A family of ministries providing help, offering hope and restoring health to those in need

SISTERS *of* CHARITY HEALTH SYSTEM

OCTOBER 2026, ISSUE 33

A Season of Gratitude, Hope and Shared Purpose



A MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL

President & CEO, Sisters of Charity Health System



Dear Friends,

As we share our final newsletter of 2026 and prepare for the holiday season, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on a remarkable year for the Sisters of Charity Health System and the many ways our ministries continue to bring hope, healing and compassion to those we serve.

This year has been especially meaningful as we celebrated the 175th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. Their enduring legacy reminds us that our mission is not simply something we carry forward, but something we bring to life every day through our actions, relationships and commitment to our neighbors.

This month's newsletter offers more examples of that mission in action, from the blessing of the Sister Ignatia Gavin, CSA, Center for Addiction Medicine and national recognition for Regina Health Center to new opportunities for children and families and meaningful partnerships across Cleveland, Canton and South Carolina.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we are reminded of the many blessings in our lives and the importance of sharing them with others. As we celebrate Christmas, we turn our hearts to the birth of Jesus Christ and the hope His love brings to the world.

Scripture reminds us:

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

— John 1:5

This message beautifully reflects both the promise of Christmas and our calling to be a light for others through compassion, kindness and service.

As we look toward a new year, I am filled with hope for all that we can accomplish together.

On behalf of the Sisters of Charity Health System, I wish you and your loved ones a blessed Thanksgiving, a joyful and healthy Christmas season, and a New Year filled with peace, hope and bright beginnings.

Thank you for all you have done to advance our shared mission throughout 2026. We look forward to reconnecting in our January newsletter as we begin another year of providing help, offering hope and restoring health.

Warmly,

Michael

✦ **SISTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE 175TH ANNIVERSARY:** **October was American Archives Month —** and the Sisters had a special one! On October 23, Sisters, Associates and Health System staff participated in a historic bus tour. They visited several significant sites, including the location of the CSA's original motherhouse and Cleveland's first Catholic hospital; the Hub campus; and the Sisters' final resting place at Calvary Cemetery. The tour was facilitated by **Marissa Ortosky-Dorantes**, CSA archivist, and acclaimed Irish historian **Margaret Lynch**.

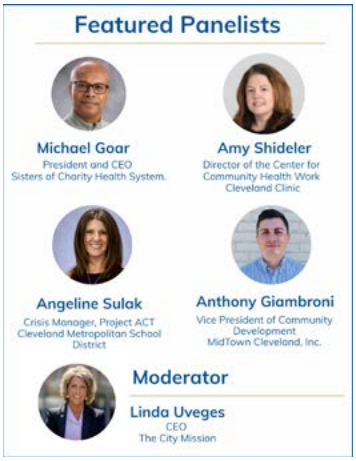


That afternoon, the CSA Archives held its annual open house. Visitors were welcomed behind the scenes to view special exhibits. One fan favorite was flipping through the old profession albums, which contain headshots of every Sister on the day she made her vows. Many recognized some familiar faces! Attendees also had the opportunity to hear the Sisters' stories in their own words, through featured excerpts from this year's oral history interviews.

Even though October is over, the archives is always open for visitors. Contact Marissa at *mortosky@srsofcharity.org* or 330.659.5103 if interested.

Cleveland News

HEALTH SYSTEM



✦ **SISTERS OF CHARITY HEALTH SYSTEM:** **Michael Goar Served as Panelist for World Homeless Week —** In partnership with The City Mission, President & CEO **Michael Goar** served as a panelist on October 9 for the learning discussion, "Understanding Homelessness in Cleveland." Michael shared updates about efforts on behalf of our ministries and new opportunities to serve those experiencing homelessness and those who are displaced.



Fresh and So Clean! Health System Building Receives a Facelift — Thanks to planning and coordination from Executive Director Facilities and Capital Management **Ben Silver** and his team, the Sisters of Charity Health System building received a facelift with exterior restoration being completed last month as part of ongoing maintenance to some of our buildings.



Health System Team Members Visit Columbia, SC Ministry Teams — **Miguel Chavez**, senior vice president of mission & ministry along with **Deb Miller**, vice president, human resources for the Health System and **Kelly Konicek**, HR/benefits manager for the Health System traveled to Columbia, South Carolina, to present our system and ministry-wide Mission Orientation and lead a board discussion on the 7th Edition of the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Healthcare Services on October 26.

(l to r): From the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families Director of Marketing and Communications Dr. Lawrence Ford, D.Min., Health System team members Kelly Konicek, Deb Miller and Miguel Chavez, DMin

SCHS MISSION & MINISTRY: **Miguel Chavez Tapped as Keynote for 2026 Priest Convocation at Sawmill Creek —** Senior Vice President of Mission & Ministry **Miguel Chavez** was invited to be the keynote speaker at a presentation at the 2026 Priests Convocation titled, "When the Spirit Moves: Awakening a Flourishing Apostolic Church." During the session, priests were invited to reflect on the Sacred Movement of the Holy Spirit within their priesthood and consider their unique role in cultivating a Flourishing Apostolic Church.

continued

MISSION & MINISTRY *continued*

Guided by two points of discernment: Encountering and Imitating Christ as Shepherd and Discipleship and Missionary Impulse, the session encouraged priests to consider how their own ongoing conversion and faithful witness can inspire others to grow as missionary disciples.





SCHS Fall Formation — Mission & Ministry organized and implemented the 2026 Fall Formation at Mt. Augustine for all staff, welcoming nearly 55 participants. The theme for the retreat was "Doing the Smallest Right" and the keynote speaker was **Rachel Hrbolich**, the diocesan director of Catholic Charities for the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown. **Dr. Lawrence Ford**, also facilitated components of the afternoon session. Following the formation, leadership, those visiting from South Carolina, and a few of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine had a fellowship and dinner.

UPCOMING EVENT: MULTIPLE MINISTRIES

GIVING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 | #weGIVECATHOLIC

#weGIVE CATHOLIC
December 1, 2026
Northeast Ohio's Online Day of Catholic Giving

Giving Tuesday, also known as #weGIVECATHOLIC in the Diocese of Cleveland, is set for Tuesday, December 1. Please consider supporting the Sisters of Charity Health System's ministries on that day or with early giving beginning on November 21. Each ministry is centered around addressing the unmet needs of God's people, and because of donors like you, the ministries are a beacon of hope devoted to the communities served in Cleveland, Canton and South Carolina. To participate in #weGIVECATHOLIC, please click here. SCHS ministries that are participating include the Early Childhood Resource Center, Joseph & Mary's Home, Light of Hearts Villa, Regina Health Center and the Sr. Ignatia Gavin, CSA, Center for Addiction Medicine. Please also consider supporting Healthy Learners and the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families on Giving Tuesday. Thank you for your support—you are making a difference and helping ensure we never do this important work alone!

CLEVELAND MINISTRIES & PROGRAMS

✦ ST. VINCENT CHARITY HEALTH & HEALING HUB: Board Member Jeanne Colleran-Weaver Receives Highest Alumni Honor from John Carroll University — The John Carroll University Alumni Association recently honored Health & Healing Hub board member **Jeanne Colleran-Weaver, Ph.D.** '76, with its highest honor, the Alumni Medal. It recognizes an individual's accomplishments in their profession, contributions to their community and dedicated service to John Carroll post-graduation. This award also affirms the Jesuit ideal of being men and women for others, a principle reinforced in the mission of John Carroll.


Jeanne Weaver (center)



Trunk or Treat Brings All Treats and No Tricks to 230+ Children — On October 30, Mission & Ministry organized the annual Trunk or Treat event for residents in Cleveland's Central neighborhood as part of the St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub. The event was held in the parking lot of host location Joseph & Mary's Home. More than 230 children from Marion-Sterling School, plus community members, took part in the experience. The event hosted 15 cars distributing candy,

continued

ST. VINCENT CHARITY HEALTH & HEALING HUB *continued*





a local DJ and the Tri-C Nourish Program Food Truck sponsored by the Health & Healing Hub, serving more than 200 meals. Collaborative partners included: Cleveland Public Library, Sterling Branch, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Huntington Insurance, Women Religious Archives Collaborative (WRAC), A Place 4 Me and many volunteers from the Health System.

CLEVELAND CENTRAL PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD: **Growing Readers and Gardeners at Marion-Sterling School —** At Marion-Sterling School, learning and growth happen both inside and outside the classroom. **Sr. Catherine Walsh, CSA**, is making a meaningful difference in students' lives by providing reading tutoring and helping young learners strengthen their reading skills. Through her time, patience and encouragement, students are building confidence, developing a love of reading and taking important steps toward academic success. The school garden is also becoming a place for learning, discovery and inspiration. Garden participants are enjoying books authored by and donated by **Patricia Moore-Pastides, MPH**, Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine associate. The book, *Greek Revival: Cooking for Life*, features recipes and gardening tips, connecting the joy of reading with hands-on learning about growing and preparing food. These activities are facilitated by community partner Prolific Achievers, founded by Farmer Ben and his associates. By bringing literacy and gardening together, this partnership helps students explore new ideas while learning practical skills that will last a lifetime. Together, Sr. Catherine's reading tutoring and the garden's educational activities demonstrate the power of learning through books, hands-on experiences and caring relationships. "The community is also happy about what we are doing. Our neighbors at Global Custom Furniture were so thrilled that they made and donated a picnic table with seating and a raised bed inlay for the designated classroom hoop house," said Program Manager **Sherece Brown-Gray**.



Custom-made picnic table at the Marion-Sterling garden



Young readers and gardeners received copies of Greek Revival: Cooking for Life, by Patricia Moore-Pastides

JOSEPH & MARY'S HOME (JMH): **Staff Members Share Volunteer Opportunities at St. Dominic —** JMH was invited in early October to the Church of St. Dominic in Shaker Heights for the parish's annual Project Serve Fair. JMH Board Member **Sr. Catherine Walsh, CSA**, and Sisters of Charity Health System Senior Director of Major Gifts **Colleen Corrigan Day**, represented JMH. St. Dominic congregation members are looking forward to preparing and serving a hot breakfast once a month for JMH residents. **PJ Reindel**, Regina Health Center's director of major gifts and a St. Dominic parishioner, helped connect JMH to the Project Serve Fair organizers.



(l to r): PJ Reindel, Sr. Catherine Walsh, CSA, and Colleen Corrigan Day

Ohio State Rep. Sweeney Visits JMH — State Representative **Bride Rose Sweeney**, a member of the Ohio House of Representatives for District 16, visited Joseph & Mary's Home on October 14. Rep. Sweeney listened to the obstacles those living in the homeless medical respite home face each day. Along with learning about the care delivered to meet residents' acute, short-term medical needs, Rep. Sweeney heard about how the men and women at JMH are connected to community resources and supported in navigating complex systems. This includes obtaining a birth certificate, securing a state-issued ID or replacing essential documents.



Executive Director Anna Stormer, State Rep. Bride Rose Sweeney and Sisters of Charity Health System President & CEO Michael Goar

JOSEPH & MARY'S HOME *continued*

Video Ad Campaign Highlights Ministry's Mission — Increasing the community's awareness of JMH and the ministry's mission has been a focal point this fall. A 30-second video highlighting how residents are welcomed to rest and heal with dignity when they have nowhere else to call home is now playing on Facebook. You can view it by clicking here (Note: you don't need a Facebook account to watch).

SISTER IGNATIA GAVIN, CSA, CENTER FOR ADDICTION MEDICINE (SIGCAM): Bishop Michael G. Woost Celebrates the Blessing of SIGCAM — Taking part in the blessing led by Sisters of Charity Mission & Ministry on October 20 were Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, Sisters of Charity Health System board members, and Health & Healing Hub board members, along with donors who made the dream of SIGCAM a reality. **Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA**, shared stories of **Sister Ignatia Gavin, CSA**, and her work to recognize alcoholism as a disease. From helping her first patient at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron to the creation of Rosary Hall at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, Sr. Ignatia became known as the "Angel of AA". **Bob Varley**, board chair for the Health System, spoke to the 175-year legacy of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and how SIGCAM will carry that forward as a resource for not only those looking for addiction treatment, but as an opportunity for learning, AA meetings, prayer and important conversations that break down the stigma of addiction.





Bishop Michael G. Woost with sisters from the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine



Karen Komondor Becomes First SIGCAM Executive Director — Karen Komondor is a health care veteran now overseeing both SIGCAM and Rosary Hall Outpatient Services, where she is working to strengthen the bridge from outpatient treatment to the recovery community and expand access to addiction education, outreach and support resources to help transform how addiction is treated. She assumed the executive director role October 12. Most recently, Karen founded the U.S. Health Literacy Association, where she served as president. She also founded Health Literacy 360 LLC and served as its president. She previously served as director of the Health Literacy Institute at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center from 2009 to 2022 and as director, organizational development at St. Vincent Charity from 2002 to 2022.



✦ **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CLEVELAND: Stella Singer Named Program Officer — Stella Singer** joined the Foundation as program officer, starting in that role on October 19. Stella previously was with the Sisters of Charity Health System, where she was the director of foundation relations & government grants. As program officer, she is helping lead grantmaking strategies focused on addressing the social drivers of health, education and social services.

✦ **LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA (LOHV): Staff Gathers for Annual Mission In-Service —** LOHV recently held its annual Mission In-Service, led by Director of Pastoral and Special Ministries **Sister Regina Kusnir, SC**. This year's theme, "Faith-Based Mission in a Time of Change," invited employees to reflect on the importance of remaining grounded in LOHV's faith, mission and values as it navigates change and embraces new opportunities. This annual gathering, required for all employees, is always a meaningful and uplifting opportunity to step away from busy routines, reconnect with a shared purpose and strengthen bonds as a team. Through thoughtful reflection and conversation, Sr. Regina reminded everyone that while the world around us may change, the commitment to compassionate, faith-filled service remains steadfast.



Sr. Regina Kusnir, SC, leading the annual Mission In-Service for employees

LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA *continued*





A Day of Glamour & Pampering Residents — Residents enjoyed a little extra sparkle during National Assisted Living Week with a special Glamour & Pamper Photo Shoot, generously sponsored by Catholic Community Connection! Thanks to the help of wonderful volunteers, residents were treated to hair styling, makeup, accessories, hand massages and plenty of pampering before stepping in front of the camera for their very own glamour portraits. From pearls and tiaras to beautiful smiles, residents truly shined. To make the experience even more special, each resident received a framed copy of their glamorous headshot as a keepsake.

Connecting with Community at the Bedford Senior Health & Wellness Expo — Kate Mach, director of admissions and community relations, recently attended the Bedford Senior Health & Wellness Expo, where she enjoyed connecting with local seniors, sharing information about LOHV's services and highlighting the many ways older adults and their families are supported. Events like these provide wonderful opportunities to build relationships, share valuable resources and strengthen the connection to the community.



LOHV represented at the Bedford Senior Health & Wellness Expo

UPCOMING EVENT: LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15 | Holiday Open House

Celebrate the joy of the season! Join the LOHV family for the annual Holiday Open House on Tuesday, December 15, from 1–3 p.m. Enjoy festive refreshments, holiday cheer and wonderful company to celebrate the most magical time of the year. All are welcome.

America's Best Nursing Homes 2025, 26 & 27 NEWSWEEK Top 10 in Ohio

✦ **REGINA HEALTH CENTER (RHC): RHC Receives Coveted 5-Star CMS Rating and *Newsweek* Recognition —** RHC once again earned the highest 5-Star Quality Rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). On top of that, *Newsweek* named Regina Health Center to its prestigious America's Best Nursing Homes 2027 list. For the third year in a row, *Newsweek* ranked Regina Health Center among the top 10 nursing homes in Ohio, ranking #10 in Ohio for facilities with 50-99 beds. These incredible recognitions reflect a shared commitment to compassionate, high-quality care that continue to make a big impact.



Team RHC has Another Successful Walk to End Alzheimer's — all staff pitched in for fundraising for Team RHC for the Walk to End Alzheimer's, raising awareness and raising funds to advance the fight against Alzheimer's and all other dementias. Despite a very cold morning on October 17, Team RHC was out in full force for the walk. Team RHC placed near the top teams for long-term care facilities in the amount raised.



RHC Launches In-House Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Training Program — On October 16, RHC announced the launch of its first-ever, in-house Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) training program. This new program allows aspiring health care heroes to train right at RHC. Upon completing the course, students will take their state certification test. Once they pass, they can be officially welcomed to Regina Health Center family as full employees. This is a great way to invest in the next generation of caregivers.

REGINA HEALTH CENTER *continued*



Congratulations to Regina Health Center September Employee of the Month Erin Sabo — Erin is a licensed practical nurse (LPN) who has been an outstanding member of the Nursing Team since May 2018. Erin has been providing compassionate care to the resident's in assisted living. Erin's excellent nursing skills have earned her trust and respect. Erin shared that she "Loves the residents and cares for them as if they are family. I enjoy the smiles and laughter we share."

CLEVELAND CATHOLIC COLLABORATORS:



Hossanna Olaomotito

✦ **CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CONNECTION (CCC): Supporting the CCC Mission through Learning —** Program Account Specialist **Hossanna Olaomotito** attended the 2026 Nonprofit Legal, Finance & Grants Conference in Washington, D.C., in early October. The conference explored financial leadership, grant compliance, governance, cybersecurity, data privacy and responsible use of technology. In her role, Hossanna focuses on accounting for CCC and is also involved with programs. "One idea that stayed with me is that financial information is most valuable when it helps leaders decide what to do next. The conference also reinforced the importance of documented controls and protecting sensitive information," she said. "I also came away with practical ideas about how AI could support CCC's work. With appropriate safeguards, AI tools could help organize invoice details, summarize grant or contract requirements, or prepare first drafts of routine reports. These uses could reduce repetitive steps and give staff more time to review information, investigate exceptions and support programs. Human judgment remains essential: confidential information must be protected, and AI-generated work should be checked before it is used. The conference offered ideas that we can use to continue to strengthen our processes and support our mission."

Canton News



✦ **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CANTON: Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Our Foundresses, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine —** The Foundation recently celebrated and commemorated the 175th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine with a prayer service held at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Canton. It was a beautiful time of worship, reflection, and admiration for the Foundation's founders and spiritual guides. Thank you to all who attended and made the day special!



Program Officer Robyn Steinmetz Honored by BridgePoint — Robin received the Bill Mattas Servanthood Award from BridgePoint, a Stark County nonprofit, on October 24. The award recognized Robyn's dedication to her community, including chairing the successful Canton Local Schools Levy Campaign, mentoring youth through Legacy Stark County and volunteering with Canton Local youth sports. It was noted as a wonderful evening celebrating Robyn's commitment to service alongside her family, friends, colleagues and community.

Robyn Steinmetz with the Bill Mattas Servanthood Award

CANTON MINISTRY NEWS

✦ **EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER (ECRC):** **ECRC Joins Statewide Efforts to Grow Family Child Care across Ohio —** Starting a family child care business can create a rewarding career while helping provide the quality child care families in our communities depend on. ECRC is helping advance a statewide effort to make sure those interested in this opportunity know where to turn for support. In collaboration with the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA) and the six other state-designated Child Care Resource and Referral agencies across the state, ECRC is working to share knowledge about the resources available to people seeking to provide licensed child care from their homes.

The joint awareness campaign launched on October 13 with a video highlighting the increased need for quality child care in our communities, along with a new webpage highlighting ECRC's services. A key message of the campaign is the value of local support. Knowledgeable ECRC specialists are here to help prospective providers understand the licensing process, work through challenges and access vital resources as they prepare to open. And that support continues well after providers become licensed and begin to build and grow their businesses. Check out the campaign on ECRC's social media accounts, and help spread the word by sharing ECRC's family child care posts with your networks. You never know who may be considering their next career or business opportunity.



Fall Events Provide Festive Family Fun — Fall was in the air as families recently gathered for two seasonal events filled with countless memorable moments. During the Fall into the ECRC events, held at the Canton, Boardman and Akron offices in early October, families had the opportunity to learn more about all of the vital services and resources ECRC provides throughout its six-county service area. A highlight of the evening was watching children light up when receiving free Halloween costumes. The fun continued at the Canton office on October 29, where families came back—donning their costumes—for a festive Trick-or-Treat celebration. Children and caregivers explored the decorated halls, going office-to-office collecting tasty treats from ECRC staff before creating their own Halloween-themed crafts. While both events offered plenty of seasonal fun, they also served an important purpose: helping local families become more familiar with ECRC and the resources available in their own communities. By opening its doors and creating meaningful ways for families to engage with ECRC, mission is put into action and the child is kept at the center of everything ECRC does.









ECRC Brings Northeast Ohio Perspective to National Early Childhood Conference — ECRC was represented at the recent 2026 Shift Work Forward Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, contributing a Northeast Ohio perspective to national conversations about strengthening the early childhood sector and improving the conditions that shape job quality for early childhood educators and family child care providers. ECRC's Director of Early Care and Education Services **Maria Spencer** and Early Childhood Specialist **Elizabeth Schilling** led a breakout session at the event focused on capturing the voice of workers, emphasizing the importance of listening to early childhood educators, and incorporating their experiences into efforts to strengthen the field. The conference also

continued

EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER *continued*

highlighted important collaborative work ECRC is helping to lead in Akron, Ohio. ECRC partner **Richelle Wardell**, who serves as the City of Akron's education & health strategist, joined the Northeast Ohio contingency, participating as a panelist in a session titled Beyond Exit Strategies: Changing the Conditions That Shape Job Quality. She shared details about Akron's experience developing the Unified Early Learning System (Unified), a collaborative initiative led by the city and ECRC in partnership with other community organizations.

Having ECRC's work represented on a national stage reinforces the importance of local partnerships in advancing solutions to challenges facing the early childhood sector. By elevating educators' voices and helping communities build stronger early learning systems, ECRC continues to support the professionals who play a critical role in children's development, family well-being and thriving communities.



Maria Spencer (left) and Elizabeth Schilling leading a breakout session at the national early childhood conference

South Carolina News

✦ **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA: Strengthening Nonprofit Advocacy Capacity across South Carolina —** Throughout October, the Foundation gathered with partners across the state to strengthen nonprofit advocacy capacity. The month began with a session for participants in the Foundation's Health Care Systems Change Initiative, a three-year program co-funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that supports organizations tackling health equity barriers. Participants explored state-level health policy case studies and discussed how broader policy movements connect to their local efforts.

Later in the month, the Foundation convened Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and other nonprofit leaders supporting South Carolina's microbusinesses and entrepreneurs. The roundtable covered key issues, including small business wealth creation in under-resourced communities, upcoming changes to the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and ways to address the unique barriers facing entrepreneurs experiencing poverty. The group identified several possible avenues for advocacy to advance their work.

To close out the month, Foundation staff hosted the second gathering of Systems Change Grant recipients. Highlighting the power of peer learning, grantee partner Able South Carolina delivered a presentation on how they plan and execute their impactful annual Advocacy Day at the South Carolina Statehouse.



SK Catalano, director of community engagement for the Foundation (fourth from left in the middle) with representatives from the organizations in the Health Care Systems Change Initiative cohort



Several Foundation staff members pictured with participants of the roundtable with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and other nonprofit leaders

SC MINISTRY NEWS



Representatives from SCCFF, the Upstate Fatherhood Coalition, Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina and fatherhood program graduates at the City of Gaffney Council meeting

✦ **SOUTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR FATHERS AND FAMILIES (SCCFF): Cities across the State Formally Recognize the Importance of Engaged Fatherhood —** In recent weeks, SCCFF has celebrated two significant community milestones as cities across the state formally recognize the importance of engaged fatherhood. The City of Gaffney and the City of Charleston each issued proclamations designating October as Father365 Pledge Month, affirming the vital role fathers play in strengthening families and communities.

At the City of Gaffney Council meeting, **Mayor Dr. Lyman Dawkins III** and city leaders honored the work of Father365 and the broader fatherhood movement. Representing the Center were President **Karriem Edwards** and **Dr. Lawrence Ford**, director of marketing and communications. Joining them was **Donna Waites**, president of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina, underscoring the deep and longstanding partnership between the Foundation and SCCFF in advancing family-strengthening initiatives. Donna connected Dr. Ford to leaders in Gaffney who discussed additional funding opportunities and workforce development in the city and in Cherokee County. Also present were leaders from the Upstate Fatherhood Coalition—**Phillip Hagood, Garrett Matthews** and **Willis Suber**—along with special guests and fatherhood program graduates **Tedrick Green** and **Houston Boyd.** Their presence highlighted the real-world impact of programs that help fathers rebuild relationships, gain employment and become consistent, caring role models for their children.

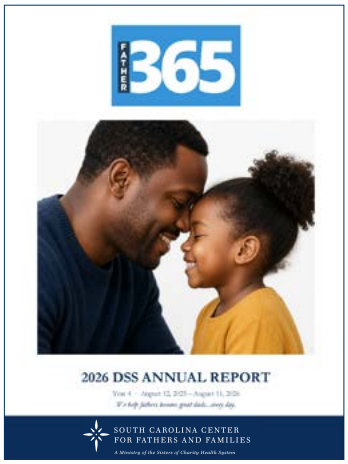


Board member Jay Ratterree, Charleston Mayor William S. Cogswell Jr. and Dr. Lawrence Ford

In Charleston, **Dr. Ford** accepted a Father365 Pledge Month Proclamation during the City Council meeting. The recognition followed a September meeting with the mayor's office to explore municipal resources available to fathers and to coordinate the proclamation. Board member **Jay Ratterree** stood alongside Dr. Ford, representing SCCFF leadership and the ongoing commitment of community partners.

These proclamations are more than ceremonial. They are an extension of the Father365 Pledge, a national movement launched earlier this year and introduced at the National Fatherhood Summit in Dallas in August. The Pledge invites fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, uncles, coaches, mentors, teachers, pastors and other male role models to make a one-year commitment to intentionally show up for a child—every day. As the campaign's website states, fatherhood is not an occasional act but a daily investment of time, attention, encouragement, wisdom and resources that strengthens families and builds stronger communities for generations to come.

For the Sisters of Charity Health System and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina, these community recognitions reflect a shared mission: to care for the whole person and to address the root causes of family instability and poverty. When fathers are supported and engaged, children experience better outcomes in education, health and emotional well-being. The Foundation's longstanding investment in SCCFF and its statewide affiliates continues to amplify this work, helping more men become the steady, dependable fathers their children need.



Year 4 Annual Report Completed for Department of Social Services — SCCFF recently completed its Year 4 annual report for the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS), the largest funder of fatherhood services at $14 million. The report will be delivered to **Tony Catone**, the new director of SCDSS, and his senior staff, as the state considers allocations to begin after Year 5 of the fatherhood contract. Data for the contract year shows a 187.6% achievement in reaching fathers with an average of 162% achievement over four years.

Like us! Love us! Follow us!

Through the Sisters of Charity Health System, news about successes, events, amazing employees and the people we uplift is shared on social media. When you're scrolling through your feeds, be sure to find and engage with our posts. Every "like," "love" and "follow" helps amplify our message and extend our reach. Below is a list of "handles" (usernames) and links associated with many of our social media platforms.

CSA Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine
Facebook: @srsofcharity
Instagram: @srsofcharity

Sisters of Charity Health System:
Facebook: @SistersOfCharityHealth
Instagram: @sochealthsystem
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sisters-of-charity-health-system
Twitter/X: @SOCHealthSystem

St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub and Northeast Ohio Ministries and Programs:

Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood
Facebook: @ClevelandPromiseNeighborhood
Instagram: @clecentralpromise
Twitter/X: @CLE_Promise
YouTube: socfcleveland-clevelandcen9249

Early Childhood Resource Center
Facebook: @EarlyChildhoodResourceCenter
Instagram: @earlychildhoodresourcecenter
Twitter/X: @ECResCenter
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/early-childhood-resource-ctr

Joseph's Home / Joseph & Mary's Home
Facebook: @jmhome.org
Instagram: @jmhomecle
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/jmhome
YouTube: josephshome8286

Light of Hearts Villa
Facebook: @lightofheartsvilla
Instagram: @lightofheartsvilla
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/lightofheartsvilla
YouTube: lightofheartsvilla1319

Regina Health Center
Facebook: @reginahealthcenter
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/reginahealthcenter
YouTube: reginahealthcenter4885

Rosary Hall
Facebook: @StVincentCharityRosaryHall

St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub (formerly St. Vincent Charity Medical Center)
Facebook: @StVincentCharity
Instagram: @stvincentcharity
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/st-vincent-charity
Twitter/X: @StVCharity
YouTube: CLEStVincentCharity

Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sisters-of-charity-foundation-of-canton1
YouTube: sistersofcharitycanton

Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland
Facebook: @SOCFCleveland
Instagram: @SOCF_cleveland
Twitter/X: @SOCFCleveland

Catholic Community Connection
Facebook: @CatholicCommunityConnection
Twitter/X: @CatholiCommConn

South Carolina:

Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina
Facebook: @SCFSC
Instagram: @SOCFSC
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sisters-of-charity-foundation-of-south-carolina
Twitter/X: @SCFSC

Healthy Learners
Facebook: @HealthyLearners
Instagram: @healthylearners
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/healthylearners

South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families
Facebook: @SCCFF
Instagram: @scfathersandfamilies
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/south-carolina-center-for-fathers-and-families
Twitter/X: @scfathers