

Catholic Social Services
2241 "O" Street
Lincoln, NE 68510



(S.A.G.)



CSS is US!

www.cssisus.org

BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF THE RESOURCES GIVEN
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reuse them to pack our food pantries given out through our pantry as well as packing the food boxes we distribute through our Mobile Food Pantries throughout the western part of the diocese. The boxes are perfect. They have handles so they are easy to carry. They're tough so we can stack them 5 or 6 boxes high and they easily fit in our client's car for them to carry home. We love those banana boxes—so keep them coming, along with the food in them of course.

-Tom Schik
Director of Social Services
Western Sector of the Diocese

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Patron

The Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Social Services Of Southern Nebraska

CSS MISSION STATEMENT:

OUR MISSION AS CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA IS TO PERFORM THE WORKS OF MERCY IN RESPONSE TO THE CALL OF GOD.

Grateful for your help

We could not serve the needy without the help of the people of southern Nebraska

"The bread which you do not use is the bread of the hungry; the garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of him who is naked; the shoes that you do not wear are the shoes of the one who is bare-foot; the money that you keep locked away is the money of the poor; the acts of charity that you do not perform are so many injustices that you commit."
-St. Basil the Great

I am continuously amazed at the generosity of the people in our diocese. Because of your support we are able to help thousands of people all across southern Nebraska.

Every person who comes to us comes to us with their own background, their own story; sometimes listening to their story is the only act of charity we can perform. But usually, with your help we are able to find a safe place for the mother and her children who are being abused. With donations to our pantry, we are able to feed the family who doesn't know where their next meal is com-

ing from. Because of your generosity, a family's heat stays on in the winter and children get presents at Christmas. Nothing we do is without your help and the grace of God!

Fall is the season of Thanksgiving so I want to thank you all for giving of yourselves so



completely to help God's poor in southern Nebraska. Thank you for giving to Catholic Social Services the bread you do not use so we can feed the hungry. Thank you for giving clothes and shoes to our thrift stores so that

we can clothe the naked. Thank you for the money you give us so we can give it to those in need and thanks for the countless acts to charity that you perform when no one can see you that spread God's love all across Southern Nebraska.

-Curt Krueger
Director of Social Services
Eastern Sector of the Diocese

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The St. Isidore Center

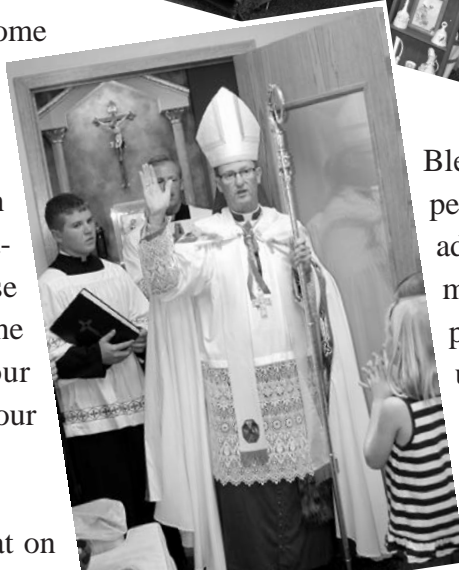
by Fr. Christopher Kubat
Executive Director



As we wind down the collection phase of our first ever capital campaign entitled, *Expanding the Works of Mercy*, Catholic Social Services has done just that - extend and expand the works of charity and mercy to those in need across the 24,000 miles of what is the diocese of Lincoln, which is everything south of the Platte River. The four elements of this effort are the establishment of a downtown social service center in Lincoln, a home named after St. Gianna for women escaping domestic violence and abortion staffed by the Marian Sisters, a center in the western section of the diocese named after St. Isidore the Farmer, and to grow our endowment to help fund our many programs.

I am elated to announce that on September 11, Bishop Conley visited and blessed our St. Isidore Center which is located in Imperial, Nebraska. This has been the realization of a dream which started in 2008. We are grateful to Fr. Bernard Lorenz and the parishioners of St. Patrick's for allowing us to use their old parish hall as a temporary location of our St Isidore Gift & Thrift Store. Now

we have a beautiful new location which will help serve the needs of those who live in the western portion of the diocese. Even though Catholic Social Services has always helped those in need across the diocese, we will be able to do more, in that all profits from the store will be used to assist needy individuals and families with emergency services and grants for counseling who live out west. In other words, this is not just an Imperial project, just as the St. Francis Center in Auburn is not just an Auburn project, but a hub for social and clinical services in the southeastern section of the diocese and so on.



Our new center is located in a convenient location downtown and has an accessible loading area behind the building for dropping off donated furniture, appliances, house ware items, clothing and other sundry items. Included in our new center is expanded retail and sorting spaces, an office for a social service case worker to meet with individuals and families, and a beautiful chapel with the Blessed Sacrament so staff, volunteers, clients and people who come into the store may visit and adore Jesus Christ, our Eucharistic King. We are most grateful to Bishop Conley for giving us his permission to have this newest chapel under the umbrella of Catholic Social Services.

I am most grateful to our benefactors and supporters who have made this newest project a success. Please know that we at Catholic Social Services will keep all of you, your families and intentions in our prayers. St. Isidore, pray for us!

Fr. Christopher Kubat

-Fr. Christopher Kubat
Executive Director
Catholic Social Services

Invitation to Innovation

Dr. Aaron Stratman
Director of Clinical Services

I would like to invite you to view one of the newest Facebook pages! Hopefully, you will “Like” the Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center of Catholic Social Services Facebook page, so you can obtain updates on our activities, hear any special announcements, learn more about psychology, and receive encouraging reflections. I might even be able to link to articles I have written for our mailings (like this one!). I would like to offer this window into our office, so people can see how we operate and know what types of services we provide. Hopefully, you will see how our services are Christ-centered, parish-based, and diocesan-wide.

To that end, it is the time of year to update everyone on the status of our pre-doctoral internship program through the Nebraska Internship Consortium in

Professional Psychology. As you may remember, our internship site begins its internship year in August and ends in July. This year, I am very excited to present our two interns—Matthew Shanahan and Nick Stevens. Matthew has joined us from London, Ontario, Canada via the University of Western Ontario. As the next in our long line of international interns, he speaks not only fluent French but a little Spanish as well. On the other hand, Nick is an all American. He has traveled the world because his father served the country in the Army, and Nick is following in those footsteps by reaching the rank of Captain in the Army reserves. Nick is completing his graduate studies at the Institute for the Psychological Sciences, the first and only graduate program integrating the science of psychology and proven therapeutic methods with the Catholic understanding of the person, marriage, and the family. We are extremely excited that Matthew and Nick decided to contribute to our program. Please pray for their success, and the success of all of our previous and future interns.



CSS Clinical interns Nick Stevens (left), Matthew Shanahan

So, remember to pray for our new interns and to “Like” us on Facebook! Again, thank you for all that you have done for CSS and for the Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center.

BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF THE RESOURCES GIVEN

“Banana boxes! Banana boxes everywhere! What do we do with all those banana boxes!?” Every week our Hastings Catholic Social Services office receives 50 to 60 banana boxes filled with a variety of food items. These items include fruits, vegetables, bread, pastries and dairy products donated to us by the Kearney Food Bank. The Food Bank gathers food items from grocery stores across the region and distributes them to food pantries such as ours to give to folks in need.

The food items we receive are processed by volunteers. They sort, clean, and

organize the fruits, vegetables and dairy products. These items along with breads and pastries are placed on shelves in our lobby for needy families to choose what they can use. Boxes of sorted food items are also shared with other agencies in the area to supplement their programs.

But what about all those banana boxes? At 50 boxes per week, that’s 2,600 banana boxes per year we have to deal with! The boxes are really tough, hard to tear apart and quickly overflow the cardboard dumpster. Fortunately, we found a solution: we

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