

**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2025

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**We Are There: Catholic Charities of Orange County joins national campaign to promote the life-giving work of the Catholic Charities network**

Catholic Charities of Orange County is joining with the Catholic Charities network around the country to participate in **We Are There**, a national awareness campaign highlighting the life-giving services Catholic Charities agencies provide in their local communities.

"Catholic Charities of Orange County is blessed to be a part of the We Are There Campaign to help promote the good work we do in the community," said Ellen Roy, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Orange County.

For 49 years, Catholic Charities of Orange County (CCOC) has brought comfort, hope and relief to our neighbors, regardless of their faith, in Orange County, CA. CCOC has vital programs to make positive impacts in the community. Cantlay Food Distribution Center provides food to those in need in the community along with fresh produce grown on-site in the Garden of Hope. New Hope Counseling Services work to improve the mental health of individuals and Orange County Catholic School students, CalFresh Healthy Living provides nutrition classes and resources, and families and individuals are able to earn U.S. Citizenship through citizenship services Catholic Charities of Orange County offers.

The work that Catholic Charities of Orange County does in the community of Orange County is mirrored by services provided at Catholic Charities agencies around the country. There are 168 independent Catholic Charities agencies and 3,900 collective locations spread out across the United States and its five territories. Collectively, the Catholic Charities network served more than 15 million people last year and provided more than 30 million meals to those in need. The dedicated, selfless staff of Catholic Charities agencies are aided in this work by the indispensable contributions of more than 215,000 volunteers nationwide. The services offered by each local Catholic Charities agency differ because they are tailored to the specific needs of the vulnerable members of their individual communities.

Catholic Charities USA, the national membership organization for Catholic Charities agencies, organized and launched the We Are There campaign. Over the coming months, the campaign will raise awareness for the work of Catholic Charities through a variety of national media outlets. Here in Orange County, Catholic Charities of Orange County will continue to highlight the different ways we aid and accompany our neighbors in need.

To learn more about the We Are There campaign, visit We Are There. To learn how to volunteer or make a gift supporting the work of **Catholic Charities of Orange County**, visit <https://ccoc.org/events/we-are-there>.