



Because of you, when her baby arrived, Rosa was prepared

## You Helped Rosa Prepare for a Healthy Baby

**You were a blessing to a family in need**

Rosa was getting more and more nervous as her due date approached. At 35, she was pregnant for the first time and, while eager to welcome a child into the world, she didn't know how she would make ends meet while she couldn't work.

Thanks to your generosity, before giving birth, Rosa was able to attend parenting classes to prepare for the child's arrival and even was given a baby shower so she'd have the diapers, formula, and clothes her baby would need.

*"I am sincerely, eternally grateful"*

Rosa was working and making ends meet when she got pregnant. About eight months into her pregnancy, she began to think about the wages she would lose when she had to take off after she had her baby. She heard about Catholic Charities' Blessed Beginnings Life Center and decided to call.

Because of your generosity, Rosa's expectations were blown out of the water. Not only did she learn about how to be a good mother, but she also received diapers, wipes, and even food assistance from our food pantry – something she may not have had at all if she had not made that initial call to Catholic Charities.

"I am sincerely, eternally grateful to Catholic Charities," she said. "It was more than I thought I would receive. It actually exceeded my expectations."

On June 5th, Rosa gave birth to healthy baby girl. Because of you, she is more prepared to enter this new chapter of her life.

### Inside this Issue:

**Your Donations @ Work:**

**You helped Marco find a job and keep his home**

## Thanks to You, a Grandmother Can Keep Her Granddaughter from Going Hungry

**When Alice needed help to feed her granddaughter, you were there**



Thanks to you, Alice's granddaughter doesn't have to worry about being hungry

When Alice's granddaughter, Amiyah, was born, she had multiple birth defects and needed several surgeries to correct them. When Alice assumed responsibility for her infant granddaughter, it was a challenge – and still is. Because Alice lives on a limited, fixed income, she is grateful to receive the help that you provide through your gifts to Catholic Charities.

Thanks to you, Alice has been able to provide for her granddaughter. When Alice came to the Mamie George Community Center she was linked to the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program, which helps other grandparents like Alice.

*"You have truly been a blessing to me and Amiyah"*

Your gifts help Alice with necessary expenses – food, utilities, rent and gas. Otherwise, she has a hard time covering all the bills and keeping food on the table. "Catholic Charities is one of the most blessed places," said Alice. "Because by me being on a fixed income, sometimes it gets kind of hard."

Amiyah accompanies her grandmother to the food pantry at the center to select their food: fresh produce, meat and other items that help stretch Alice's budget.

Now 11 years old, Amiyah is a healthy, talented girl, and completely devoted to her grandmother. "I make her day by hugging her and kissing her on the head and cheek," said Amiyah. "She teaches me stuff I have to learn how to do when I grow up."

Thanks to you, Amiyah can enjoy childhood and grandparents like Alice can continue to provide their grandchildren with a warm bed and plenty to eat.

## You Provide Essential Help to a Struggling Family



Dear Friend,

Many of our neighbors here in southeast Texas are in desperate need of help. Inflation continues to drive up prices and struggling families are left behind as wages remain flat. Hunger and the risk of homelessness loom large in the minds of the most vulnerable among us.

With your steadfast support, you are not only providing desperately needed help, but also giving hope to clients as they stride toward self-sufficiency. Your generosity takes away immediate worries and allows struggling families to take a deep breath and find a way forward.

In this newsletter, you'll read about mothers like Rosa, who is now raising a healthy baby because of the support you provided her during and after her pregnancy. And Marco, who received employment support and avoided eviction because of you. Then there is Bianca, who fled domestic violence and needs you now more than ever.

As the weather gets gentler and we prepare to gather with family in the coming months, please do not forget the families in the Greater Houston area – our neighbors – who need your help to get by. As St. Teresa of Ávila said, "Yours are the hands with which (Christ) blesses all the world."

Thank you for your continued generosity, and for being the hands and feet of Christ for so many of our neighbors who need you.

In the peace of Christ,

*Cynthia N. Colbert*

Cynthia N. Colbert, MSW  
President and CEO

## Your Donations @ Work



You kept Marco's dreams alive for a brighter future

## Thanks to You, Marco Found a Job and Kept His Home

**Your gift made a difference when Marco was at his lowest point**

Marco lost his job last winter and, after being out of work for months, his confidence in his abilities plummeted. Inflation made his financial woes worse, and he knew that if something didn't happen soon, he would end up homeless.

Because of you, Marco received emergency financial assistance to stay housed, and help to fine-tune his resume and interviewing skills from Catholic Charities. He regained his confidence and had hope for the first time in months. Marco started a new job in the hospitality industry last month. You made this possible!

*Your generous support helped Marco regain his confidence and re-enter the workforce*

Marco had regular but unfulfilling work for years. But last winter, when he lost his job, the sudden change impacted more than Marco's financial situation. It also affected his overall mood and confidence level. In a matter of months, Marco went from regularly working to being at risk of homelessness, while he sank deeper into depression.

Thanks to your generosity, when Marco came to Catholic Charities in the spring, he was met by a case manager who not only helped him stay housed, but also worked with him to create a path to self-sufficiency. Marco received a resume critique, interview preparation and assistance with putting together a portfolio.

Because of you, Marco regained his confidence and decided that he would pursue a job aligned with his passion: cooking and baking. He started his new job in July and is eager to climb the ranks and regain his financial footing along the way.

Thank you for always being there for people like Marco, who need your helping hand so they can get back on their feet!

### HEROES OF HOPE

## Be Their Hero!

For as little as \$10 a month, you can help those suffering in the Greater Houston area.

BECOME A HERO AT



[CatholicCharities.org/heroes](https://CatholicCharities.org/heroes)





# You Helped an Aunt Raise Her Orphaned Nieces

Thanks to your gifts, Ann didn't have to worry about providing meals for the kids

After Ann's sister died, her two nieces were left with no parents, so Ann immediately opened her home to the two girls, despite only having a limited income.

Ann copes with physical disabilities that prevent her from working in a fulltime job, but she's able to earn some money doing alterations. Bianca is hurting, but for just \$27.93 you can provide her family with a week's worth of food, and take one worry off her mind.

Because of generous donors like you, Catholic Charities has been a source of not only food but help and hope for Ann and her newly-expanded family.

Ann first came into contact with Catholic Charities in 2008 when Hurricane Ike barreled through Galveston. Her small alterations business was destroyed at the time.

*"Sometimes, it's really hard"*

"Catholic Charities came to me and asked if I needed some help," she said. "They got me a new washing machine and a new refrigerator. It was really nice."

Many years later, Ann knew she could turn to the Beacon of Hope Center on Galveston Island for groceries to feed her nieces.

"Sometimes, it's really hard," said Ann. "They're growing kids, so they eat a lot. Food distributions have helped tremendously, really helped a lot."

Ann speaks from the heart when she says thank you to Catholic Charities and its supporters.

"It makes a big difference," she said. "It's been a life saver. If I ever won the lottery or anything, the first place I would give money to would be Catholic Charities. I see you doing more than anyone else."

Thanks to donors like you, Ann gets the help she needs so her nieces can grow up strong.



When Ann struggled after taking in her nieces, you helped her keep food on the table

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo**  
Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Gretchen Martinez Penny, *Chair*  
Alicia Freysinger, *Vice Chair*  
William "Bill" Neeson, *Secretary*  
Dennis Malloy, *Treasurer*  
Ellen Ginty, *Immediate Past Chair*

Karina Amelang	Sr. Maureen O'Connell*
Francois Bardi	Gregory Phillips
David Doherty	Gene Reed
John Gillespie	John Rossett
David Harvey, Jr.	Fr. Reginald Samuels
Elizabeth Hussein	Mark Serice
Debbie Kemple	Jim Stevenson
Avalyn C. Langemeier	Susanne H. Sullivan
T. Douglas Lawson	Soledad Tanner
Paul H. Layne	Bichan N. Thai
Pius K. Leung	David Titus
Cheryl Malden	Greg Turner
Michael Mengis	Rosaliz Ufret

Cynthia N. Colbert, MSW, *President/CEO*

\* ex officio

## ADVISORY DIRECTORS

**Most Reverend Italo Dell'Oro, CRS**  
*Auxiliary Bishop*

John (Jack) Allender	Andrius Kontrimas
James E. Bashaw	Patrick Leung, Ph.D
George H. Brueggeman, Jr.	Vicki Luna
Bob Charlet	Stan Marek
Cynthia Cisneros	Allyson Martin
Mary A. Cronin	Jacob Monty
Marcy Duncan	Roxann Neumann
Joseph J. Earthman	Jerry Nevlud
Nancy Z. Evetts	Ginger Niemann
Michael Fitzgerald	Geraldo Olivo
Lisa Ganucheau	Kevin Rech
Tony Garcia Jr.	Marisa Reuter
Janice Jamail Garvis	Laura M. Robertson
Chuck Gremillion	Paul Schneidau
Sean Gorman	Alice B. Smith
Colin F. Hageney	John Steffes
Lindsey Harris, M.D.	Stephanie Sullivan
Cecilia Heilmann	Laura Thompson
Tommy Hernandez	Teresa Valderrama
Lution Hill	Jamie L. Vazquez
John Kafka	Michael Villegas, CPA
Albert Kasumaj	David Zahn, CPA, CFP

## CARITAS CIRCLE

Deborah and Jim Adler	Gloria and Francis Kalman
Theresa and Jim Allison	Debbie and Matt Kemple
Cathy and Giorgio Borlenghi	Julie and Michael Koch
Dona and Albert Clay	Ginny and Dennis Malloy
Debbie and William DeLaney	Reinette and Stan Marek
Joanne and Gene DeMuro	Ally and Burt Martin
Alicia and David Freysinger	Ginger and John Niemann
Ellen and James Ginty	Pat and Gene Reed
Arlene and Kent Graziano	Margaret and Ronald Riesmeyer
Mr. David Harvey and Dr. Mikki Hebl	The Scanlan Foundation
Mindy and Jeffery Hildebrand	Joan Schock
Katherine Hill	Carla and Giorgio Spezzapria
Judy and Dick Horstman	Mary and Lawrence Whalley
Elizabeth and Richard Husseini	Mrs. Raye G. White
Carol and John Kafka	Patti and Paul Yetter

**IF YOUR PROPERTY  
IS PAST ITS PRIME,  
DON'T HASSLE WITH  
A SALE: DONATE IT!**

Almost any type of real estate accepted, if there's equity.

**Catholic Charities**  
ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON



Learn more at:  
[CatholicCharities.org](http://CatholicCharities.org)  
844-277-HOME



## Mission Moment

### Help a Mother Who Needs You!

For just \$27.93 you can take a worry away from struggling mothers

With inflation driving up costs, Bianca is one of many struggling mothers in the greater Houston area who doesn't know how much longer she'll be able to afford food and rent.

Those struggles are added on top of her history as a victim of domestic violence. Bianca is hurting, but for just \$27.93 you can provide her family with a week's worth of food, and take one worry off her mind.

Gifts like yours, which will provide Bianca and her three children with food for a week, are desperately needed. Let me tell you why.

Bianca was forced to flee a violent home with her children. Left with the physical and mental scars of violence, she is unable to hold down a job and is in need of counseling. Food has become scarce and the money to keep up with rent and other bills is growing thinner and thinner.

But you can make a difference. With a gift of just \$27.93, Bianca won't have to worry about food this week. Taking away just one worry will help Bianca breathe easier.



You can help Bianca build a new life following domestic abuse

#### *You can be the change, and the hope, for struggling mothers*

People like Bianca who experience domestic violence desperately need your help. Emergency food and financial assistance are crucial steps that keep their heads above the water, allowing them to take a few breaths. Hard-working single mothers want nothing more than to care for and feed their children, but all too often that proves to be a difficult task.

You can put healthy food on the table for Bianca and her children for a week for just \$27.93. Please help us provide struggling families with help for right now and hope for a brighter future. Thank you!

#### YES, I WANT MY NEXT GIFT TO HELP A STRUGGLING FAMILY

I know that there are people who are hungry right now and need my help. I'm ready to give them the food, shelter, and guidance they need to get out of crisis and provide for their families. Please use my gift to help hungry families and support all the work Catholic Charities does to help our struggling neighbors.

Please accept my tax-deductible gift in the amount of:

- ☐ \$27.93 to help a hungry family for a week
- ☐ \$55.86 to help two hungry families for a week
- ☐ \$83.79 to help three hungry families for a week
- ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many hungry families as possible

Mail this form to Catholic Charities, 2900 Louisiana St., Houston, Texas 77006

Want to put your gift to work immediately? Donate online at [www.CatholicCharities.org/donate](http://www.CatholicCharities.org/donate)