



2023  
ANNUAL REPORT

# DEAR FRIENDS of Caritas Family Solutions,

Thank you for your heartfelt – generous – committed support to making our communities strong by providing grace and support to those in need. Because of you, the Caritas impact continues to grow and make a profound difference across Illinois.

By securing community resources, nurturing loving foster homes, and fostering stakeholder involvement, we strive to achieve key performance indicators such as increased coping skills, stable homes for children, and individuals reaching their life goals. Our current three-year strategic plan guides us in making more positive impacts and building a more just society, focusing on three pillars of services: Behavioral Health, Child Welfare, and Community-Based Services.

In Fiscal Year 2023, your support allowed us to expand our impacts significantly. We grew our Intact Families program, initiated services for youth through an Emergency Shelter and a Youth Maternity Program, and began offering support to families in crisis within the community. Your generosity has enabled us to be a network of support for those who need it most.

We are all one community, and your involvement has been pivotal in bringing innovative ideas to life, supporting both new endeavors and existing programs. Thanks to you, we have witnessed substantial growth, with over six thousand individuals benefiting from Caritas programs in the past year alone. Your support is not just appreciated; it is the driving force behind our ability to make a lasting impact.

As we embark on the journey ahead, we extend our heartfelt applause and gratitude to each one of you. Together, we are making a difference and building a future filled with hope and possibility.

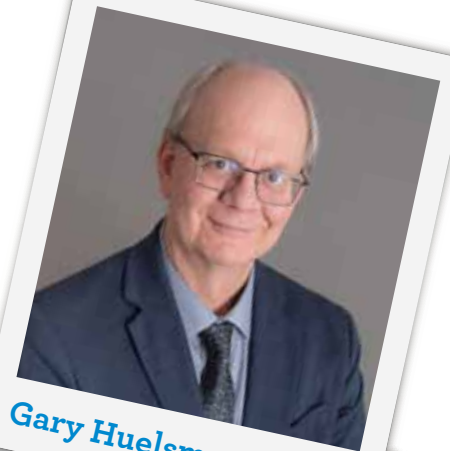
With Sincere Appreciation,



Gary Huelsmann, MSW  
Chief Executive Officer



Sean Ketcherside, Vice Chair  
and Chair of POM Committee



Gary Huelsmann, MSW



Sean Ketcherside

## FY 2023 Board of Directors

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# CARITAS CELEBRATES

## a Year of Expansion and New Service Lines

2023 was a very incredible year for Caritas Family Solutions, thanks to the purposefulness and resolve of our board, staff, volunteers, donors, partners, and of course, the fortitude of those we serve. We remain Southern Illinois' largest provider of foster care, helping over 2,750 kids in 2023, and continue to provide social and emotional services for over 6,500 people of all ages and backgrounds per year!

We are so grateful that we can be a lifeline for those within our communities, walking beside them as we build solutions together and look for the lessons in life. We are equally grateful for our tremendous growth, as we have increased our service offerings and partnerships in order to provide several new programs for people in every stage of life. We were able to achieve this, most notably, thanks to our amazing staff and caring donors who support our mission.



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### Emergency Shelter Fills Placement Gaps; Helps Youth in Crisis

Over the past year, the state of Illinois asked us to step up by creating a new emergency shelter for youth - and we gave them a resounding "YES!" The need was very clear as some of our state's most vulnerable children were having to stay in emergency rooms or office buildings because they had nowhere else to go. With this in mind, our new Emergency Shelter, located at 900 Royal Heights Road, in Belleville, Illinois, opened in early 2023 and provides a loving, caring, and structured home for up to 10 youth at a time. There is only one other emergency shelter of this kind anywhere in the Southern region and only a few located throughout the entire state so we have already witnessed the shelter filling an immediate need for many kids.

"The emergency shelter is like a middle-man, geared towards youth who might feel like no one wants them... maybe other facilities won't take them because they've had behavioral issues, or they don't have any family members they can stay with temporarily, or their current foster care home didn't work

out and they have nowhere to go in the meantime. That's where our emergency shelter team steps in and we do everything in our power to make sure these kids know they have value and have a safe, comfortable place to stay until they move to their next residential setting," explained Transitional Residential Program manager, Ashley Duffie.

Boys and girls, ages 6-17, can plan to stay an average of 30-60 days to receive quality care as they wait for their next loving home. During their stay, children have access to a residential setting with educational and recreational opportunities, healthcare, balanced meals and quality, professional staff.



"We've already seen so many incredible success stories since we opened," said Duffie. "One youth who really felt he had nowhere else to go, ended up staying with us for five months. He got a job. Earned a phone and eventually was ready to move on to a group home setting in Chicago, where he is currently. There are a lot of amazing success stories of kids who maybe felt like they weren't wanted anywhere, but have then been able to turn things around and get to a better place in their lives. We're grateful our emergency shelter is available to help them through that process."



## Youth Maternity Home Offering Care and Hope to Young Moms

Caritas Family Solutions' also recently began partnering with the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to offer young mothers who are in DCFS care, a safe, comfortable place to go throughout their pregnancies. The home provides resources that empower them to take charge of their lives.

In this beautiful, four-bed transitional living facility they are supplied with the stabilization and support needed to develop, customize, and execute goals that aid in ending the cycles of addiction, domestic violence, or homelessness that can trap people. Mothers and children remain together with adjoining rooms, benefitting from in-house services along with 24-hour support.

The goal of our case workers and house mentors is to empower the youth we serve to be successful young women and mothers.

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## Intact Family Services Program has 100% Success Rate

Caritas' Intact Family Services Program has expanded from just one team in Mt. Vernon to two additional teams in Metro East and Carterville, all serving over 14 counties in southern Illinois. The program currently serves over 100 families - which is a record high. The program's intervention-based services provide families with the preventative help they need to remain together and eliminate the risks of their children being placed in foster care. The voluntary program aids families with much needed resources such as rent, utilities, health services, parenting classes, counseling, safe sleep initiatives, case management, and community-based services.

"Our Intact Program is having tremendous success which means we are helping keep families together and avoid the trauma of separation," explained Chief Program Officer Hope Carbonaro. "A lot of times parents are overwhelmed and just need a little support. These families are on the cusp of removal, but in many cases they don't have a support network and possibly never learned good coping mechanisms to handle the stress they are facing. Our team is there to offer them all levels of assistance to help keep the family together."

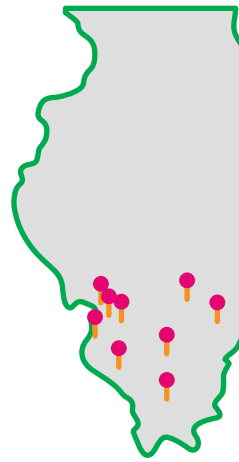
"Caritas has evolved from just a child welfare agency to a full human service network. We try to serve people throughout all stages of life. We serve many vulnerable people and fill in many gaps for those who need a safe place to land; they can get help through our agency," said Carbonaro.

We have been tremendously honored over the past years to be part of such a worthy cause and see the impact our work is making. We thank each of you for all you have done to support our mission and what's to come in the year ahead.



  
**CARITAS**  
FAMILY SOLUTIONS

# FY 2023 FACT SHEET



## Service Area

- Alton
- Belleville
- Carterville
- Effingham
- Glen Carbon
- Highland
- Mt. Vernon
- Olney
- Sparta

## Mission Statement

Caritas Family Solutions strengthens the social and emotional well-being of individuals and families in order to create healthy relationships, loving homes and strong communities.

## Program Statistics

Healthy relationships, loving homes and strong communities.

### Foster Care

2,762 children and their families served  
513,022 days of care  
35.3% of children achieved permanent stable homes

1,543 active foster homes

55% of Relative Foster Care Homes are licensed

### Children's Center

St. John Bosco Children's Center  
35 youth served 10,096 days of care

#### Youth in Care Emergency Shelter

6 youth served

#### Youth Maternity Program

2 moms served 2 babies served



### Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

74 participants

11 participants secured unsubsidized employment

35 Host Agencies

### Community Family Stabilization

5 mothers served 5 babies served

118 families served through United for Families

53 families served by United Way

\$158,000 of funding provided through United Way and Development dollars

### Intact Family Program

462 children and parents served

93.52% of cases were not re-opened within 1 year



### Fox River Assisted Living Apartments

32 seniors served

96% of residents are satisfied with services



### Clinical Services

2,018 counseling hours provided

85% of clients successfully discharged from services



### Community Integrated Living Arrangements

28 adults served

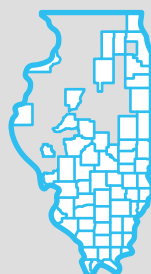
546 community outings

100% of residents and guardians are satisfied



## By the Numbers

\$45.7 MILLION FY 2023 Revenue  
\$48.6 MILLION FY 2024 Budget



63 Counties Served

634 Employees

6,319 Clients Served

88% Programs

12% Administration

[CaritasFamilySolutions.org](https://CaritasFamilySolutions.org)

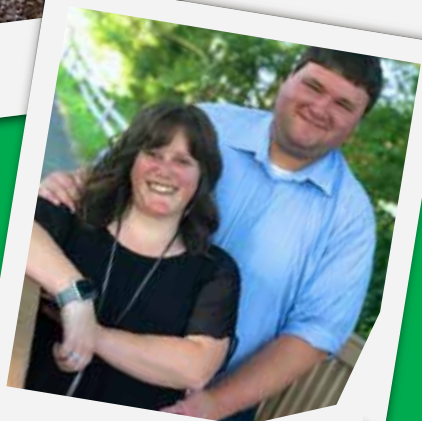
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023

Support and Revenue:	2023	2022	2021
Grants and Contracts	\$42,530,047	\$38,319,240	\$35,046,213
Program Service Fees	\$121,974	\$119,970	\$778,255
Contributions	\$988,545	\$833,243	\$735,355
Fundraising Events (Net)	\$258,848	\$156,413	\$123,349
Rental Income	\$290,239	\$338,423	\$342,862
Miscellaneous Income	\$36,376	\$4,044	\$14,956
Insurance Proceeds - Rent	\$84,735		
Investment Income	\$372,831	-\$344,187	\$295,851
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$71,504	\$69,693	\$67,938
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$44,755,099</b>	<b>\$39,496,839</b>	<b>\$37,404,779</b>
Expenses and Net Assets:			
Program Services:	\$38,000,324	\$33,595,736	\$32,906,787
Management and General	\$5,401,620	\$4,522,265	\$3,734,174
Rental Expense	\$24,390	\$70,682	\$88,712
Fundraising	\$542,527	\$383,053	\$300,410
Total Expenses	\$43,968,861	\$38,571,736	\$37,030,083
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Property/Equipment	\$23,834	\$122,849	\$130,953
Gain On Extinguishment of Debt			\$1,026,799
Contingent Loss/Repayment Excess Revenue	-\$225,000	-\$911,552	
Insurance Proceeds - flood damage	\$1,193,478		
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,778,550</b>	<b>\$136,400</b>	<b>\$1,532,448</b>
Assets:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$2,665,692	\$3,510,865	\$3,731,903
Accounts Receivable (Net)	\$3,655,862	2,733,494	3,115,474
Certificate of Deposit	\$632,375	129,911	129,006
Investments (at Fair Value)	\$2,807,979	2,186,909	1,520,698
Prepaid Expenses	\$501,076	566,133	423,357
Total Current Assets	\$10,262,984	\$9,127,312	\$8,920,438
Reserves and Client Deposits	\$175,377	160,349	163,336
Right of Use Asset	\$827,024	0	0
Property and Equipment (Net)	\$10,470,316	9,666,695	9,988,957
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$21,735,701</b>	<b>\$18,954,356</b>	<b>\$19,072,731</b>
Liabilities and Net Assets:			
Current Maturities of Notes Payable	\$1,638,430	\$248,658	\$281,653
Current Maturities of Capital Leases	\$334,825	345,927	277,599
Accounts Payable	\$991,065	1,023,321	1,212,635
Accrued Salaries and Related Expenses	\$2,712,042	2,437,176	2,961,271
Other Accrued Liabilities	\$237,050	182,632	202,759
Current Maturities of operating leases	\$191,179		
Due to DCFS/Contingent Liabilities	\$1,050,747	911,552	
Deferred Revenue	\$251,584	251,584	251,584
Notes Payable, Less Current Maturities	\$4,073,687	5,713,393	5,962,052
Operating Leases, Less Current Maturities	\$647,656		
Capital Leases, Less Current Maturities	\$315,332	326,559	546,024
Net Assets: Without Restrictions	\$9,249,643	7,471,093	7,334,693
Net Assets: With Restrictions	\$42,461	42,461	42,461
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$21,735,701</b>	<b>\$18,954,356</b>	<b>\$19,072,731</b>



To view our complete financial audit, please visit our website





## Our Mission

To strengthen the social and emotional well-being of individuals and families in order to create healthy relationships, loving homes, and strong communities.

## Our Vision

To be the premier human services organization committed to promoting a just and caring society reflective of God's love.

## Our Values

Respect • Innovation • Equity • Faith •  
Integrity • Accountability • Collaboration

[CaritasFamilySolutions.org](http://CaritasFamilySolutions.org)



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