

## *The West Side Catholic Center*

The West Side Catholic Center was established in 1977 by several area churches that saw a critical need within the community due to extreme poverty.

We are a unique, private, not-for-profit agency with Catholic roots, independent of the Diocese and of Catholic Charities.

Our programs respond to men, women and children in Cleveland, regardless of their religious affiliation.

## *The Mustard Seed Society*

The Mustard Seed Society honors those who have established a planned gift, included the West Side Catholic Center in their estate plan, or listed us as a beneficiary of memorial gifts.

*We would be honored to be the last in line.*



*Please remember the West Side Catholic Center in your will or estate plans. For more information, please contact Susan Ertle at 216.631.474 ext.132 or [sertle@wsccenter.org](mailto:sertle@wsccenter.org)*

## *Be a Part of the Solution*

All services are provided free of charge. We rely on private donations for much of our funding. Your generous contributions will help to keep our doors open.

### Monetary Donations

By mail to: West Side Catholic Center  
3135 Lorain Ave.  
Cleveland OH 44113

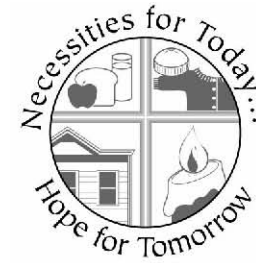
Online at: [www.helpCleveland.org](http://www.helpCleveland.org)

By phone: 216.631.4741 ext. 132

### Volunteer Opportunities

Answer phones  
Childcare room  
Clothing/household goods distribution  
Sorting clothing/household goods  
Office/clerical

Volunteer orientation sessions are held on the last Tuesday of each month. Contact Terrie Garr, Director of Volunteer and Provider Services, 216.631.4741 ext.122 or [tgarr@wsccenter.org](mailto:tgarr@wsccenter.org).



## West Side Catholic Center





## **Drop-In Center**

Is a refuge open from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. five days a week, every Saturday morning and some Saturday evenings where anyone can get:

### **Meals**

- ❖ A cold breakfast and hot lunch are provided every weekday, a hot breakfast every Saturday, and designated Saturday dinners. The meal program is staffed completely by volunteer groups.

### **Clothing & Household Items**

- ❖ One hundred people “shop” for four bags of free clothing and household items three days a week.
- ❖ Special need programs are offered including a School Supply Program and Christmas Giving Tree.

### **Street Survival**

- ❖ Showers, a telephone, a mailbox service, and more are offered to the homeless.
- ❖ First-line medical attention is provided for health issues resulting from exposure.

### **Outreach & Advocacy**

- ❖ Highly personalized services, addressing many different situations are available.
- ❖ Clients are helped to find housing.
- ❖ A program offers help in obtaining birth certificates and state identification cards.
- ❖ Assistance with resume development is provided.
- ❖ There is assistance in completing job and social security benefit applications

## **Zacchaeus Housing Solutions**

The Zacchaeus Housing Solutions assists individuals and families to secure and maintain permanent housing while providing case management services in their homes

Tenant-based rental assistance is available at scattered sites. Priority for acceptance is given to those who are experiencing circumstances under which they are unable to control their living arrangements and are unable to pay rental costs.

The project works with individuals who can sustain employment or financial resources necessary to be self-sufficient within 12 to 24 months.



## **The Women and Children’s Shelter**

Houses 32 women and children as they move from homelessness to stable housing and employment through:

### **Crisis Intervention**

- ❖ A safe and nurturing place is provided for women and children to eat, sleep and reside as well as obtain basic necessities while in transition
- ❖ There is support to address issues such as domestic abuse, chemical dependency, mental or physical illness, lack of education or financial hardship.

### **RISE**

- ❖ Each woman works with a Case Manager to develop an individualized plan for: Residential stability, permanent Income, Self-development, and Education/training.
- ❖ Weekly educational and support groups meet to address issues of concern.
- ❖ Through RISE, each woman can overcome the issues that may have caused her family’s homelessness.

### **Youth Advocacy**

- ❖ Advocates work with the children and their mothers to address each child’s unique needs.
- ❖ Advocates collaborate with other social agencies, medical professionals, and educators.
- ❖ A multifaceted approach is used to help heal spirit, mind, and body.

### **Aftercare**

- ❖ Aftercare is a homeless prevention program that provides an assurance of success for those who are leaving the Shelter.
- ❖ Rental and utility assistance is provided.
- ❖ A plan is established for counseling and continued participation in programming for two years.



*Grounded in faith, hope, love and respect for those we serve, we assist all who come in need of food, clothing, shelter and advocacy.*