

Your Works of Mercy

SUMMER 2026

EXCLUSIVE DONOR NEWSLETTER



La Casa Amiga Family Programs, St. Leo's
Soup Kitchen, Encore Adult Day Program,
Mercy Clothes Closet and *More!!!*

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN



More than 100 guests and volunteers gathered for CCSEM's first annual Hearts of Gold Gala at Overtyme Grill & Tap Room in Waterford to support Encore Adult Day Program. **Thank YOU-**generous sponsors, guests, donors and online auction participants raised more than \$20,000 to support essential services at Encore.



Above: CCSEM Director of Adult Day Programs, Nikki Harvey; Encore Activity Associate, Erin Asdell; and CCSEM CEO, Paul Propson, welcome Hearts of Gold guests and share the many benefits that Encore provides for seniors and their caregivers.



Above: Volunteers provided bag lunches to hungry neighbors during the move to St. Leo's new location at the PAL Recreation Center in SW Detroit. St. Leo's now serves warm nutritious meals four days a week, with All Saints Food Pantry providing essential food items on Wednesdays.

Right: Southwest Detroit neighbors in need take a moment after shopping at All Saints Food Pantry, stocked with the support of the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation.

Making the Difference

Thank You for Providing Resources, Compassion and Support to Our Vulnerable Neighbors



Above: Encore Activity Associate, Erin Asdell, celebrates St. Patrick's Day with happy Encore clients.

Below: Seminarians do the heavy lifting, helping St. Leo's Soup Kitchen move into the Detroit PAL Recreation Center.



Volunteers, donors, Sacred Heart seminarians and CCSEM staff team up to help St. Leo's Soup Kitchen move into its new location at the renovated PAL Recreation Center on Wagner Street in Southwest Detroit. **Thank YOU!**

Front Cover: CCSEM Grants Manager Melissa Malesky and volunteers from St. William Parish (Walled Lake) thank friends and parishioners for their successful clothing drive.



La Casa Amiga Family Programs:

Project Hope, Workforce Development, Financial Counseling, Prevention and More

La Casa Amiga family programs foster resilience across generations with programs and services tailored for children, teens, and parents... **Thanks to your support!** La Casa's comprehensive prevention programs equip families with the tools they need to thrive. From expectant mothers welcoming their babies to parents gaining stability through work, La Casa Amiga programs help build strong Hispanic families.

Project Hope provides safe, free, and confidential support services for women who may be pregnant, expectant mothers and parents with children under 12 months old. Essential items like formula, diapers and wipes are available along with breastfeeding and post-partum education, case management and community resource support, and confidential pregnancy testing. Because **our faith values life at all its stages.**

Children, and their parents, benefit from access to **Prevention Programs that support and instill good character and habits.** Program offerings include parenting classes, tutoring and mentoring for school children, school liaison services for families acquiring English as a second language to assist with school visits, meetings, as well as referrals to additional education resources. Because **children are the future.**

Access to financial literacy promotes healthy families, so La Casa Amiga offers **Home Financial Stability programs** for adults. Financial counseling, employment services for job seekers, support for families in need of healthcare and /or childcare, nutrition classes and food assistance are available to those in need. Because La Casa Amiga strives to make fishers of men and families prosperous, **thanks to your support!**

Workforce Development programs expand pathways to prosperity by providing career-related services designed to help improve job opportunities and earning potential. La Casa offers Childcare Safety training to support parents and help childcare professionals advance their careers, training for job seekers in the financial services sector, English as a second language (ESL), workforce safety and OSHA -10 classes.

Because of your support La Casa Amiga families thrive, their neighbors thrive, and southeast Michigan communities benefit. **YOU make the difference!**



Above: While having fun at La Casa Amiga Summer Camp, kids (ages 8-12) build life skills, deal with stress, and learn about substance abuse prevention in a safe and supportive environment... Thanks to your support.



Above: With the support of St. Irenaeus and St. Mary of the Hills parishes (Rochester), La Casa Amiga celebrates Mother's Day with Project Hope clients and their babies.



Above: Mr. Kotula, a Retired Senior Volunteer Program participant, tutors two students looking to excel at Auburn Hills Elementary School. Thanks to your support! Below: Bi-lingual graduates of the UnidosUS-Career Pathway Accelerator course are ready for work in the financial sector. Many obtain jobs upon graduation.





Parishes and Businesses work
to help our neighbors in need
THANK YOU!
*Volunteers give their time, mobilize hope,
and make a difference*

Above: Deacon Mike Chesley and St. William Parish (Walled Lake) parishioners provide more than 100 bags of donated clothing to the Mercy Clothing Closet. Below: In April at the Center for the Works of Mercy in Detroit, volunteers from Alliance Catholic Credit Union and Ford Motor Company stock Mercy Market with essential food items and organized and filled the racks at the Mercy Clothing Closet with newly donated clothing. Thank YOU!!



GRATITUDE & TESTIMONIALS

"Your generosity... builds bridges of trust, strengthens families, and brings the Gospel to life in concrete and personal ways."
-Archbishop Edward J. Weisenberger

"Having a safe place for my baby to sleep (an infant crib) along with diapers, wipes, and a car seat, gave me peace of mind when I had nothing..." **-Luisa, Project Hope Client**

"During her time at Encore (Adult Day Program) you didn't just provide care for Mum, you showed genuine kindness, patience, and respect. You treated her as a person first, always with warmth that meant the world to our family... You are not only exceptional professionals- you are truly wonderful (people)." **-The Valent Family**

"I love the work you do here (Center for the Works of Mercy). You are always kind and loving. I don't just want to take but want to give back as well." **-Leroy S., Donor and Former Client**

"Volunteering... has provided me with a renewed sense of relevance and dignity. (It) has benefitted me in several key ways: 1) Restored sense of purpose, 2) Combatting isolation, and 3) Tangible community impact." **-Bill S., Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Participant**

Thank You, Circle of Mercy members. Your monthly donations help provide food, clothing, baby items, and other support to more than 125 vulnerable neighbors every month. On behalf of those we serve, **Thank YOU!**



Please Select
Catholic Charities
of Southeast Michigan
to benefit from your
ticket purchase!



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Annual Celebration

September 25, 2026

6:30pm | Saint John's Resort, Plymouth

**SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR DETAILS!**