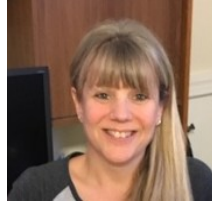


March 2025 Newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY



Kelly



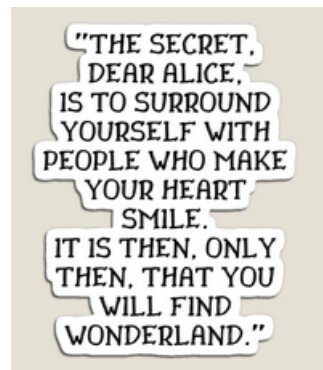
Our world is beginning to feel more and more like we have fallen down the rabbit hole in “Alice in Wonderland”. Things are getting “*Curiouser and Curiouser*”. In the story, Alice ultimately learns a lot about her self during all her strange encounters in this new world.

I know that I have been experiencing this same feeling during the last several months. Things are definitely not business as usual. It will remain to be seen what any of us will learn about ourselves in the coming months. I pray it is a renewed sense of hope and a growth of our capacity for kindness and compassion for our neighbors.

Much like Alice, we must deal with each new challenge that we face from day to day. We will encounter things that seem almost fantastical to what we are used to experiencing in this new strange and often unpredictable world. The only thing we can control is who we choose to surround ourselves; ones who are committed to helping our neighbors. At CPO we can find this in abundance — those who are committed to making a difference. If we focus on being positive and carrying out loving acts, we can make a difference in our world. Things may still seem chaotic, but we can be centered and positive, which will create ripples. If enough people focus on what they can do individually, we may be capable of major changes in this new world together!

Take Care and God Bless!

Kelly



C.S.Lewis

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Volunteer Coordinator
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Phone: 919-873-0245 x2370
Text: 919-847-1466

2013 Raleigh Blvd, Raleigh NC 27604
919-873-0245
cporaleigh.org

Hours of Operation:
Mon/Wed/Thurs/Friday & Saturday
9 am—12pm

We are now open ALL Saturdays
for CPO food distribution
CPO is open from 9 am—12pm

Looking to volunteer:

We are now using **Point** software for people to volunteer at CPO.


To sign up go to: dash.pointapp.org

Create username and password

Choose **Catholic Charities Raleigh** for the organization

If you need help in signing up contact our Volunteer Coordinator Darcy Hull (call or text) 919-847-1466 or email her at CPOvol.Coordinator@ccharitiesdor.org

March 2025 Newsletter

**Catholic Parish Outreach
Food Pantry**
A Program of Catholic Charities
Providing Help – Creating Hope – Serving All

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY



Let's pig out to feed more families!

*Take a break to enjoy good food,
friendly company, and learn how CPO
provides help and creates hope
for our neighbors in need!*

**LIVE MUSIC - BAKE SALE
RAFFLE - INDOOR SEATING**

**\$12 PRE-ORDER
\$15 PLATE ON SITE
BEEF HOT DOGS TOO!**



More info & sponsorship opportunities available at:
CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/CPO-Pig-Pickin



OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, you will receive tickets for meal plates (# dependent on sponsorship level) for the event, and have the opportunity to highlight your business or honor someone special to you! All sponsors will be listed on the website and at the event!

CALLING ALL BAKERS FOR A DELICIOUS PART OF OUR FUNDRAISING!



CPO is in need of homemade baked goods for our baked good sale so if you are a baker, have a specialty bakery item/ dessert recipe, and are interested — we would love to have your favorite as a contribution!

We ask that items be boxed and delivered to CPO no later than Friday, April 25th, before 12:00 pm.

**Questions or want to sign up as a contributor? Please contact Darcy Hull at 919-873-0245 x2370
Or E-mail: CPOvol.Coordinator@ccharitiesdor.org**

March 2025 Newsletter



Catholic Parish Outreach
Food Pantry

A Program of Catholic Charities

Providing Help – Creating Hope – Serving All

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

Feedback from a client from "CPO Samaritans" Home Delivery

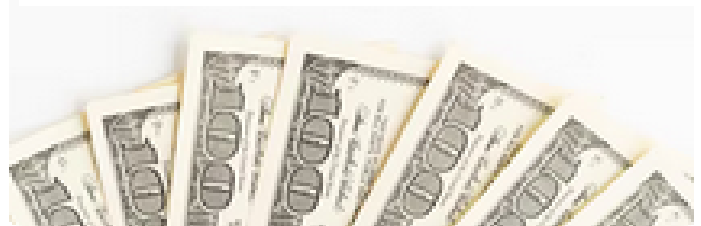
"Thank you so much for your patience with me being sick and generosity to deliver. This is more life saving than you can even imagine at the moment. Thank you."

We need our CPO family more than ever....

Even with 2 snow days in February we were approx. 15% over the numbers we served last year in February 2024!

	Feb-24	Feb-25	% Inc
Families	2,277	2,587	14%
People	8,864	10,344	16%

	Jul-Feb FY 24	Jul-Feb FY 25	% Inc
Families	17,164.00	21,184	23%
People	66,829.00	83,669	25%



VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) will once again be providing help with taxes:



Appointment Schedule

Saturdays

February 1, 2025 – April 12, 2025

Appointments available 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: 2013 Raleigh Blvd., Raleigh NC 27604



Scheduling an Appointment

1. Call Center is open M-F 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. / 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
2. Call: (919) 286 – 1822 or Visit the Online Website
3. Request the Raleigh Location

Online Appointment Scheduler

Visit www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/cpo-programs/ then chose the "VITA Tax Assistance" tab for details

For questions, please email: HispanicFamilyCenterVITA@gmail.com

March 2025 Newsletter



Catholic Parish Outreach
Food Pantry

A Program of Catholic Charities

Providing Help – Creating Hope – Serving All

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH LAUNCHES FIRST-EVER MOBILE FOOD PANTRY TO SERVE NEIGHBORS IN NEED

In an effort to make food assistance more accessible to families in need, Catholic Parish outreach Food Pantry (CPO), a program of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh has launched its first-ever mobile food pantry. The inaugural event took place on February 11, 2025, at Kingsborough Estates, where CPO, in partnership with St. Joseph Catholic Church and Centro para Familias Hispanas, served 100 families despite the rainy weather.

This mobile food pantry builds on similar efforts which have been underway in other Catholic Charities regions including the Cape Fear, Fayetteville, and Tar River regions. The event was made possible through a grant from Wake County and is focused on serving communities experiencing food insecurity and facing transportation barriers. By bringing food directly to neighborhoods, CPO is creating greater opportunities for families to access healthy groceries.

“This initiative is about building relationships within the community and reaching families who might otherwise struggle to access our services,” said Kelly Rappl, Program Director for CPO.

Families received fresh produce, meat, dairy, and dry goods during the distribution. The mobile pantry aims to serve the community on the second Tuesday of every month. To ensure families are informed, notifications will be sent out via WhatsApp, social media, and local signage.

Fr. Peter, pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church, expressed the parish’s enthusiasm for the partnership. “The Diocese of Raleigh has knocked on our doors to see if we can assist them with distributing fresh food to families. It has been a great joy for us to help. ‘Boots on the ground’ is what we tried to exhibit. Thanks to Jesus for showing us how!”

The long-term vision for the mobile pantry includes expanding to additional sites and increasing volunteer involvement from local parishes and community partners. Rappl shared appreciation for Cardinal Gibbons High School, a community partner already part of the initiative, for their understanding of the importance of community support in sustaining the program.

“We were thrilled to be able to do this,” Rappl added. “CPO has served families over 45 years and we’re excited to grow in this way and overcome transportation barriers.

The success of the first distribution marks a strong start for the mobile food pantry, reinforcing the commitment of Catholic Charities to addressing food insecurity and accessibility in meaningful ways.

