



LIVINGSTON COUNTY  
**CATHOLIC  
CHARITIES**  
HELPING LIVES GROW

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## PRESS RELEASE

In the spirit of Christmas, our communities stepped up to share the love of Christmas to many of our county's most vulnerable seniors.

Christmas is a time of wonder and joy for most of us. However, many of the seniors that Livingston County Catholic Charities (LCCC) serves through our annual Christmas Blessing project, a community supported project, are home bound and low income. Winter months are a tough time of year for our vulnerable seniors who have to contend with higher utility costs that affect their ability to purchase food or life-saving medications on their limited incomes. We often hear, too, that they feel forgotten during this time of year and are so overjoyed when they receive their special Christmas delivery.

Community volunteers along with LCCC staff began planning LCCC's annual Christmas Blessing project as early as August. They worked tirelessly in the community seeking donations of food, gifts, paper products and cash with a combined value exceeding \$31,000; then packing and delivering the food boxes with hygiene products, paper and cleaning products, Christmas gifts and handmade cards made by local school children to local seniors on December 13, 2019.

Through the generous support of many individuals, schools and numerous community organization's holiday giving drives, LCCC was able to provide Christmas Blessing gift boxes and care packages to 161 seniors! Suzi Snyder, Director of Senior Services, shared that "two years ago we served 112 seniors; last year 146 and this year 161. Each assisted individual or couple is either served through one of LCCC's senior service programs or was referred through our many community partners and churches."

Each of the individuals, schools, businesses and organizations listed below, hosted drives or stopped by with a donation. We had many new volunteers join us this year in packaging, wrapping gifts and delivering the Christmas Blessing packages. It is because of everyone involved we were able to provide a large array of necessary items for each senior. Thank you and God Bless!

140 Ice Den, Justin & Michelle Anderson, John & Kathi Backhuus, Karl & Linda Bangert, Loretta Beland, Brighton High School Athletic Teams, Brighton NC Machine Corp., Brighton Senior Center, Catholic Council on Aging, Catholic Foundation of Michigan, Joel & Lucinda Clark, Coalition of Oral Health for Aging, Cowdrey Family, Daughters of Isabella Society St. Augustine, Dearborn Sausage Co., Dan Hall—Pinckney Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram, Dennis & Jacque Durco, Extreme Machine, Family Medicine Residency Program—St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital, Friend of Court Employees, Frontal Lobe CoWorking, Lou G., Bob & Janet Gardella, Hamburg Twp. Senior Center, Hartland Lions Club, Hartland Senior Center, Holy Spirit Catholic School, K of C #12295, K of C #2050 4th Degree Assembly, Kellogg Dental, Kensington Woods

School, Bette Klann, Gary Kozyra, Rob & Deb Kwapisz, Chris Larson, LCCC Coworkers, Richard Lim Photography, Livingston Civitan Club, Livingston Sunrise Rotary, Ruta McCormek, Marion Township Hall, Medilodge of Howell, Navigator Middle School, Parker Middle School, Pathfinder Middle School, Jim and Charlotte Ratke, Pat Reimer, St. Agnes Parishioners, 5&6 Gr. Religious Ed & Christian Service, St. Augustine Parishioners, St. Joseph School & Quilters, St. John the Baptist Parishioners & Christian Service Commission, St. Mary Catholic School & Parishioners, St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners, St. Patrick School Families, St. Patrick Christian Service & Parishioners, Rick Smithers, Ron & Wanda Snyder, Courtney & Fabrizio Tarara, Universal Container Corp, Dennis & Chris Wysocki, and Remy Montalbo- Young.

Collectively, volunteers, the generous donors and organizations provided hundreds of hours of service through this project. This is an example of true collaboration between the community, LCCC and many other concerned individuals and organizations. We are truly thankful for this support on behalf of the people that we serve.

Some of the recipients shared with us their joy over receiving the care packages:

- “Holy Cow! I never expected to receive so much! I thank you from the bottom of my heart!”
- “What a surprise, you are Angels! I can’t remember the last time I had Christmas gifts! I am saving my gifts until Christmas, but thank you-thank you for the food and toiletries. God Bless you!”
- “Thank you for everything, all was so nice! Tell everyone involved thank you so much.”
- “Thank you for all you do for me. I wish I could do something for you.”
- “I thank the Lord for the people who do this for us! Sometimes this is all the Christmas I get.”