

**Commonwealth  
Catholic Charities**

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Commonwealth  
Catholic Charities is  
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
social service organiza-  
tion aiding residents of  
central and southwest-  
ern Virginia. Services are  
provided to all people.



## Hark! 18th Annual Festival of Music A Resounding Success

Your attendance at the 18th Annual Festival of Music created a surging success—nearly 700 guests, patrons, and sponsors helped raise almost \$20,000 to benefit clients of CCC. Your enduring support and gusto created a fun, spirited evening of holiday festivity...and we are so grateful!

Monday, November 30, was a dismally rain-soaked night, but guests happily traipsed through puddles to be rewarded with an enthusiastic concert led by Dr. Patrick Carlin, Director of Music Ministry at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. A private reception featuring the culinary mastery of White House Catering was held for sponsors and patron ticket holders at the VCU Scott House preceding the concert.

For \$35, guests were treated to a glorious arrangement of holiday music. Choices ranged from reflective to rousing and cheerful, with Father Michael Renninger's and Michele Orr's heartfelt duet of "O Holy Night" moving many to tears. A hot chocolate break during intermission gave everyone a chance to socialize and warm their hands before capping the evening off with a holiday sing-a-long, in which attendees were

surrounded by members of the choir and led in choruses of holiday favorites.

Gracious thanks to all of our sponsors and patrons who made the Festival of Music fantastic. Your support guarantees more help to those who need it most, making the holidays much brighter for them!

### **A deep thanks to all the thoughtful sponsors involved:**

Bon Secours Richmond Health System—  
Event Sponsor

Managed Benefits, Inc.  
Spinella, Owings & Shaia  
Berkley Mid-Atlantic  
Mr. & Mrs. Rene Ferran  
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Saint Gertrude High School  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Dibert  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete McElroy  
Smither and Co.

# Chronicle

Did you know your contributions help rebuild people's lives every day? You've given thousands of people in Virginia ho

## North Cross Sixth Graders' Creative Giving

*Kids' cards convey greetings and thanks to parents and volunteers*



Eight sixth graders from North Cross School, a private school in Roanoke County, dedicated hours of imagination and art constructing thoughtful thank you cards for CCC foster parents, volunteers, and service providers. North Cross School chose CCC's Roanoke office for their community service day in September, inventing *over 100 cards* for distribution.

While dreaming up their designs, the kids learned more about CCC programs through role play and thoughtful questions helping them to envision and identify with CCC's clients. Busy workers intent on helping out CCC as much as possible, the students organized supply areas in the office and enjoyed an ice cream party reward with staff at the end of their day. Thank you so much for your help and willingness to pitch in!



## Roanoke Staffers Say Giving is Sweet

*Staff push cart, collect donations*



Your contributions to the United Way bolster funds used to improve people's lives and solve critical problems. As a partner agency, CCC cooperates, collaborates, and collects from United Way to create powerful positive impact on the community. Recently, staff in CCC's Roanoke office organized a fund drive on behalf of United Way of Roanoke Valley. Selling treats resulted in being a fun and profitable way to help others!

Pictured left to right: Lydia Strawbridge, Marge Savage, Debbie Powell

## You're Invited! *CCC Community Service Awards on April 22, 2010*

We're thrilled to honor some of the most selfless people in town, and welcome you to join us! On April 22, CCC will hold the annual Community Service Awards at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Award recipients will have been nominated by peers and selected by a discreet panel, resulting in three shining examples of community volunteerism being recognized: one outstanding individual, one service-minded business, and one amazing CCC volunteer.

Tickets are \$60 and the event is open to the public. You will be treated to a reception of superb food, cocktails, music by the Debo Dabney Trio, plus the gardens in full spring bloom! Awards will be presented beginning at 6 p.m. to all of the chosen winners. A range of sponsorships are also available. Many thanks to **Bon Secours Richmond Health System** for securing the title sponsorship—your generosity will go far in impacting the lives of folks who need a helping hand.

Have someone you'd like to nominate? We're taking nominations now—call us or visit our website for a nomination form. Now is the time to tell us who you know that's really making a difference in an impactful way! Your attendance and support of last year's CSA generated thousands of dollars for CCC clients. Please help us celebrate these unsung heroes on April 22.

Call Morgen at 545-5947 or visit [www.cccofva.org](http://www.cccofva.org) for more information.

# Neighborhood Assistance Program Doubles the Good

*NAP Credits boost agency, community, and you*

Commonwealth Catholic Charities has been awarded Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) Credits, tax credits from the state that boost relationships between the private and public sector. Basically, NAP credits are designed help you help charities like us—agencies dedicated to improving and strengthening the communities here in the Commonwealth of Virginia. When you make a gift, keep in mind you may be eligible for NAP credits—which eases the tax burden on you!

**Individual donations** must be unrestricted gifts of \$500 or more, with only cash or marketable securities allowed for donation. Business contributions must be unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 or more and may be in the form of cash, goods, stock, real estate, professional services, contracting services and the rent or lease of our facilities. The tax credit you or your company receives is equal to 40% of the total gift!

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Example: Bob Smith gives \$1,000.  
Bob receives a NAP Credit for \$400.  
40% of \$1,000=\$400.

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Your hearty support of CCC has already resulted in needing more NAP credits for the agency. Thanks so much for making your gift count.

Do you want to make a gift and qualify for NAP credits? Please contact Hugh Dibert at 804-545-5941 (hugh.dibert@cccofva.org) for detailed information. You can also learn more at [www.dss.virginia.gov/community/nap/index.html](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/community/nap/index.html). Let us help you benefit from this terrific incentive!

## CCC Brings You New Look

Your dedication and concern has enabled CCC to serve our community for 85 years, during which we've created new programs, addressed people's changing needs, and worked to serve more and more citizens in need. Just like a lot of folks looking at an aging face in the mirror, we decided it's time for a face lift! To represent the inclusive nature and the vibrancy of CCC, we'll be introducing a new logo, look, and overall update of the agency.

Consider this just a little cosmetic surgery for us. We're still the same on the inside, and we have you to thank for that. Asking folks in the community about CCC revealed a lot of interesting responses—some thought you had to be Catholic to receive help; many didn't know about our debt management, homeless prevention, or counseling programs; and nearly no one knew how accessible and available CCC is for all people of all ages.

Talented friends and professionals behind the scenes created an eye-catching (some might say eye-popping) new logo for the agency that we're proud to share with you now. Each color represents an individual and special CCC program. When used together, these lively colors convey the energy of both our programs and our clients, conveying that CCC is here for you and because of you. We've changed with the times and will continue doing so to better serve our precious community.

Keep your eyes peeled for CCC around town. We hope you'll keep inviting us to your mailboxes, televisions, newspapers, and neighborhoods. We want to be your Facebook friend, the subject of your Twitter conversations, and in your email inboxes too.

We want to keep talking to you, so let us know how you want to hear from us!



Chief Development Officer Ed Smith and Executive Director Joanne Nattrass proudly display CCC's new logo. Please visit [www.cccofva.org](http://www.cccofva.org) to see our logo in full color.

## Looking to Donate or Volunteer?

Looking for things to do? CCC has ways for you to join in helping thousands of vulnerable people in our community. Your thoughts are important to us too—if you or your workplace, club, church, or friends have other ideas give us a call!

Here are a few low-cost suggestions:



- Crafting gift items with your school, church, or volunteer group
- Creating fun cards for home care and guardianship clients
- Adding one package of diapers to your grocery list each time you shop
- Filing and organizing in our main office
- Arranging a friendly food drive competition (shelf-stable food only)

**Get in touch with us and tell us what you think! 804-285-5900 or [cccofva.org](http://cccofva.org)**



## Crisis in Haiti

Your heartwarming inquiries of how to help earthquake victims in Haiti keep lighting up the phones, overwhelming us with the thoughtfulness of this great community. While CCC does work in Haiti, we're not equipped as a first responder. There are several terrific organizations which are supporting Haitian relief at this critical time, and one we're encouraging people to give through is Catholic Relief Services. CRS is a reputable, responsible expert in delivering aid to devastated areas. Money will be used to bring food, water, and aid to Port-au-Prince as well as support to the outer provinces people are now emigrating to. Thank you for your wonderful offers and outpouring of support. **Catholic Relief Services • [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)**

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The Chronicle is a publication produced for the employees, volunteers, contributors, clients, and friends of Commonwealth Catholic Charities. If you are interested in sharing comments or contributing story ideas, please contact the editor by email at [Morgen.McElroy@cccofva.org](mailto:Morgen.McElroy@cccofva.org). The CCC Annual Report is available online at [www.cccofva.org](http://www.cccofva.org).

## Baby Iggy Comes Home



For those of you who have followed our adoption saga of baby Ignacio, the little guy born last May with Short Bowel Syndrome in need of multiple transplants, we have good news to share: Iggy is now home with his permanent adoptive family beginning a new and promising chapter—in Ohio! He's still waiting for a donor/match for his bowel, liver, and pancreas transplants, but is sharing in joy, love, and discovery with his forever family.

## Winter Resurrects Old Needs, Brings New Ones

Icy-cold weather leaves no choice but to turn the thermostat up, but what if you had no home in the first place? Winter is the worst time for local homeless, with filled-to-bursting shelters and little refuge elsewhere from painfully low temperatures.

CCC's Homeless Point of Entry, which matches area homeless with available shelter and opportunity, has seen a jump in people looking for a safe, warm place to stay. Heartbreakingly, the rise has been in younger folks seeking shelter—some just 18 years old.

Issues that lots of us face, such as job loss, illness, disability, paycheck-to-paycheck living—can be the catalyst pushing folks into the streets. Your gifts translate into the help many people need in beginning to overcome these issues and saving themselves from long-term homelessness or even death.

Your help is never more powerful **than right now** in creating a safe winter season for the individuals and families who come to us in need. Thank you for your kindness and powerful aid in reducing homelessness.

