



# Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lexington, Inc 2015-2016 Annual Report

## Her Past Prevented Her from Moving Forward

Cherie was dismayed when the doctor told her she was pregnant. At age 20, she was already raising a toddler by herself...what was she going to do now?

Cherie was living in her father's home with six other adults. She couldn't find work due to an outstanding arrest warrant resulting from a ride home with a "friend of a friend" who turned out to be transporting stolen goods in her car. Now Cherie was afraid to turn herself in because her father threatened to file for custody of her son if she went to jail. Cherie was scared and felt as if she had no choices.

She found Catholic Charities' phone number online and called for help. Our staff discussed parenting and adoption options with her and Cherie decided that adoption would be the best choice for her unborn child's future. She was struggling with parenting one child and felt she would not be a good parent to two children. She selected a prospective adoptive family, met with them and thought they were wonderful.



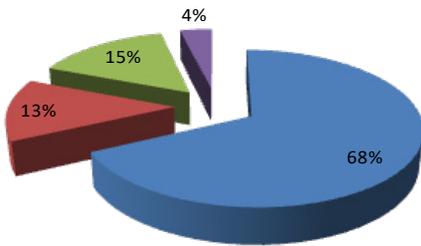
With an adoption plan in place, Cherie still had a lot of barriers to overcome. Our staff worked with Cherie in obtaining prenatal care, dealing more effectively with her family dynamics, looking at employment options and setting up a plan to address the warrant. Cherie volunteered with a local organization for several hours and, upon completion, Catholic Charities paid her \$300 fine in order to lift the warrant. Our staff drove her to job interviews and rejoiced with her when she found employment – the first step towards moving into her own apartment.

It has not been easy. Lacking affordable, reliable day care, Cherie had to change jobs. But she remains determined and works hard to provide a home for her son. She hopes to eventually return to school and now feels that there is nothing to keep her from moving forward. A joyous event in the midst of all the struggle was the birth of her daughter, who is thriving in her adoptive home. The families are planning a holiday get together, the first of many as they all work for a bright future for Cherie's two children.

Financial Information

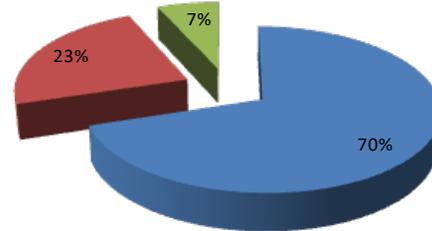
### Sources of Income FY 15-16

■ Contributions ■ Special Events ■ Fees for Services ■ Other income



### Expenses FY 15-16

■ Direct Expenses  
■ Core Mission Support - HR, Finance, etc  
■ Core Mission Support - Fundraising



### Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lexington, Inc

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www.CatholicCharitiesLexington.org

#### Staff

Ruslyn Case-Compton, Diocesan Director • Laurie Hainley, M.S., Adoption Specialist,  
Gwen Hall, L.C.S.W., Prestonsburg Counselor • Nelda Stephens Jackson, M.S., Pregnancy Counselor • Cindy Mitchell, Office Manager  
Kelly Garringer-MacCabe, M.S., Ed.S., LPCA, Iris Gutierrez, L.C.S.W., Laura Napora, L.C.S.W. Lexington Counselors  
Debbie Goonan, L.C.S.W. Bridging the Gap Program Coordinator, • Nina Lowe, VISTA volunteer

#### Board of Directors

Janice Bett\* • Billie Davenport • Dennis Duzyk • Dwayne Edwards\* • Jane Osborne Ellis • Maura Graven •  
Ryan Haley • Franklin Hoopes\* • Fred O'Bryan • Julie Preston • Tamara Shumate\* • Beth Wright •  
\*served as officer

## WHO WE ARE

The professional social service agency sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington

## OUR MISSION

To empower and assist the residents of the 50 counties of central and eastern Kentucky to improve their quality of life



## WHO WE SERVE

- Over 726 people benefited from services in FY 15-16
- Average income of our clients was \$19,840  
(48% of median income for Kentucky households)
- 6% were Hispanic
- Almost 18% identified themselves as Catholic
- Clients drawn from 23 of the 50 counties in our service area
- 51% had some income from employment
- Over 46% learned about our services from a friend, relative or someone from their church

## WHAT WE DID

- Over 850 hours of mental health counseling
- Provided over \$55,000 in financial assistance  
(mostly rent and utility bill payments)
- A partnership with Kentucky American Water helped 177 families receive assistance with water bills
- Helped 37 women prepare to be a parent
- Answered 90 calls to our Expectant Parent Hotline
- Placed 9 infants in adoptive homes  
(4 in collaboration with Covington and Louisville Catholic Charities)



## WHAT DIFFERENCE IT MADE

- 400 families avoided eviction or disconnection of utilities
- 21 families improved their money management skills
- 65% of counseling clients met their treatment goals at the end of service
- Thanks to the efforts of 25 volunteers, 9 people experienced God's healing Mercy during a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Photos courtesy of Catholic Charities USA

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