

# MISSION POSSIBLE



**NEWS** from  
Catholic Charities of the  
Archdiocese of Newark  
**SUMMER 2012**



Jesus sent his followers to go out and work in the vineyard. We at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark are working in the vineyard of the Lord by serving all

those who are struggling. Our work at Catholic Charities mirrors the mission of Christ himself who sought out the suffering, the poor, and the marginalized members of society. Our work in the Vineyard is difficult. But thanks to you and your financial support, our Mission is Possible.

Summer does not consist of lazy-hazy-crazy days for all. Single mothers are left with the difficult-to-answer question, “what to do with the kids?” Yes, sending a child to camp is a good idea. But as one mother put it, paying for camp is “like paying rent and I can’t afford it.”

Thanks to the Vance Wall Foundation, Catholic Charities is able to send five children to our camps, located in Elizabeth and Newark, for the summer.

One child is Julissa. She is a bright, talented and fast-learning four-year-old. Her parents are separated. Her mother has struggled to raise her without help. Paying for childcare alone has been a strain. Julissa’s mother wanted her daughter to go to camp in order to keep her “mind stimulated and occupied.” Because of the Vance Wall Foundation, Julissa is being given the opportunity to enjoy an active and fun-filled summer.

Another child who is at camp is Rock. His parents have been without a job for over a year. His mother did not want Rock glued to the television all summer long. “I want Rock to be in a summer program, learning and having fun.”

Every weekday, until the end of August, Rock, Julissa and three other children will be in an environment where programs reinforce education, where healthy lifestyles are taught and where solid values are built.

Will you please join the Vance Wall Foundation and other donors in sending a kid to camp? You will give an inner-city, financially disadvantaged child the opportunity to enjoy the summer and most importantly, the chance to just be a kid.

**Children enjoying the Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer.**



## Mission Possible’s Trivia Corner Summer, the Season of Sunshine and Fond Memories

“Those Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer” was sung by whom in the summer of 1963?

- A. Nat King Cole
- B. Lewis July and his band, the Summer Solstice
- C. Cole Porter
- D. Lady Gaga

*answer on bottom of back page*

## From the desk of Phillip Frese, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer

Catholic Charities cannot do its work without the help of donors and countless volunteers who give their time, energy and expertise in helping us minister to those in need. Two of our most dedicated volunteers received the 2012 Volunteer of the Year Award – Sister Justine Pinto, OP and Jayson Williams.



**Dr. Phillip Frese, CEO, Sister Justine Pinto, OP, and Jayson Williams at the Upper Montclair Country Club, 100 Years of Catholic Charities Celebration**

Sister Justine Pinto, OP, a Dominican Sister of Caldwell for over 50 years, is a Jersey girl and better, a Jersey City girl, through and through. If there is anyone who talks the talk and walks the walk, it is Sister Justine Pinto. As the Pastoral Associate at Saint Aloysius Parish in Caldwell, New Jersey, Sister Justine has, over the years, collected and donated truckloads of food and clothing to Catholic Charities.

One day a 6’10” guy showed up on the doorstep of St. Lucy’s Shelter in Jersey City, asking to volunteer. To our surprise, the man was former New Jersey Nets’ number 55, Jayson Williams. You may know Mr. Williams as one of the great basketball players of our time. But the men and women who reside at St. Lucy’s Shelter have come to know him as a caring mentor — someone who gives inspirational talks and who serves them their meals.

We greatly appreciate the work of these two volunteers. We also thank donors like you who take the time to read our newsletter and learn more about helping those in our community who are in need.

# To Be Treasured – Too Often Forgotten

A Message from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark Staff Member Joycelynn J. Murray

Since I began my tenure with Catholic Charities in July 2005, a day has not gone by when I have not received a call for assistance from a person or family in need. To say that I am grateful to be that voice on the other end of the phone would be an understatement. It gives me immense satisfaction to provide as much information as I can and to refer people to the many resources available through Catholic Charities. I want to resolve each request as effectively as possible. *I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you* (Psalm 31:3).

When hardships are encountered by people who already suffer from illiteracy, sickness, addiction, abuse and mental disabilities, their urgent need for assistance is driven to indescribable levels. The seemingly endless recession has only made life worse for those who are the most vulnerable in our community. In September 2011, the Census Bureau

reported that poverty in the United States increased to 15.1 percent in 2010 from 14.3 percent in 2009. The report also found that the poverty rate among single mothers and children increased from 29.9 percent in 2009 to 31.6 percent in 2010. It is now a sad fact that without supplemental support, most single mothers will never achieve economic stability. Is there any wonder that I have received so many phone calls from so many women seeking assistance from Catholic Charities?

I receive tremendous solace from reading the Bible. One of my favorite passages is from 1 John 3:17-18. It reads: *If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions in truth.*

**Please keep in mind: we must treasure and not forget those women and children in need.**



**A single mom and her daughter enjoying a warm, summer's day.**

## How can you help?

**The Great Recession has had a lasting impact on single mothers and their children. The situation for Catholic Charities' female head-of-household clients is precarious at best. For many women, because of cuts in social services, the only place they can turn for help is Catholic Charities.**

**\$5,000** will pay for one month of groceries at Hope House or St. Rocco's Shelter for women and children.

**\$3,000** will pay for a Parents Anonymous, Inc. group facilitator. Parents Anonymous, Inc. groups help parents improve their relationships with their children and alleviate the stress related to being homeless.

**\$1,200** will pay for one child to go to camp for the entire summer.

**\$600** will pay for one child to go to camp for one month or for half-day sessions.

**\$300** will pay for an infant and toddler crib.

**\$250** will purchase bedding for three homeless families.

**\$150** will buy a 20-inch commercial cooling fan for a shelter.

**\$ 50** will pay for a cosmetics and other toiletries kit for women looking for work and/or an apartment.

**\$ 40** will pay for a lightweight, first-year stroller.

**Any amount will help Catholic Charities provide compassionate care to the least among us.**



## National Praise for Catholic Charities' Preschool

Catholic Charities' and Mount Carmel Guild's Elizabeth-based preschool, The Little Schoolhouse, garnered national recognition when it received a new five-year term from the **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)** accreditation system. The administration, teaching staff, and families of The Little Schoolhouse are to be congratulated for continuing to uphold the high quality of education represented by the NAEYC system.

Catholic Charities provides the very best to the young children in its care. At Catholic Charities, we affirm that as unique human beings, made in the image and likeness of God, we all, even the poorest among us, have a right to reach our full potential.



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of the Archdiocese of Newark

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Answer: a – In June 1963, Nat King Cole came out with the album, "Those Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer." The album was made to feature songs that sounded like or were actually written in the late 19th century, when summer days were in fact lazy, hazy and crazy.