



SISTER BETSY VAN DEUSEN, CSJ
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MAUREEN PETRIE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 2024

Dear Friends,

I am reaching out asking you to support Catholic Charities of Herkimer County. This Season of Giving brings joy for most of us but for many in our community it is a difficult time, socially, emotionally and financially.

Although our agency provides assistance to all individuals with varying needs, our Domestic Violence Program assists those that are being harmed by those that should be offering comfort and support. There is no specific "season" for domestic violence, it thrives quietly in our communities, affecting our neighbors, daughters, mothers, and sons. Domestic Violence does not discriminate. It has an impact on all of us. This holiday season we can offer the gift of hope, healing and understanding. We not only provide immediate aid, we can foster a sense of community and solidarity, reminding survivors that they are not alone in their struggles. The best way to understand how your donation helps a survivor of domestic violence is to share a letter we received from one.

In her own words...

"This letter is to share a little bit about my deepest gratitude and how Catholic Charities DVP (Domestic Violence Program) has helped me along the way. First off, I would like to thank the program and staff who help to run it. I would also like to thank all the patrons who help to support this non-profit agency. I would also like to give my thanks to the community for all the wonderful donations and support. God has also played a major role in the great deal of changes that my children and I have encountered these last few months. Through prayer and faith, I have been tremendously blessed. The DVP has been there for my family and I through all the hard steps I've had to face during my rough time. I would like to add that through the donations of clothing and household items, our needs have been met. For the tremendous support of ALL the staff, our food needs, transportation needs, and most importantly emotional support needs have all been met. Thank you to everyone, I will forever be grateful."

Our 27th Annual Sister Rachel Campaign is now underway. All dollars raised by this effort stay in Herkimer County! Your donation goes directly to support over 24 local programs that are the answer for people trying to live in difficult situations.

Your generosity and support are sincerely appreciated.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season!

Maureen Petrie

Maureen Petrie, Executive Director

Enclosures: Service Guide, remittance form & envelop for your convenience.