

Dup.

FIRST REPORT



Lawrence Catholic Charities Centre



JANUARY 1—OCTOBER 1
1919

OFFICE HOURS-

9 to 10 A. M.

3 to 5 P. M.

TEL. 173

Catholic Charities

...Centre...



ROOMS 33 GLEASON BUILDING,
351-353 ESSEX STREET, LAWRENCE, MASS.

OFFICERS

Spiritual Director, Rev. James T. O'Reilly, O. S. A.
President, James H. Bride
1st Vice-President, T. P. Donohue
2nd Vice-President, Mrs. M. J. Mahoney
Secretary, Mrs. P. O'Malley
Treasurer, P. J. McLoughlin

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

Ancient Order of Hibernians. Div. 1, Div. 6, Div. 15.
Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H. Div. 1, Div. 8, Div. 20, Div. 21.
Aventine Club.
Catholic Mutual Benefit Society.
Catholic Order of Foresters. Court St. Patrick.
Holy Name Societies. (Seven).
Knights of Columbus. Andover Council, Lawrence Council.
Ladies' Father Mathew Society,
Mass. Catholic Order of Foresters. Court St. Monica.
Orphans Friends' Society.
St. Clare Branch, League of Catholic Women.
St. Mary's Alumnae Association.
St. Patrick's Charitable Aid.

DECEMBER, 1919.

REPORT OF LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENTRE.

ORIGIN

Since the Boston Diocese came under the administration of His Eminence Cardinal O'Connell it has been his constant purpose that Catholic interests should be brought forward in a two fold manner. In the first place no effort has been spared to perfect the administrative side of these institutions contributing special service to the community, and secondly, there has been a persistent movement in the direction of uniting groups for the study of social conditions and the expression in civic terms of Catholic ideals.

Profiting by the vision, and dominated by the purpose of such a leader, the Boston Catholic Charitable Bureau was one of the most significant undertakings of the first years of our Beloved Cardinal's administration. Having reached a place where the central office could not function to advantage for the diocese as a whole, it became a logical process to foster the formation of branch offices as local demand determined their necessity.

Up to the present time seven other cities, Brockton, Cambridge, Haverhill, Lowell, Lynn, Salem, and Somerville have such agencies, in each case either the development of a local organization to the point of taking over the social problems in cooperation with the Charitable Bureau, or, as the case of Lawrence, the formation of an agency distinctly for that purpose.

AIM

The purpose of the local center is to maintain a branch of the Charitable Bureau, a local charity registry for Catholic cases, to support a trained visitor in charge of the office who shall visit and advise in needy cases, and be the representa-

REPORT OF LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENTRE.

tive of this society in safeguarding the interests of neglected and dependent children and those brought before the court, or boarding in private homes or institutions.

ORGANIZATION

As the social and economic life of our city extends beyond its geographical borders, the interests of our Catholic citizens in neighboring suburbs have been bound together in the Federation of Catholic societies. When our Diocesan Director of Charities, Reverend M. J. Scanlan, realized the necessity of a local branch it was through the Federation that the new office was called into existence.

Representatives of the Catholic societies meeting under the auspices of the Federation elected the officers of the Center. This group of officers was augmented by the addition of members delegates representing the supporting societies. These delegates are elected to serve for a term of three months. Each contributing society has been represented by one or more delegates to the Board of Directors. The financial support of the Center has come in the beginning from the societies giving their assistance in establishing the work of the new office.

RELATION TO OTHER SOCIETIES

In organization the Center owes much of the efficiency of interested service, the spirit of understanding, and practical cooperation shown by the Board of Directors to the fact that many of them have long been familiar with Federation work.

In making its place in the community as a Catholic agency of service we owe much of the appreciation that has

REPORT OF LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENTRE.

rewarded our efforts to the St. Clare Branch, League of Catholic Women, an organization which has at different times undertaken so many activities for social and civic betterment.

In cooperating with other existing societies, recognition of their valuable contribution to Catholic interests has been called forth. The work of the Orphans' Friends Society, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Patrick's Charitable Aid, has been a constant reminder of the deep and earnest good-will which prove a sure foundation of growth for an organization embodying the spirit of the Center.

It is a splendid tribute to the fraternal organizations such as the K. of C., the A. O. H. and L. A. A. O. H. that burdened as they have been with the constant appeals for help they came forward readily with such generous support for a call that was the last of so many.

RESULTS

It was in January, 1919, that the local Center was placed in charge of a worker whose formulated report for a period of nine months appears below.

During that time the appeals coming to the Center have called mostly for visits of advice, investigation, and cooperation of other agencies, public or private. In accordance with the policy of the office permanent relief work is not a feature of the service. Cases calling for extended financial aid are referred to existing organizations.

Greater than the limited accomplishments with which we may credit ourselves has been the benefit coming to Catholics in the knowledge of the manner and extent to which our services may be united for making Catholic sentiment felt

REPORT OF LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENTRE.

in the community, and for forwarding Catholic ideals in public service. Too wide an appeal can not be made to our Catholic supporters to keep up the interest awakened, and to add to the numbers of those eager to aid.

PROGRAM

The main efforts of the Center must be directed to establishing its place in the community, as an agency of service in meeting the appeals of the public and individual needs.

The Center must work through the various Catholic agencies, aiming to develop special interest or service in the case of each organization, and building up the resources of separate agencies rather than attempting to take on special work if any of the societies now in existence are at all equal to undertaking such lines.

An unlimited amount of good can come from closer cooperation between the members of the organizations supporting Center work. There is opportunity for some new activity in many parishes, and parishes as well as Catholic interests of the community may best be served by active groups of workers in close touch with the needs of the Center which reflect the conditions around us.

HARRIET M. O'MALLEY,
Retiring Sec.

REPORT OF LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENTRE.

ANNUAL REPORT, JAN. 1919, OCT. 1919.

Number of families visited.....	93
Number visits to families.....	318
Children places in private homes.....	32
free, on trial for adoption.....	2
self-supported	2
provided for	28
Cases placed in institutions.....	18
Visits to children in private homes.....	177
Infants visited by Child Welfare Nurses.....	6
Guardianship assumed	1
Cases referred by non-Catholic agencies.....	27
Medical services secured.....	11
Employment secured	
Temporary	20
Permanent	14
Investigations made for other agencies.....	11
Baptism of infants	2
Attendance at Juvenile Court.....	23
B " " " Auxiliary visitor	19
Cases referred by public agencies.....	65
Legal aid secured.....	4

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Div. 1.....	\$50.00
Ancient Order of Hibernians, Div. 6.....	50.00
Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H., Div. 1.....	20.00
Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H., Div. 8.....	25.00
Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H., Div. 20.....	50.00

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Aventine Club	21.00
Knights of Columbus, Andover Council.....	50.00
Knights of Columbus, Lawrence Council.....	100.00
League of Catholic Women, St. Clare Branch.....	50.00
St. Mary's Alumnae Association.....	50.00
St. Patrick's Charitable Aid Society.....	50.00
St. Anne's Parish.....	100.00
St. Laurence's Parish	150.00
St. Mary's Parish	200.00
Friend	100.00
Friend	100.00
Friend	100.00
For special purposes	64.45
For board of children	1079.50
	\$2409.95

Paid for Expense of Office.

Salary	\$684.00
Rent	129.60
Office supplies and postage.....	90.10
Telephone	54.55
Light	8.11
Transportation	29.75
Paid for relief work:	
Clothing	26.35
Shoes	53.19
Rent, food, medicine	61.06
Paid for board of children	1148.00
Balance on hand	125.24
	\$2409.95

PATRICK J. McLOUGHLIN.
Treasurer.

OFFICERS FOR 1920

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President, James H. Bride
1st Vice-President, T. P. Donohue
2nd Vice-President, Mrs. M. J. Mahoney
Secretary, Ellen T. Holland
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