

# A Celebration of Our Year 2023



Catholic Care  
Caritas Leeds

# Message from our Chair, Bishop Marcus

**As Chair of Trustees for Catholic Care I am delighted to present this celebration of the Charity's achievements in 2023, our 160th anniversary.**

As our name states, we are a Catholic charity caring across the Diocese of Leeds for those in need, whatever their religious beliefs: children, families, older people, refugees, people with disabilities, and communities. As Christians we hope to share the Good News of God's love, and there's plenty of Good News in this report, giving hope when many are suffering, in particular from the Cost-of-Living crisis. I am sincerely grateful to the Charity's 200+ staff and volunteers for their hard work and compassion, and all whose generous support makes what we do possible.

Every Catholic diocese in the world has an agency called Caritas (Latin for 'Love') which co-ordinates the Church's outreach to the disadvantaged, marginalised, and vulnerable. In 2023 I entrusted Catholic Care with the Caritas role in our diocese, which means that going forward the Charity will continue in the work it does and will have a new role in encouraging care for others in parishes across the Diocese. May God bless our efforts in 2024 and beyond.

**Rt. Rev. Marcus Stock**  
Bishop of Leeds



Bishop Marcus launching the  
'Friends of Catholic Care',  
September 2023

# Welcome from our Director, Carol Hill



Carol (left) in Bradford holding Catholic Care's new logo with local MP and counsellors

**2023 was Catholic Care's 160th anniversary year, and it is amazing to think how much our charity has developed since it opened its first orphanage in Leeds in 1863.**

Despite the economic challenges of our times and the ongoing recovery from Covid, we have seen the resilience, forward-thinking, and vibrancy of the Charity. We have responded to rises in food and fuel costs by expanding our Community Market (a 'foodbank with dignity') and hosting pantries that supply families with essentials through schools and community locations.

Our Gianna Project has reopened in new premises offering support to vulnerable mothers and their babies. In addition, our Community Team continues to offer counselling, as well as advice on nutrition and exercise. We enabled three new refugee families from Syria to resettle in Yorkshire.

Our Friendship Groups are flourishing like never before, combatting isolation and loneliness. Westhaven Court is now providing the very latest in Supported Living for adults with a learning disability, and our Extra Care Service in Skipton achieved a CQC rating of Good in all areas for its care for older people. Staff welfare and development are very important to us, and we were delighted to resume celebrating staff achievements at our 'Oscars' night. Staff recruitment is difficult across the Sector; we mitigate this by attracting staff whose values are similar to our own and who understand the ethos of what the Charity is trying to achieve.

As we strive to retain those who we care for and support at the heart of everything we do, despite the challenges we face in a difficult world, we look forward to further development in 2024.

**Carol Hill**  
Director

2700 people  
cared for  
and helped  
during 2023



Catholic Care staff and volunteers welcome the Charity's 'Trustees On Tour' to Bradford Community Market

## Community Services

Our work in the community reaches out to those with continually evolving needs, providing services for today and tomorrow. This work has no direct funding and we rely on fundraising, grants and most importantly the generosity of our supporters through their financial and in-kind donations.

### Community Market

November 2023 marked the 3rd anniversary of our Community Market at St. Winefride's Church in Bradford. This Market offers a choice of food, including fresh items, household goods, friendship, advice, and second-hand clothes stall.

### Christmas Pantries

Thanks to the generosity of people in parishes across the Diocese, we were able to hold pantries in schools and community venues providing essential food and toys for children at Christmas.



73

households  
helped

744

families  
supported

# Community Services

## Stay and Play Group

Our group provides a warm and welcoming environment for children to play where adults can socialise and receive much needed peer support.

30

families supported

## Gianna Project

The Gianna Baby Bank offers support to mums, many of whom have difficult and complicated lives. Pregnancy and parenthood can make them feel more isolated and less likely to access statutory services for fear of their child being removed. As well as giving out supplies and equipment, our family support workers can provide guidance on substance and alcohol misuse, Doula antenatal support, nutritional coaching, and psychological wellbeing.



421

mums supported



# Community Services

## Community Counselling

Our community counsellors can offer a quick response to people needing mental health support.

NHS waiting lists for counselling can be many months, particularly in these stressful times. Our therapeutic provision helps stop people falling deeper into despair.

142

people counselled



## Asylum-Seeker & Refugee Support

Catholic Care has supported groups across the Diocese wanting to welcome refugees fleeing wars in Syria and Ukraine. Our Community Sponsorship Programme is authorised by the Home Office and has overseen welcoming projects in Normanton, Ripon, and Pateley Bridge.



# Community Services

## Community Groups for Older & Isolated People

Catholic Care's Friendship Groups across West and North Yorkshire offer older and other potentially isolated people a fun and safe way to come together and enjoy activities. These range from lunch clubs to arts and crafts groups, and exercise sessions. We have a number of other community support projects, including a Nutrition Coach and Mindfulness Trainer who offer workshops and advice in various different venues.

**16** groups

**267** people attending groups



# Regulated Services

Historically, caring for adults and children in homes and schools has been the mainstay of the Charity. Today we continue to offer services that are regulated by Government Commissions and Local Authorities. We continually enhance our quality of care which takes a person-centred approach.

## Adult Learning Disability Service

We support adults with varying degrees of learning disability by providing residential homes, supported living and supported housing as well as outreach support. We use a fresh, outcome-focused approach, involving person-centred planning, to offer each individual greater independence and autonomy.

Westhaven Court provides the very latest model in supported living for adults with a learning disability, providing fully self-contained apartments, each with its own front door. People are supported to be as independent as they are able and live life to the full.

24

homes & apartments

61

people supported

## Mental Health Accommodation Service

Catholic Care believes in encouraging and supporting people with mental health issues to become active and fully integrated members of the community, thereby helping to prevent relapses and hospital admissions.

To this end, we offer highly personalised support and access to a range of services within the local community. This allows people to improve their quality of life and reach their own potential. Working in partnership with other services we are committed to a recovery-based approach and trauma-informed practice.

10

apartments

11

people supported



# Regulated Services

## Extra Care & Adult Outreach Services

Our services have been developed to help older people to live independently in their homes for as long as they are able. Catholic Care provides 'Extra Care' support to older people living in 58 apartments at Eller Beck in Skipton. This is a new model of caring for older people, promoting independence whilst having the security of knowing help is on hand when needed.

We are developing our outreach services in the community to offer emotional, social, and practical support to older people living in their own homes.

58

extra care apartments

65

people supported in extra care

8

people supported in their own homes



# Regulated Services

## Children & Young People's Service

We have many years' experience of supporting children, young people, and their families through challenging times and situations. We provide medium to long term care in a safe, stable and nurturing environment in our residential home.

Our attached trainer flats provide the opportunity for the teenagers to learn life skills such as cooking, shopping and budgeting, equipping them for when they leave care.

## Schools, Children & Family Wellbeing Service

Working across 55 schools in the Leeds Diocese we have a team of two dozen Social Workers who are Trauma-Informed Practitioners providing therapeutic intervention to children and young people. We also support families, staff, and the wider school community.

Our Crisis Team are there to support schools in difficult periods of crisis. We are grateful for the annual 'Good Shepherd' appeal when schools raise money and awareness for Catholic Care.

**1** residential home for children

**1687** people receiving support through our schools

**5** children & young people receiving care

**£32,028** raised by Good Shepherd Appeal



# 160 Years of Caring



Afternoon tea thanking volunteers



Recognising staff and volunteer achievements at the 'Catholic Care Oscars'



Staff training in mental health awareness



Catholic Care's first participation in the Christmas Tree Festival at St. James' Church in Thornton



Remembering 160 years of Catholic Care's service users, staff, volunteers, and donors on All Souls Day



Fundraising events in our 160th year included serving 160 brews of tea and walking 160 miles



Celebrating 160 years | 1863 – 2023



# Finances & Development

## Finances

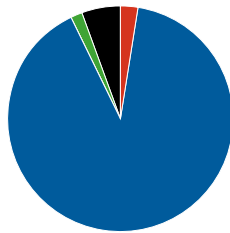
As the graph below shows, less than 1% of our expenditure is on raising funds (income generation and governance). As a charity we are extremely efficient and effective, spending resources directly on our charitable activities and maximising impact. We are committed to transparency and good stewardship, including an ethical investment policy, and our full annual report is available to view on the Charity Commission website and our own.

As our charity responds to growing needs, we seek to develop appropriate sources of income and recruit new supporters. To this end in 2023 we launched 'The Friends of Catholic Care'. We invite you to join via our website or using the form at the end of this report.

## Income and Expenditure

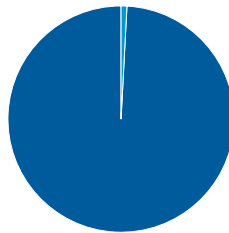
Data for financial year ending 31 March 2023

**Total income:  
£5,567,286**



- Donations and legacies  
£146.53k
- Charitable activities  
£5.03m
- Other trading activities  
£292
- Investments  
£83.97k
- Other  
£305.04k

**Total expenditure:  
£5,998,450**



- Raising funds  
£52.57k
- Charitable activities  
£5.95m
- Other  
£0

-£108,226 investments gains (losses)

**Total income includes £3,796,586 from 46 government contract(s)**

Source: Charity Commission for England and Wales

# Finances & Development

## Development

We are a values-driven charity. Our core values help us make decisions about what we do, how we do it, and who we do it for. Our values, rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, are: Care; Compassion; Community; Dignity; Equality; Justice.

As an organisation committed to public benefit, the trustees, staff, and supporters of Catholic Care want the Charity to develop in ways that are sustainable and ethical. We are making progress in delivering our Strategic Plan.

Throughout the year we review our extensive range of policies, including our Safeguarding policy, to ensure that our working practices are up to date for the benefit of our staff, volunteers, and the people we provide services to.

In 2023 a management restructure took place with the creation of a new Head of Care post. We also employed a Communications Manager for the first time to help spread information internally and externally. In 2023 our website was revamped, and we opened up new social media channels.

Our aspirations for future development include:

- A new 24/7 mental health accommodation service to complement our existing provision, responding to a growing need
- Expansion of our outreach service to support people within their own homes
- Development of children's homes that accord with best practice evolution in the sector
- A more holistic service in schools following the formation of Multi Academy Trusts

**11** trustees

**195** staff

**50+** volunteers

# Make a Donation

**Every donation, however large or small, helps us to continue our work supporting the most vulnerable in society.**

We are very grateful for your support. You can make a one-off donation, or set up a standing order for regular support. Our bank details are: Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds) 05-00-20; 11472611. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your donation, please contact us for a Gift Aid form: [finance@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:finance@catholic-care.org.uk) One of the most powerful ways you can help us in our work is by leaving a gift in your will.

This can be done when your write your will or can be added to your existing document as a simple codicil. Please ask your solicitor or will-writing service for advice.

## Become a Friend of Catholic Care

Complete the form opposite or on our website



## Pray for us

Generous God, we thank you that you care for us, and teach us to care for one another.

Continue to bless the service of Catholic Care, and all whose good deeds show your love in action.

Help us, we pray, to be alongside those in need.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Our Lady of Unfailing Help, pray for us.**

**By joining the Friends of Catholic Care, you'll receive updates on our work, invitations to events, and be giving a helping hand to some of the most needy in society. Thank you for your support.**

Your contact details (please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Title

First name

Surname

Postal address

Post code

Email

Phone

I consent to be contacted by Catholic Care by:  Post  Email  Telephone (delete as applicable; your details will be held in accordance with GDPR)

**Suggested monthly donation** where you are able to do so

Individual **£15** Joint/Family **£20** Institution (parish, school, business, etc.) **£50**

We encourage you to set up a standing order with your bank. Our bank details are: Sort Code 05-00-20 Account No. 11472611. Please use your surname + first name initial as reference. Alternatively, please enclose a cheque payable to Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds).

## Gift Aid Declaration

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

*giftaid*

Signature

Date

**Please send this completed form to**

Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds) 11 North Grange Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6 2BR or complete the application form on our website: [www.catholic-care.org.uk](http://www.catholic-care.org.uk)

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# Contact us

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Follow us on social media:



@catholiccareleeds

Or to join our monthly emailing list please  
contact **comms@catholic-care.org.uk**

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Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds)  
11 North Grange Road  
Headingley  
Leeds  
LS6 2BR

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Telephone  
0113 388 5400  
Email  
[info@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:info@catholic-care.org.uk)

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Diocese  
of Leeds



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE