



Faith + Works Wonders

Catholic Charities-What do we do?

Our Mission: In faithfulness to the Gospel and the mission of Jesus, Catholic Charities North Dakota serves people in need with compassion, dignity and respect, empowers them toward self-sufficiency, and works with others in advocating for justice.

Catholic Charities North Dakota (CCND) serves all people in need regardless of their religion, race, age, gender, or ability to pay. In 2009, staff from Catholic Charities North Dakota lived out our mission in multiple ways.

Guardianship Services

Catholic Charities North Dakota's Guardianship Program provides protective service to adults with developmental disabilities across North Dakota. The program's guardians not only provide help in making important decisions, but foster the highest degree of independence possible.

During the past 12 months, the Guardianship Workers of Catholic Charities North Dakota served 409 adults with developmental disabilities who live throughout North Dakota. Staff drove 110,783 miles to complete 7,201 face-to-face client visits, make 13,918 case contacts and attend 1,661 meetings on behalf of our clients.

Pregnancy, Parenting and Adoption Services

Experiencing an unintended pregnancy leads to many decisions. **We can help.**



Last year we provided 912 hours of free, confidential counseling hours to young women and men. We work with them to answer all the difficult questions, including the choice of parenting or making an adoption plan for the baby. Regardless of their choice, we continue to work with them through the birth of the child.

When birthparents choose to make an adoption plan for their child, we work with the birthparents to choose the adoptive family of their choice. We provide services for ND Infant, Identified, Relative, Out-of-State, and Intercountry Adoptions.

Catholic Charities North Dakota is the only **Hague Accredited Adoption Agency** in North Dakota, ensuring that intercountry adoptions are in the best interests of children and to prevent abduction, exploitation, sale, or trafficking of children.

Counseling Services

People come for counseling when facing challenges with children, a marriage with conflict and struggle, experiencing a dullness in an outlook on life, or burdened by the stress of everyday living. There were 1184 Counseling hours spent assisting clients in finding ways to cope with single parenting, job stress, anxiety, depression or other mental health needs.

SPARCS (Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress) is a group curriculum designed for adolescents ages 12-21 who have lived in or are living in stressful situations. SPARCS teaches youth to mindfully respond to their environment rather than react. Through specific skills and tools, SPARCS enhances youths' ability to mindfully connect with others, make positive choices, and more effectively regulate their emotions. A total of 53 children have been helped as members of SPARCS groups.

AASK (Adults Adopting Special Kids)

AASK is North Dakota's program providing adoption services to children in foster care and the families who adopt them. It is a collaborative effort between CCND and PATH ND, Inc., under contract with the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

Every child deserves a family to call their own. In the past year, there were 117 children placed into homes for adoption and 113 children had their adoptions finalized.

Ninety percent of children who become available for adoption in North Dakota are adopted by relatives or their foster families. The remaining 10 percent wait. They wait to meet the person they will call "mom" or "dad". They wait and dream about the place they will call home. They wait to know the feeling of permanent and unconditional love.

Catholic Charities North Dakota partners with **The North Dakota Heart Gallery** and **Wendy's Wonderful Kids** to help these children stop the waiting...to help them find their *forever family*.



Disaster Response

The Spring Flooding of 2009 impacted many families throughout the state. Facing the stress of the devastation, and needing someone to talk to, people were encouraged to visit with our counselors at no cost to them. Counseling staff spent fourteen hours in counseling people impacted by the flooding.

Catholic Charities provided financial assistance to flood-impacted individuals and families. CCND is also one of the sponsoring organizations of RAFT-Resource Agencies Flood Team. RAFT provided Case Management throughout the state for more than 400 households who needed help in recovering from the floods.

Providing help. Creating hope. Transforming lives.



Catholic Charities North Dakota programs:

- Pregnancy, Parenting and Adoption Services
- Adults Adopting Special Kids (AASK)
- Guardianship Services
- Counseling Services

Locations

Fargo (701) 235-4457
 Grand Forks (701) 775-4196
 Bismarck (701) 255-1793
 Minot (701) 852-2854

www.catholiccharitiesnd.org



To learn about our programs or donate, please call our nearest office or visit www.catholiccharitiesnd.org