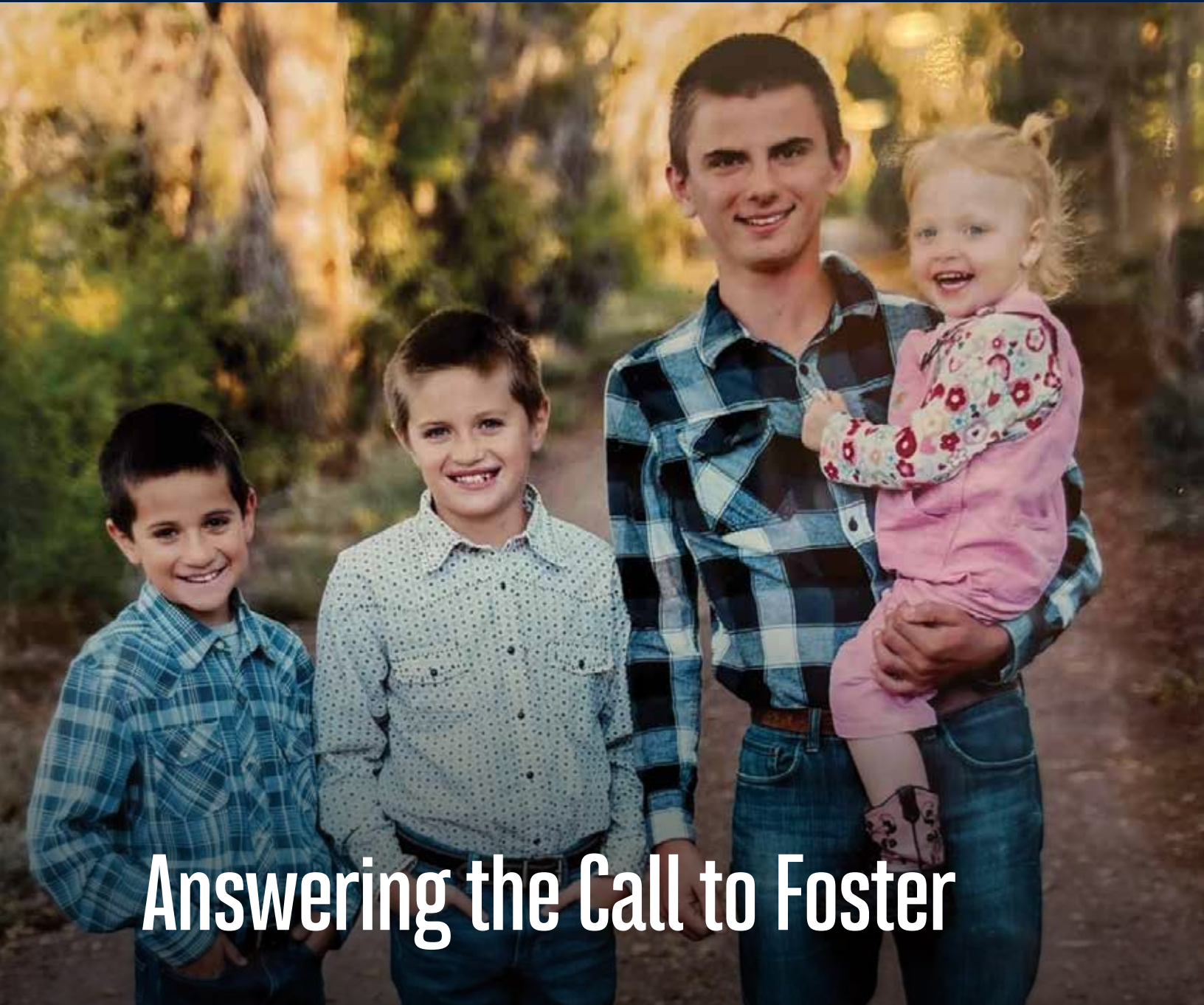




A publication from Catholic Charities Community Services

CONNECT

SUMMER 2026



Answering the Call to Foster

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FY2025 CONSOLIDATED
AUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

REVENUE/INCOME



- FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS
\$38,363,075
- PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS AND FUNDRAISING
\$10,471,615
- PROGRAM SERVICES REVENUE
\$3,701,967
- OTHER REVENUE
\$2,664,104

OPERATING EXPENSES



- PROGRAM AND SERVICE EXPENSES
\$41,121,889
- ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL
\$7,994,535
- FUNDRAISING AND MARKETING EXPENSES
\$2,285,324
- OTHER
\$124,925

**NET SURPLUS/(LOSS)
\$3,674,088**

A MESSAGE FROM

PAUL MULLIGAN



It's always a joy to share the ways that your kindness and generosity are making a difference for Arizonans in need.

This month, there's a lot to celebrate—from our newly-opened Acacia Heights III affordable housing community, to the foster care programs that bring healing and new beginnings to struggling children. Each story of hope shows how we are staying true to our pillars of service: *serving and sheltering our neighbors, strengthening children and families, welcoming refugees and immigrants, and collaborating with our community.*

Of course, we still have much work ahead of us. These next few months will be challenging for our vulnerable brothers and sisters—Arizona's brutal summer heat is especially dangerous for those lacking proper shelter or hydration. But we'll keep moving forward together, remembering these words of St. Paul:

"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up." GALATIANS 6:9

In every season and circumstance, Christ is working to touch the hurting with compassion and healing. It is our honor and privilege to be Jesus' hands and feet to minister to those in greatest need.

You are a part of this sacred mission, too. You are a true partner in the mission to help the most vulnerable permanently improve their lives. We are deeply grateful to you for making this work possible.

Paul S. Mulligan, MTS, MBA
President & CEO

WHEN THE HEAT BECOMES DANGEROUS



Arizona's relentless summer heat has begun.

For hundreds of vulnerable neighbors across Central and Northern Arizona, there is no escaping the deadly impact.

As temperatures rise throughout the state, Catholic Charities program staff are preparing to help our community's most vulnerable.

For those who live without shelter or the support of loved ones, the heat isn't just uncomfortable, it's dangerous. It's deadly.

Danielle experienced this reality firsthand. Battling addiction and living on the streets in Bullhead City, she turned to Catholic Charities for help. Our team welcomed her into the Legacy Foundation Christine Stamper Center for Help and Hope, helping her to get shelter from the summer heat and find work and housing.

Danielle's story is just one of many.

This summer, our staff will encounter hundreds more who need that same lifesaving support—cold water, shelter, and the care that makes recovery possible.

Luke Chapter 10, tells us that the Good Samaritan took the wounded man to shelter, helped him heal and rest.

This summer, your support of Catholic Charities has that same impact in the lives of those we serve. Your gifts make it possible for people like Danielle to escape the summer heat and get back on their feet.

Thank you!

Did you know that Catholic Charities' programs in Northern Arizona have Amazon wish lists available?

Use the QR codes to the right to make an immediate impact today with your gift of toiletries, snacks, and weather gear.

**SUPPORT PATH
IN NORTHERN
ARIZONA:**



**SUPPORT THE
BULLHEAD CITY
SHELTER:**





Answering the Call to Foster

When Jeff and Wendy became licensed foster parents in 2020, they thought they had a plan for this next season of life.

After raising five children and becoming empty nesters, they imagined quieter days ahead—maybe even some travel. But God had something different in mind.

"We thought things were going to go differently," Wendy shared. "But you know how they say—man plans, and God laughs."

Like many foster families, Jeff and Wendy didn't take this journey lightly. The licensing process required time, vulnerability, and commitment.

"There are a lot of steps," Wendy explained. "You have to share a lot of your life with your licensing agent."

Still, they wanted to partner with the right organization.

"We picked Catholic Charities because you guys are Christian, and we wanted to go with somebody that had God in their lives—and that turned out to be a really wise choice."

“

So many things are out of your control—you have to lean into prayer.”

Jeff and Wendy found more than just a licensing agency—they found support, guidance, and relationships they could rely on.

“I love the ladies that I work with. Donna and Jodi are amazing ... we’ve just always had really good experiences with them,” Wendy said. “I feel like I could call Donna and Jodi my friends.”

That support made a difference in both everyday moments and challenging seasons.

“You need a licensing agent that is willing to go the extra mile when you really need it,” she shared. “They help you out when you need something, or they give you answers to help you get what you need.”

At first, Jeff and Wendy set clear boundaries. They planned to foster teenage boys and didn’t intend to adopt. But love has a way of rewriting expectations.

When one of their teenage placements asked if his younger brothers could come live with them too, Jeff and Wendy faced a choice: stick to the plan or let it grow into something new. Their decision to say yes led to adoption—and to a growing family they never could have imagined.

Over time, Jeff and Wendy adopted four children through foster care. Today, their home is full again—busy, loud, and lively.

“The oldest is 15, and the youngest turns three in August,” Wendy shared.

Their story didn’t stop there. When a family crisis arose, they opened their home again—this time to care for their grandchildren.

Parenting the second time around has brought a new perspective shaped by faith, experience, and grace.

“You don’t sweat the small stuff as much,” Wendy said. “You let them wear the dress, you let them eat the cake ... things you wouldn’t have done before.”

Fostering, she explains, is both challenging and deeply rewarding. “It’s exceedingly challenging at times but also a huge blessing at other times,” she said. “You learn so many things from the kids.”

Through every season, their reliance on faith has helped guide them through uncertainty, growth, and the unexpected turns of foster care.

“We are praying as a family a lot more,” Wendy shared. “So many things are out of your control—you have to lean into prayer.”

What started as a quiet season of life has become something beautifully full.

Full of children.
Full of purpose.
Full of faith.

And full of “yes” moments that changed everything.

Jeff and Wendy’s story is a reminder that foster care isn’t about having a perfect plan—it’s about being willing to take the next step, even when it leads somewhere unexpected.

More Than a Place to Live:

How Resident Services Helps Families Thrive in Catholic Charities' Housing

A safe, stable home can change everything—but for many families and individuals, housing alone doesn't address the full picture. That's where Resident Services comes in. This dedicated team ensures that residents don't just have a place to live—they have the support and resources they need to thrive.

"We're a cross between social services and community development," said Rebecca Zeimet, Resident Services Program Manager. "We support these families in any way we can."

While housing provides stability, many residents are still navigating financial challenges, health concerns, or barriers to employment. Resident Services walks alongside them, offering support that strengthens the entire household.

Importantly, these services are always voluntary.

"We're there if they need us, but participation isn't required" she explained. "It's about building relationships, so when something comes up, they feel comfortable coming to us."

"It can be as simple as helping someone send a photo to their grandkids or as complex as helping them apply for benefits like SNAP," Zeimet said. "Whatever their need is, we either help fill it or find someone who can."

This personalized, responsive approach ensures residents are never navigating challenges alone.

Across Catholic Charities' housing communities, programming generally falls into four core areas:

- 1. Food Access and Security** through on-site pantries and regular distributions
- 2. Youth and After-School Programming** so kids have a safe place to go after school
- 3. Community-Building Events** to foster a sense of belonging and connection within each community
- 4. Personalized Resident Support** that meets the unique needs of each resident

Within each community, Resident Services adapts as needed to expand opportunities.

"We bring in partners who are experts in different areas—whether it's financial literacy, health education, or parenting classes—so residents can get the support they need right where they live," Zeimet said.

This brings resources directly into housing communities, removing barriers and increasing access.

Resident Services is what transforms housing into community—and community into opportunity.

Because at Catholic Charities, we believe everyone deserves not just a place to live, but a place to belong and the support to thrive there.



A Life of SERVICE



After more than three decades of service, Catherine “Cathy” Peterson, Executive Director of the Northern Arizona region and Vice President of Northern Arizona Program Operations for Catholic Charities, is preparing to retire—leaving behind not just programs and buildings, but a legacy that will continue.

For Cathy, the milestone is less about recognition and more about gratitude. Reflecting on her time with Catholic Charities, she describes it simply as “an honor to serve.”

Cathy began 35 years ago as a case manager. Over time, her path took her across Northern and Central Arizona, serving in roles that ranged from counselor to regional director to vice president. Her career reflects a deep commitment to the mission.

Catholic Charities President and CEO Paul Mulligan describes her as someone who embodies the ideal of a servant leader—someone who not only fulfills the responsibilities of the role but goes beyond them to bring heart and purpose into the work.



During Cathy's tenure, Catholic Charities expanded significantly across Northern Arizona, growing in both scope and impact. New housing initiatives, re-entry programs, and the continued growth of programs like North Star Youth Partnership all took shape under her leadership.

She played a central role in bringing the vision for The Legacy Foundation Christine Stamper Center for Help & Hope to life in Bullhead City. Her commitment went beyond strategy—she relocated to the area to fully invest in the work and the community. Through those efforts, the program vision became a fully operational shelter serving hundreds of individuals daily.

Cathy's 35-year career is not defined by a single accomplishment but by a lifetime of service.

“I think a measure of society is how we treat the most vulnerable,” she said.

As Paul noted, Cathy's legacy will continue through the people she has developed—leaders who carry forward her values, approach, and commitment to service.

Her impact can be seen in the programs that continue to serve individuals and families across Northern Arizona. Through the lives she has touched and the mission she has advanced, Cathy's legacy will continue well beyond her years of service.

Thank you Cathy!

SCAN TO READ
MORE ABOUT
CATHY:



Make Room in Your Heart, Your Home, and Your Life



Thousands of children in the foster care system across Arizona are waiting for a safe place to call home. Right now, there is a critical shortage of foster families, especially those willing to keep siblings together, welcome teenagers, or care for children with special needs.

Foster care isn't just temporary housing—it's a life-changing opportunity to provide hope during a child's most vulnerable time. Whether you're interested in fostering, adoption, respite care, or mentorship, Catholic Charities is here to guide you through every step of the licensing process.

Ways to Get Involved:

- Become a licensed foster parent
- Provide respite care for current foster families
- Explore adoption opportunities
- Offer mentorship and support

These children need you. Will you make room in your life for a child who desperately needs stability, love, and a chance at a brighter future?

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN
MORE AND GET STARTED OR
CALL 602-943-3843:



"Even though it's hard, the joy that it brings has always been worth it to us. Even when we think our kids have had enough, they still want to bring more kids in." — FOSTER MOM, NATALIE RICE

Arizona Foster Care by the Numbers

OVER 7,000
CHILDREN IN
DCS CARE

2,129
CHILDREN PLACED
IN LICENSED
FOSTER HOMES

4,986 KIDS
IN UNLICENSED
CARE OR
CONGREGATE
GROUP HOMES

63 CATHOLIC
CHARITIES FOSTER
FAMILIES HAVE
124 AVAILABLE
BEDS FOR YOUTH

Numbers as of April 2026



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CatholicCharitiesAZ.org