# Catholic Community Center (CCC)



9018 E. Ave A Galliano, La.



## Organization Background

- Established in May 1983; building donation in 1996 by Mary & Al Danos Family; Harold & Gloria Callais family contributed funds for operations and upgrades over the past 25 years
- Thrift store & food bank is a ministry of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma/Thibodaux
- Assistance to qualified families/individuals/homeless: i.e. food, clothing, monetary assistance for utilities, rent, prescriptions, gasoline cards, etc.
- Service Area: South Lafourche area, from Valentine south to Grand Isle
- Food & Clothing Assistance: average of 568 families/1525 individuals over past 5 years; 2019: 551 families/1370 individuals
- 2019 Monetary Assistance included: \$4910, utilities; \$247, Rxs; \$980, food vouchers; \$380, gasoline cards.

#### Mission of Catholic Community Center (CCC)

- "People helping People"
- CCC is a Catholic Charities food bank and clothing store, focusing on providing food and clothing to those in great need. Limited utilities, rent, prescription, fuel cards, and back-to-work assistance provided under the Catholic Charities of Houma/Thibodaux (CCHT) guidelines.
- CCC is a volunteer-based ministry with 23 current volunteers and 1 parttime manager.



### Fundraising Objectives

- Catholic Charities <u>does not</u> hold fundraising initiatives.
- We actively seek grants and *donations*, especially through *iGiveCatholic* online giving annually.
- CCC is primarily supported by the new and used clothing and household items donated to our thrift store from the South Lafourche community.
- Additional food drive donations are held by the local churches and businesses periodically throughout the year
  - Four Catholic Churches provide \$100+ monthly as donations (Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph, and Our Lady of Prompt Succor)
- Local businesses provide additional food, turkeys, and cash donations during Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays

#### Request for Funds from Women's Giving Circle

- To purchase and install an "automatic, gas generator" plus additional costs to install a gas line for the food pantry section of the building
  - Current food bank to convert to a Second Harvest Pantry in Q2 2019
  - Additional food, dairy, produce and frozen food inventory needs protection from spoilage due to interrupted electricity during storms, hurricanes, or disasters.
- \$10,000 to \$11,000
- We have **NOT** applied for any other grants for this critical need



#### Organization Future Growth Goals

- Currently evaluating local area demographic needs that will provide "HOPE" to those in need.
- Second Harvest Pantry will free up money to <u>expand more services</u>:
  - Increase frequency of assistance for food from every 6-8 weeks TO every 4-6 weeks
  - increase "personal care items"
  - a "backpack program" for homeless and individuals faced with recent release from jail,
  - Return to work monetary assistance for physicals, work boots, etc.
  - Expand assistance for utilities, rent, RX, and gasoline cards
- "School Backpack program" for students with limited family funds
- Individual and family counseling services



# Testimonial of a family/individual impacted by your organization

- A family with 7 children, a disabled father due to a car accident, and a mother who home-schools the children (family size of 9)
- Disability income less than \$800 per month + food stamps
- Own trailer in a trailer park, but got behind on lot rent of \$300/month for 3 months. Received an eviction notice in February + late fees and eviction document fees
  - Lack of payment would lead to landlord repossessing trailer and leaving this family with no options
- CCC provided school uniforms and rental assistance so mother could apply for job
  - During interview, there was a sense of "Hopelessness and tears" on the face of the mother and the two children, worried about their Mom's health and ability to solve their problem
- Mother wrote a blog post of "gratitude" to CCC for saving them from an eviction

