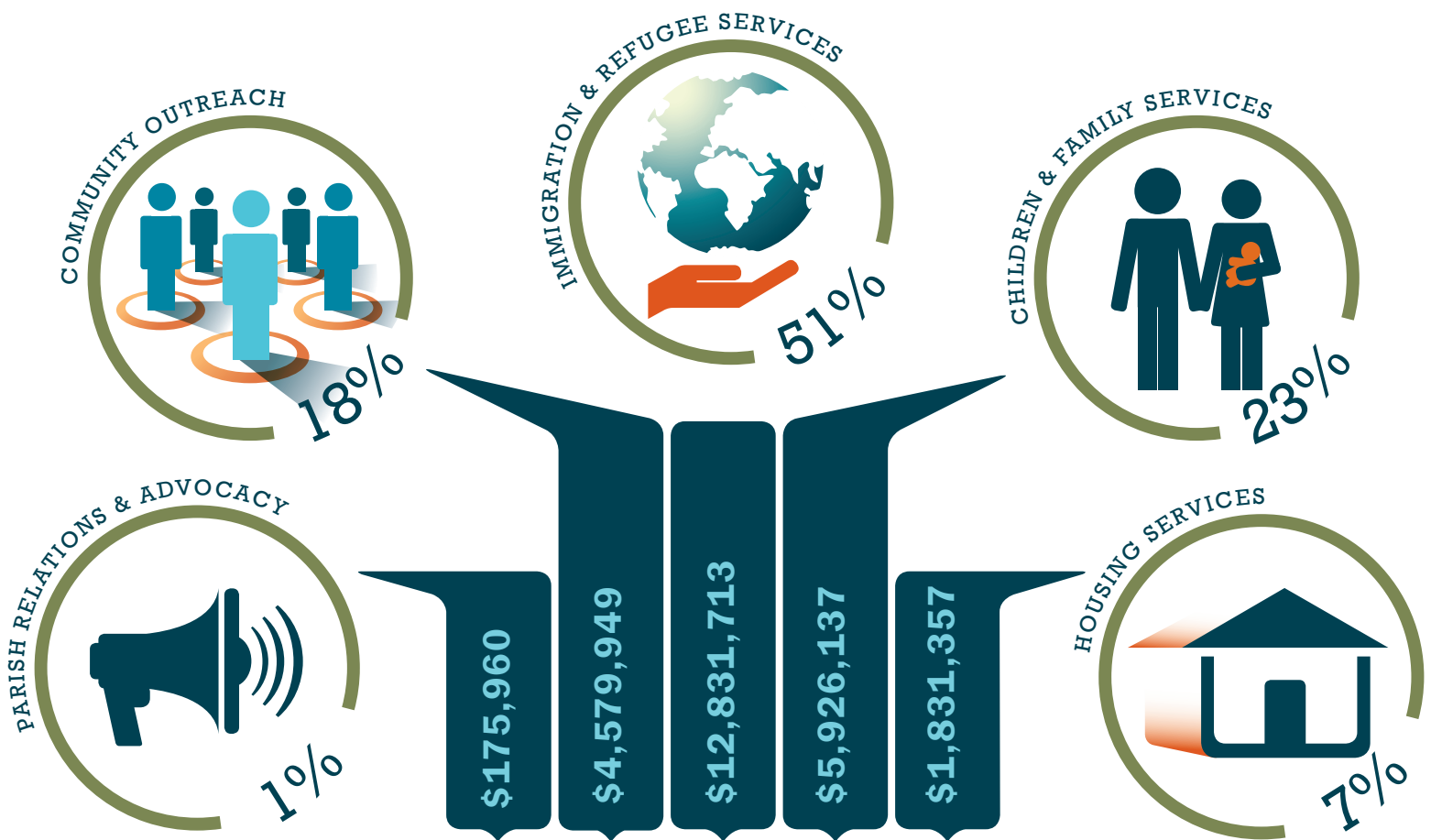
Catholic Charities President/CEO Cynthia Nunes Colbert said, "We are among only 22 social services nonprofits in Texas with such a great fiscal record and only one of two Catholic Charities across the state to win the coveted 4-star rating."

*Data based on  
the audited  
and approved  
financial  
reports for  
fiscal year  
2013 show:*

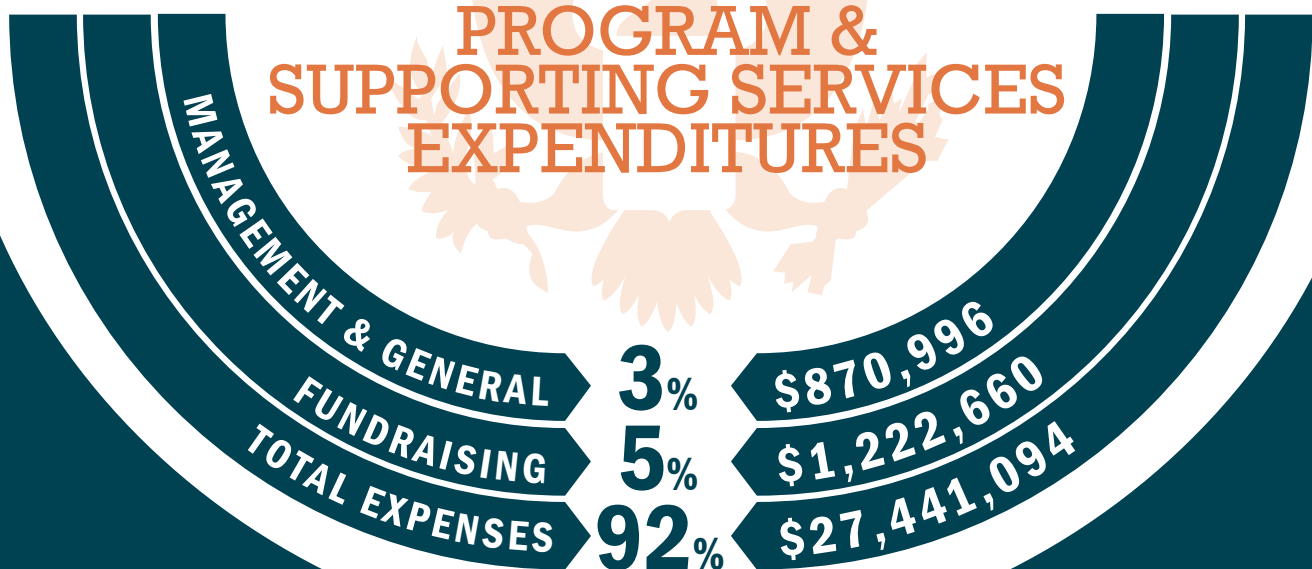
## 2013 SOURCES OF SUPPORT



# 2013 PROGRAM EXPENDITURES



## 2013 PROGRAM & SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENDITURES



# CLIENTS ON THEIR CARE AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES



**ROMELIA IBE, CLIENT IN THE LOTUS PROJECT FOR WOMEN VETERANS, WHICH HELPS FEMALE MILITARY VETS AND THEIR FAMILIES OUT OF HOMELESSNESS:**

"I am so grateful for Catholic Charities. They helped me find a doctor when I was pregnant, and helped with housing. Without them, I would not have been able to save money to buy a car and go back to school," Romelia said.

**SENIOR CLIENTS LYDIA AND RANDY GRAVOIS OF RICHMOND, TEXAS:**

"Catholic Charities is a great organization. We love to come to the Mamie George Community Center," said Randy. Lydia added, "They make us feel special when we come here and treat us with respect."

**ASI ERNESTINE AND HER YOUNG SON, RESIDENTS AT THE VILLA WHICH PROVIDES A REFUGE FROM DOMESTIC ABUSE:**

"I could see a better future. I want to thank Catholic Charities... they brought me to my dreams," Ernestine said.





# HIGHLIGHTING CATHOLIC CHARITIES PROGRAMS

## WE NURTURE & CARE FOR CHILDREN

### CHILDREN SERVICES:

Provides education on adoption as an option for the future of an unborn child; pregnancy services to assist young mothers and families in providing a loving, stable home; assists foster families in helping children through crisis situations; and provides nurturing environment for unaccompanied refugee and immigrant minors.

### FOSTER CARE SERVICES:

Places infants and special needs children into family foster care:

**AS OF FISCAL YEAR 2013:**

116  
100  
9

PERCENT

**116 children received an accumulated 28,318 days of foster care.**

**100% of service plan goals were achieved at discharge.**

**9 new foster families were verified into the program.**



### BECOMING A “FOREVER FAMILY”

Jennifer and Brian decided to become foster parents without knowing if the two toddlers, who were brother and sister, would become their “forever family.” Even though the children needed occupational, speech and physical therapies, they were able to overcome these obstacles and catch up developmentally with Brian and Jennifer’s love and commitment. “The kids were ready for a home. Both Brian and I learned even more by giving of ourselves to them,” Jennifer stated. The efforts paid off and the fostering turned into official adoption and a testament of true love.

# WE STRENGTHEN FAMILIES

## STRENGTHENING FAMILIES:

Provides counseling services within inner-city Catholic schools and expand services into the community; helps families to increase self-sufficiency including housing and case management services; provides churches with Parish Social Ministry training; reaches out to the increasing number of families who need our services with the support of parishes, community partnerships, and other volunteers.

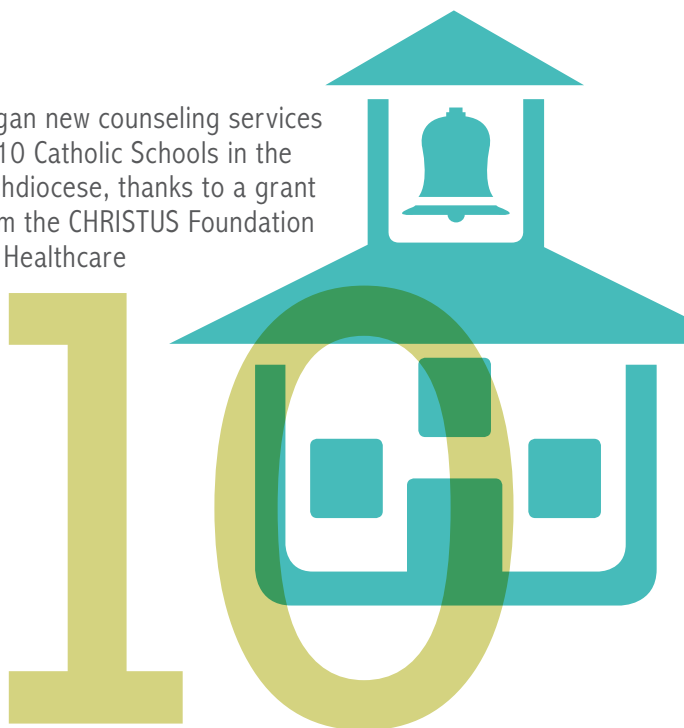
## COUNSELING:

Provides individual, couple, group, and family counseling, prevention and education services for men, women, couples, teens and children. Counseling is offered in several locations in the Houston Area, Fort Bend County and in 10 Catholic schools.

## PROVIDED COUNSELING SERVICES TO

1,995 CLIENTS

Began new counseling services to 10 Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese, thanks to a grant from the CHRISTUS Foundation for Healthcare



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES PROVIDES FREE COUNSELING AT 10 SCHOOLS WITH CHRISTUS FOUNDATION GRANT

To strengthen families and students in 10 inner-city Catholic schools, free counseling services are available through Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston thanks to CHRISTUS Foundation for Healthcare. The foundation awarded a generous grant of \$175,000 for two years, totaling \$350,000. This funding has allowed Catholic Charities beginning in September 2013 to place two full-time, bilingual licensed counselors to rotate among 10 schools serving children from Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade.

In one case, an 11-year-old boy was referred to counseling by his mother due to a recent divorce between his parents. According to the counselor, the child was exhibiting anger, self-injury and low academic performance. He attended counseling and a safety plan was completed by working closely with his mother to learn healthy coping strategies and positive ways to express his feelings. He is now doing better in school and is not afraid to share his concerns or problems with his parents.





# WE SUPPORT REFUGEES & IMMIGRANTS

## BRINGING SUCCESS TO REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS:

Teaches classes in Civics and English as a Second Language through the Refugee Resettlement and Cabrini Center programs; provides expert and timely immigration legal services to immigrants, unaccompanied minors, refugees, survivors of domestic violence, victims of human trafficking, and other serious crimes, and those seeking asylum and citizenship.

## REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT:

Provides U.S. government-approved refugees with assistance to become self-sufficient by offering cultural orientation, job development, family reunification and housing.

Refugee Resettlement has 36 staff members who speak 27 different languages and help clients from the initial welcome with airport pick-up to transporting them to their initial housing, education and training, culturally appropriate grocery items and ready-to-eat meal upon arrival, and orientation to U.S. culture.

561 adult refugees received job placement services, with 100% of those being placed in jobs.

961  
IRAQ  
CUBA  
Burma  
Afghanistan  
BHUTAN  
REPUBLIC OF CONGO  
SOMALIA  
ERITREA

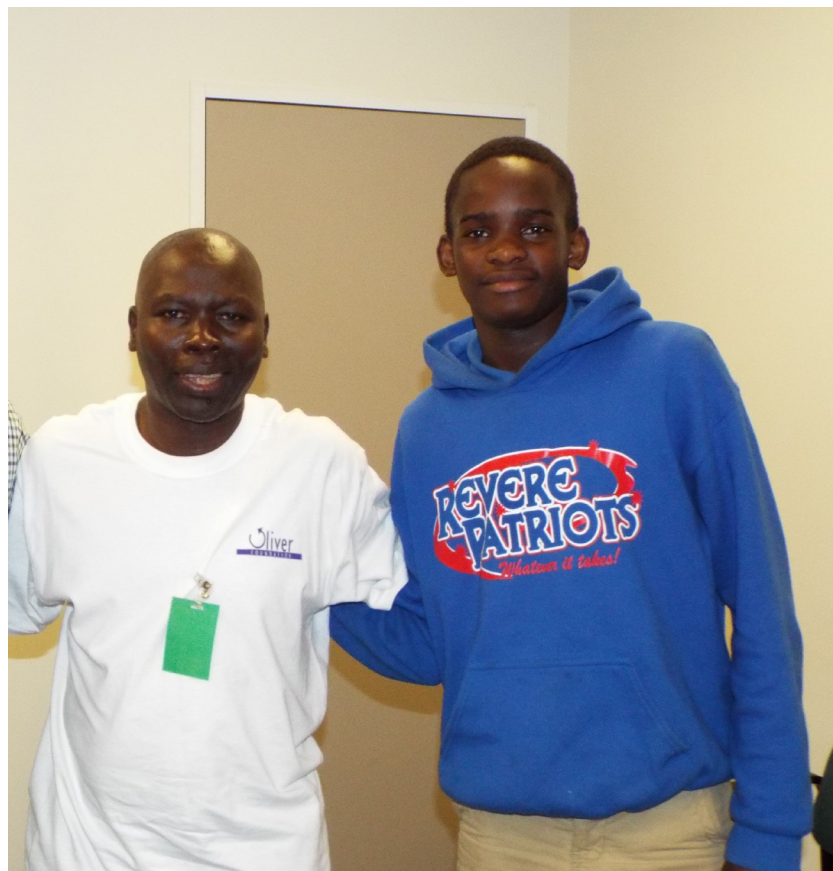
Of the 961 refugees served in FY 2013, clients mostly came from the Republic of Congo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Burma, Bhutan, Cuba, Somalia and Eritrea.

## REFUGEE FAMILY SURVIVES CONGO AND CALLS HOUSTON HOME

Pastor Pirachel Dieudonne preached hope at refugee camps in Africa while he and his family escaped the war in Congo and waited for the chance to come to the United States. After 10 years of surviving, Pirachel received U.S. State Department approval and the family came to Houston. In 2013 we helped Pirachel, his wife, and eight children to resettle in an apartment and started providing services.

"As a refugee, it is very hard because you don't have a job and need to get one, but you don't know the language. But many people help, including Catholic Charities, whose workers made us feel happy again and help us hope again," Pirachel said.

Our Refugee Resettlement staff state that most refugees within their first year here are working, driving cars, speaking on cell phones, and are well on their way to becoming self-sufficient.



# WE PROMOTE INDEPENDENCE FOR SENIORS & OTHER VULNERABLE ADULTS

## PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE FOR SENIORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE ADULTS:


Provides food pantry services by strengthening community participation in regular food drives; serves seniors through geriatric case management; maintains HIV/AIDS services with spiritual support; obtains employment and housing for vulnerable clients in our programs.

## SENIOR SERVICES:

Assist low-income seniors in their efforts to live independently for as long as possible, by providing case management and the coordination of care.

85% of clients in short-term case management completed service plan goals at discharge.

88% of clients in long-term case management experienced no more than a 2-point per year decline in a standardized scale with regards to normal age-related losses in physical function.



In FY 2013, 309 seniors were provided with long-term and/or short-term case management.



## WE PROMOTE INDEPENDENCE FOR SENIORS & OTHER VULNERABLE ADULTS

Senior client Humberto Perez spoke to the crowd attending the inaugural fundraising dinner "The Cardinal's Krewe" in Fort Bend County that raised more than \$100,000 for the Mamie George Community Center. Mr. Perez praised the art classes, food pantry and other services for seniors at the community center in Richmond. "My wife and I really appreciate the center and all of the services at Mamie George. She is really happy and we have made good friends there."



# WE INVITE YOU TO VOLUNTEER, DONATE & ADVOCATE

We are dedicated to our mission of serving one another — caring for the poor, the frail and the hungry. We provide for those who desperately need our help and our loving care, welcoming everyone and serving people where they are.

Your generosity makes our work possible. You can help us continue our mission of service. One Mission, One Team!



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