Catholic Charities Agencies List Services To Rochester Community

Chest Agencies Feature Aid To Sick, Needy, Young, Aged

The nine Catholic agencies participating in the Rochester Community Chest provided multiple and varied services for thousands of area residents during the past year, according to the annual report of Monsignor Gerald C. Lambert, director of Rochester Catholic Charities.

The report covering the period from March 31, 1951, to March 31, 1952, presents the following statistics:

St. Ann's Home for the Aged: gave 70,803 days' care to 228 different aged men and women.

St. Joseph's Villa: gave 41,810 days' care to 161 homeless, dependent and neglected children.

St. Mary's Hospital: gave 101,925 days' care to 12,882 adult patients, 13,216 days' care to 2,795 babies; ward days' care, 16,903; 2,058 patients made 17,110 visits to Out-Patient clinics; 7,227 visits to Emergency Department.

Charles Settlement House: offered neighborhood recreation, instruction, group activities to 860 men, women and children with a total attendance of 29,067.

Columbus Youth Association, Rochester: offered cultural, educational, social, religious, health and recreational services to 4,387 men, women, boys and girls.

Columbus Youth Association, East Rochester: provided educational, recreational and social services to 1,050 children and 1,500 adults.

Genesee Settlement House: the Genesee Settlement House offered the use of facilities on a family basis to 1,250 men, women and children. It offered counseling service, case work service and individual requests for miscellaneous services. Day camp served 250 boys and girls aged 4-12 years for six weeks. Overnight camp served 75 boys and girls fore one week.

St. Elizabeth Guild House: gave 9,964 days' care to 60 different girls; 14,378 meals served.

Catholic Family Center: 1,963 families requested some form of counsel or assistance; 581 children were given care away from their own homes; including 80,144 days' care in certified boarding homes; 125 children were supervised in adoption homes; 46 new adoption placements were made; 58 adoptions were completed; did case work service for children in St. Joseph's Villa, and for their families; studied 84 new applications to St. Ann's Home for the Aged.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester Financial Report

April 1, 1951 — March 31, 1952

	Expenditures 1951 - 1952	Receipts Other than Community Chest	Receipts Rochester Community Chest
Catholic Family Center	$343,602.73	$202,439.13	$138,844.19
St. Ann's Home for the Aged	201,014.56	178,129.48	21,374.74
St. Elizabeth Guild House	21,983.39	16,770.59	5,309.40
St. Joseph's Villa	128,430.91	91,791.39	36,738.18
Charles Settlement House	21,372.28	1,857.73	19,687.15
Columbus Youth Assn.—Rochester	64,951.83	29,043.45	35,847.72
Columbus Youth Assn.—E. Rochester	18,410.51	2,267.69	14,483.00
Genesee Settlement House	29,940.82	3,203.05	27,794.21
St. Mary's Hospital	2,220,612.39	2,226,665.71	5,000.00
	3,050,319.42	2,752,168.22	305,078.89

CYA Campaign Enrolls 4,164

Operation of Columbus Youth Association's physical department furnishes character building and physical betterment for more than 1,000 boys and girls.

The CYA, both in Rochester and in East Rochester is a participating agency of the Community Chest.

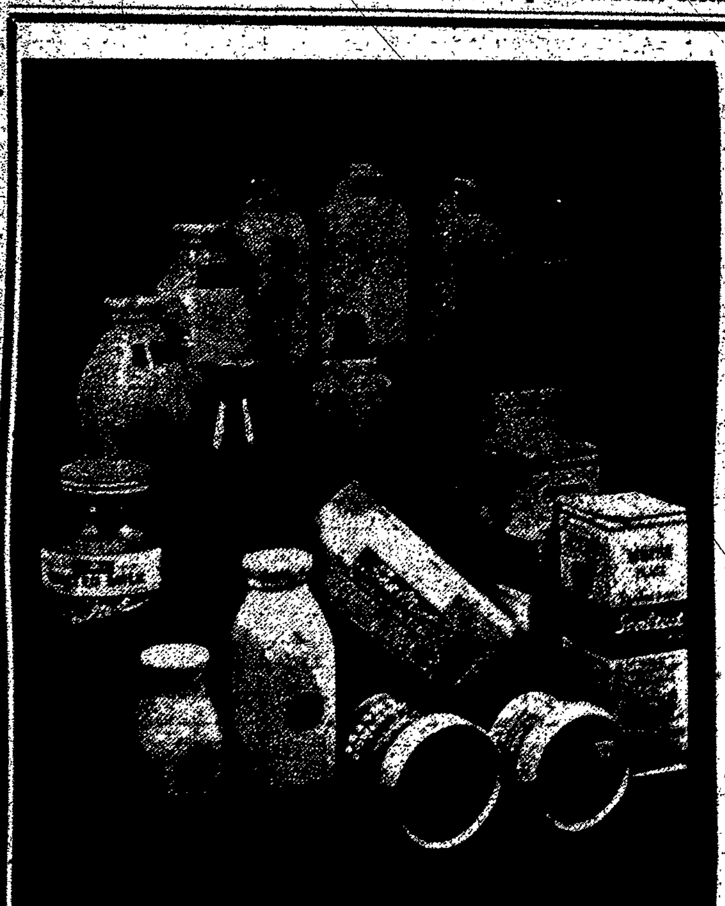
In the 20th annual membership campaign in October, the citizens committee comprising men and women of the various faiths in Rochester turned in 1,206 memberships for boys and girls under the direction of Paul A. McGuire.

The CYA campaign was successful with 4,164 memberships secured by more than 200 workers. The men's division led by John W. Gabel, reported 1,359 members but the women's division directed by Mrs. Morgan J. Smith defeated them by turning in 1,599 members.

CATHOLIC FAMILY CENTER

50 Chestnut Street

Gives counseling and continued case work service to Catholic families and individuals, having problems which affect the stability of the home. This includes marital counseling, work with adolescents, unmarried mothers and displaced persons. Cooperates with parochial and public schools referring children who have behavior or other problems requiring casework. Receives and studies applications for admission to St. Joseph's Villa and St. Ann's Home for the Aged, gives casework service to these institutions, and on request of the local courts to institutions outside of Rochester, serving Catholic children and adolescents. The agency also places children in certified boarding homes and in approved adoption homes. Catholic Family Center is a casework agency of the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester.



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1952 COMMUNITY CHEST

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Social Workers Serve Those Who Need Help

Old ideas die hard. Perhaps you yourself still think that the activity of social workers is only confined to clumping around our city's more deprived sections "giving out relief." Of course the granting of financial aid is one type of social work, but there are many other types of social work about which the public, as yet, appear to understand little.

What has happened, it seems, is that most of us think of the word "poor" in its narrowest meaning. When we were enjoined that the poor would always be with us, within the limits of that word was also included the puzzled, troubled, burdened folk who need the help of others in order to carry on the life orbits in which their Creator placed them.

The profession of social work is dedicated to the rendering of service to those people who seek aid toward a solution of problems which they believe or recognize that they cannot bear alone. And in this mid-twentieth century there is indeed a complexity of dilemmas facing human beings.

It has never been the aim or ambition of social work to prescribe for our generation. Social work is usually concerned with work with the individual or family seeking some aid in a problem of living.

Cross Section

It is simpler, though to present a little cross section of humanity as the social worker sees it in day-to-day working situations; not the bizarre or the remote, just the kind of questions people have as they approach the office doors of Rochester Catholic Family Center where family and child care problems receive attention:

There was the Bates family, for instance. They were concerned with bringing up their three children and the agency had helped them in the early years of rearing them. The other day young Mrs. Bates came to the office sorely tried.

Mr. Bates had left his family and wife to live again more freely, without responsibility. The father still came to visit his children, and did offer financial support to his family, but things were bleak at the Bates house.

Family Center

Mrs. Bates, convinced that her husband might still want to go on making a home with her, asked Catholic Family Center to work with Mr. Bates to help him see what needed to be done, and in what direction the best path might lie, both for him and the whole family.

Mr. Hanes had brought up his ten children in strict and severe discipline; he wanted none of this juvenile delinquency among his brood. Yet despite this righteous attitude, one of his young sons did get into a stealing situation.

REV. ARTHUR E. RATIGAN is the director of the Catholic Family Center, a division of the Rochester Catholic Charities, which provides family and child care services.

The boy went into Children's Court on the stealing charge and the Court recommended that Catholic Family Center help the father see that some of his own rules set down for his children needed changing.

The agency was successful in this, and Mr. Hanes, probably for one of the first times in his life, saw that there were two sides to a question. In addition, his son remained out of difficulty.

Children's Court

Later, however, one of the Hanes girls became a member of a teen-age group which the community recognized as a threat to her safety. Mr. Hanes went back to Children's Court to see what needed to be done. Again the Court thought that Catholic Family Center should give counselling service to this young girl. Miss Hanes comes to the office regularly now, with no complications, so far.

Of course requests for financial aid are not unheard of, just because we happen to be in the midst of prosperity. The other day, an expectant mother of three other children came to our office seeking help for herself and children, since she had only recently come to our city and her husband had become mentally ill, necessitating hospital care.

War Veteran

Since the young father in question had been an honorably discharged war veteran, the agency was able to direct the mother, and to arrange for an interview at the proper social agency devoted solely to aiding veterans and their families.

Sometimes people come to a social agency puzzled about a problem; they know they need some help but they are uncertain about what to ask for.

Take Mr. Ames. He and his wife had four children under fifteen years of age. Both parents had been separated for some time and Mr. Ames' aged mother had given care to the children. It was hard. Children are active, and a lot of times didn't understand when Grandma had days of not feeling well. But things somehow got taken care of — that is until Grandma died, quite suddenly, leaving the four Ames Youngsters without much of an outlook.

Mr. Ames was dismayed. He knew he needed the help of someone else, so when one of his friends at work suggested that he accompany him to Catholic Family Center, he came readily. "Tell me what I should do," he said.

Foster Home

To the practiced eye of a trained social worker it appeared that since there were no other relatives able to make a home for the children, and since Mrs. Ames had left this part of the country, only foster home placement remained as a possibility for the Ameses.

After a careful study of the children themselves, after interpretation to Mr. Ames about the way foster care worked, the Ames children again found themselves in the warmth and security of a home where Dad could visit and where growth could continue.

One of the gravest problems of our day is the number of confused, hurt and bewildered young adolescents in our midst. It seems to point up for certain the exact degree of our generations' deep tension.

Maybe Anna was a symbol of this, in a way. She was seventeen, a bright high school girl; her friends liked her, she was a good school citizen. But at home she was just a nobody. Her parents had never shown any love for Anna, did not care whether she stayed out at night or not.

Sometime, she just stayed out to see if they would become upset. But they didn't even know if she were in or out. Anna's whole personality became affected by this fatally rejection; she didn't care if she came to school or not and when her father recently died, she said she never felt she ever knew him.

School Principal

Finally Anna's high school principal decided something must be done for the girl, so he made an appointment for Anna to come to Catholic Family Center. She told of wanting to live away from her cold family, she didn't know just where, just away.

Our agency will help Anna in every way possible to lighten some of this girl's problems. With the help of Anna's mother, a plan will be worked out for Anna in the kind of setting in which she can gain in balance and maturity.

There are always those folk who feel they are quite capable of solving any and every one of their problems. This shows up when you look at Maudey Benton. She's cute, loves pretty clothes. But her parents have three other younger children, so Maudey only gets her share — and it takes two parents working to provide even a share.

This didn't stop Maudey, though; she and another girl went out on a shoplifting spree which ended in disaster. They were apprehended by a policewoman and Maudey's parents were notified. It was her first offense, so, in a gesture of mercy, it was decided to refer Maudey to Catholic Family Center in order to prevent any repetition of the offense.

The policewoman talked over the advantage of this plan, rather than making Maudey a girl with a record. The Bentons parents thought this a fine opportunity, and Catholic Family Center attempted then to reach the parents in order to begin working with Maudey. The parents were not available, did not answer agency's letters and just displayed general indifference to Maudey's future.

Social Agencies

Our agency will call in another agency with the authority to force action from the parents in order to secure proper supervision and guidance for Maudey and her three young brothers as well.

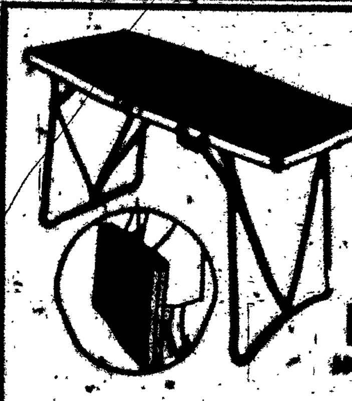
Often social agencies work closely with other agencies in other cities. They perform work for other agencies when requested to, obtain information for agencies in other cities regarding people who formerly lived in this community.

Catholic Family Center Services To Families

April 1, 1951 — April 1, 1952

NEW APPLICATIONS

Unemployment or Insufficient Income			153
Working mothers			37
Illness or disability			86
Request for Homemakers			38
Family maladjustments			247
Husband and wife	139		
Parent-child relationships	108		
Individual maladjustment			189
Adults	24		
Adolescents	40		
Unwed mothers	96		
Alcoholics	12		
Maladjusted children	17		
Death of spouse			5
Old Age			91
Housing			10
Transients			26
Out of town requests for investigations			15
Displaced Persons or Refugees			30
Unclassified			11
TOTAL NEW APPLICATIONS			938
Cases referred to other agencies		92	
Applications voluntarily withdrawn		69	
			161
TOTAL NEW APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED			777
FAMILIES RECEIVING SERVICE, APR. 1, 1951			699
TOTAL FAMILIES SERVED			1476



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