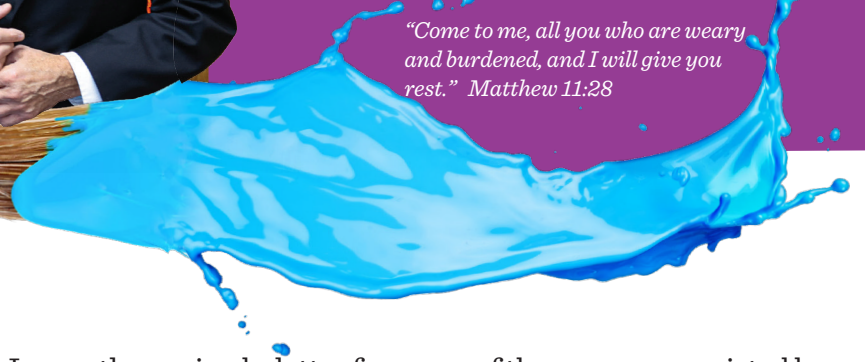




Bishop Peter Libasci with Sean and Liz Feren,
2023 BCAF Campaign Co-Chairs

2023 Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund NEWSLETTER

*"Come to me, all you who are weary
and burdened, and I will give you
rest." Matthew 11:28*



Dear Friends:

One act of kindness often alters a person's life forever. I recently received a letter from one of the programs assisted by the Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund (BCAF). The executive director of the organization described how the grant we made enabled a single mother to find a decent place to live temporarily. This young mother is now on the path to independent living, thanks to the help we were able to provide. I can only imagine what it must mean to her and her child to have a safe place to stay.

Each year, you and many others take the opportunity to be kind and generous through your gift to the annual campaign of the BCAF. Your gift joined with the gifts of others, makes it possible for the BCAF to help positively change lives in our communities.

This year, Sean and Liz Feren are leading our effort to raise funds to continue our work of reaching out to people of all ages, races, and religious beliefs that began 38 years ago. I am grateful for their energetic leadership and for your continued investment in helping the BCAF lighten the burden carried by so many.

So, please take a moment to mark your calendar for September 13 and plan to attend our new Summer Reception at the Currier Museum of Art. You will receive an invitation after the fourth of July requesting that you join us and participate in our tradition of supporting New Hampshire organizations that bring assistance, dignity, and hope to people throughout the state.

I look forward to greeting you at the Summer Reception when we will celebrate another successful campaign.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester



SUMMER 2023

Award Honors Work for Women and Families

Ruthie Ford



The *Vita et Caritas Award* was established in 2015 in honor of the memory of Ruthie Ford, whose life reflected Catholic ideals and tireless dedication to service in the cause of helping women, children, and families. Ruthie Ford was a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund and served as secretary. She and her husband, Pat Ford, were among the first supporters of the Fund when it began in 1985.

The award is presented annually to an individual associated with a non-profit organization who makes significant contributions that help to transform the lives of women, children, or families, and who exemplifies in his/her service the gospel message to love others. Ruthie Ford's family established the award and funds the grant that goes to the organization with which the individual is involved.

Last year, we presented the eighth *Vita et Caritas Award* to Dawn Longval. Ms. Longval is President of Isaiah 61 Café, in Laconia, NH. Isaiah 61 Café offers the homeless "friends" a continental breakfast, hot lunch, much needed bathroom facilities, hot showers, washers and dryers, and lockers to try to make up for all they lack. Isaiah 61 Café is 100% volunteer-based. They have around 32 volunteers and no one receives compensation, leaving 100% of donations to be used for their mission.

It all began in 2017, when Dawn Longval and a few friends went to Rotary Park in Laconia every Wednesday (no matter the weather) and brought music, water, sandwiches, and love to the homeless and less fortunate families. Through this outreach, the homeless began to trust and appreciate their kindness and many became motivated to enter rehabs and change their lives for the better. This humble beginning encouraged Dawn and her husband, Dave, to purchase the building for Isaiah 61 Café with their own money and

refitted it to fill the needs of the homeless and opened in June of 2018.

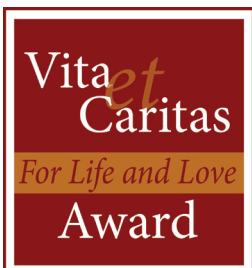
Since that time, the Longvals have overseen the development of the Café and recently bought an addition to the original building and opened a "wet shelter." Even though Dawn is a devoted mother to 6 children, she volunteers most of her time at the Café. Although her husband has a successful marketing company, he works at the Café when Dawn can't be there. Dawn is also a CPA and has saved the Café lots of money by doing almost all the financial work required for the operation.

During the summer, the Café provides a safe place for children of all ages to be nourished both physically and spiritually. While at the Café both adults and children experience a respite and find hope through acoustic worship. They are offered clothing and other necessities. The Café provides gifts at Christmas for the parents to give to their children, even to those parents who are in prison.

The Café is based on Matthew 11:28: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Dawn is so loving, non-judgmental, and patient with their friends. She plays the guitar and sings songs of comfort. Dawn provides Bible sharing 6 times per week and worship 4 times. She truly radiates her love of God. They rent their facility to the Waters Edge Christian Church on Sundays where Dawn often leads worship and many of their friends attend regularly.

For a complete listing of past *Vita et Caritas Award* recipients, please go to www.catholicnh.org/vca.

Applications for the 2023 *Vita et Caritas Award* were due by June 2. The award recipient will be honored at the Bishop's Summer Reception on September 13, 2023, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester and the non-profit agency will receive a grant of \$2,500.



BCAF Reports Annual Activity for 2022-2023

The Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund has allocated \$191,000 in grants since July 1, 2022. This year we have distributed funds to 59 worthy organizations throughout the state of New Hampshire. There is an additional \$20,000 earmarked for emergency allocations. Any unallocated funds from previous years are rolled over and made available for grants in the new fiscal year.

BISHOP'S CHARITABLE ASSISTANCE FUND

Sources and Uses of Funds July 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023

SOURCES

Cash on hand from 2022 and Prior Campaigns.....	\$446,667
Donations 2023 year-to-date.....	1,765
Legacy/Bequest used for grants.....	439,682
Interest Income (as of 4/30/23).....	471

TOTAL SOURCES888,585

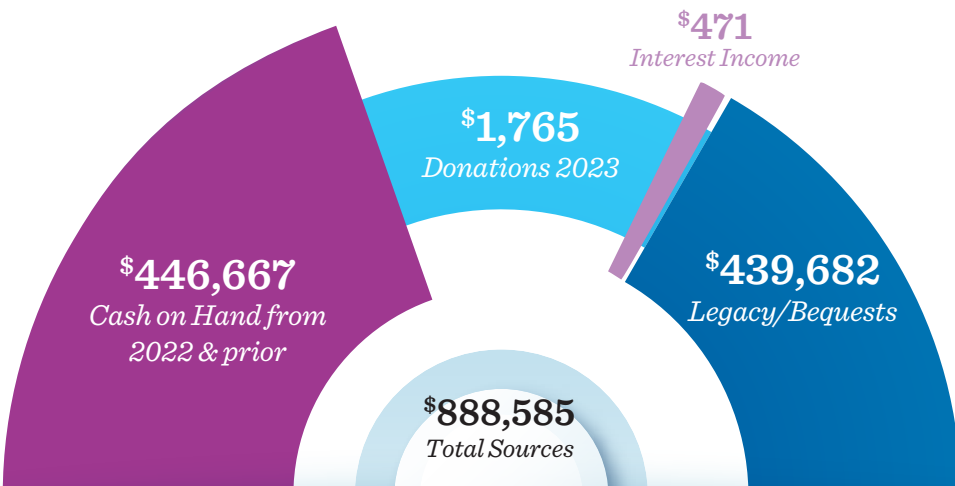
USES

Grants Dispersed.....	191,000
Administration and 2022 YTD 2023 Reception/Expenses.....	81,677

TOTAL USES272,677

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE GRANTS, ADMINISTRATIVE

EXPENSES & EMERGENCIES \$615,908



How Your Legacy Can Carry On

Whoever cares for the poor lends to the Lord, who will pay back the sum in full. (Proverbs 19:17)

Have you ever thought about your legacy? You may faithfully be making annual donations to the charitable organizations that are important to you and your family, but have you considered what will happen when you pass on and are no longer able to make those annual donations? Planned giving, also referred to as gift planning or legacy giving, is a donor's intention to contribute a planned gift to an organization beyond their lifetime. This is often a continuation of the donations an individual or couple has made while living, but on a larger scale. A planned gift can be as simple as a cash bequest to a charitable organization in a Will or Trust, a gift of stocks or bonds, or the designation of a charitable organization as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, annuity or IRA. A donor can even specify the purpose of the gift and/or limit the amount of the gift that the organization may spend annually.

The BCAF has been the recipient of three legacy gifts over the last number of years. We are using these gifts to enhance our grantmaking to more organizations in need. It is thanks to the continued support of donors, like our legacy donors, that we are able to assist so many not-for-profit organizations that improve the quality of life and provide basic essentials for individuals and families in New Hampshire, especially the poor and disadvantaged. We honor these families for their long-term support and for making a final gift to the BCAF possible through their wills and estate plans.

If you would like more information on creating a legacy for the BCAF, please contact Melanie English at 603-663-0166 or menglish@rcbm.org.

BCAF Awards \$191,000 in Grants to Help NH Residents

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF GRANTS AWARDED BY THE BCAF IN 2022-2023.

Bishop Libasci and the Board of Directors have approved grants to organizations that assist families and individuals in the following categories:

SOUP KITCHENS, SHELTERS, HOUSING, AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE:

1269 CAFÉ MINISTRIES, *Manchester*
ANNIE'S ANGELS MEMORIAL FUND, *Stratham, Serves Local Families*
THE BRIDGE PROJECT, *Lincoln, Serves Carroll County*
BRIDGES: DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT, *Nashua, Serves Southern NH*
BRIGID'S HOUSE OF HOPE, *Concord, Serves Greater Concord*
CATCH NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING, *Concord, Serves Merrimack County*
THE COMMUNITY KITCHEN, *Keene, Serves Monadnock Region*
CORPUS CHRISTI FOOD PANTRY AND ASSISTANCE, *Nashua*
CRISIS CENTER OF CENTRAL NEW HAMPSHIRE, *Concord, Serves Merrimack County*
CROSS ROADS HOUSE, *Portsmouth, Serves Seacoast Area*
DISMAS HOUSE OF NH, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
EASTER SEALS NH, *Manchester, Serves Greater Manchester*
FAMILIES IN TRANSITION, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
FAMILY PROMISE OF SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE, *Nashua, Serves Southern NH*
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY, *Derry, Serves Greater Derry*
FRIENDS OF AINE, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
THE FRIENDS PROGRAM, *Concord, Serves Greater Concord*
HARBOR HOMES, DBA HARBOR CARE, *Nashua, Serves Greater Nashua*
ISAIAH 61 CAFÉ, *Laconia, Serves Greater Laconia*
MARGUERITE'S PLACE, *Nashua, Serves Statewide*
NASHUA SOUP KITCHEN & SHELTER, *Nashua, Serves Greater Nashua*
OPPORTUNITY NETWORKS, *Amherst, Serves Southern NH & Monadnock Region*
ORION HOUSE, *Newport, Serves Statewide*
THE PLUS COMPANY, *Nashua, Serves Southern NH & Greater Merrimack Valley*

PROJECT HOME, *Keene, Serves Monadnock Region*
ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SERVICES/ MEALS ON WHEELS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, *Merrimack, Serves Hillsborough County Region*
THE SALVATION ARMY, *Manchester, Serves Hillsborough County*
SHARE FUND, *Rochester, Serves Greater Rochester*
SONSHINE SOUP KITCHEN, *Derry, Serves Greater Derry*
TWIN RIVERS FOOD PANTRY, *Franklin, Serves Franklin and Andover*
THE UPPER ROOM, A FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER, *Derry, Serves Greater Derry*
UNION LEADER SANTA FUND, *Manchester, Serves Southern NH*

MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AND SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS:

CAMP BERNADETTE AND CAMP FATIMA, *Gilmanton, Serves Statewide*
CARE NET PREGNANCY CENTER, DBA CARE WOMEN'S CENTER, *Concord, Serves Greater Concord*
CATHOLIC MEDICAL CENTER/POISSON DENTAL FACILITY, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
CROTCHED MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
GOOD NEIGHBOR HEALTH CLINIC, *Lebanon, Serves Upper Valley*
LAKES REGION PREGNANCY CARE CENTER, DBA ASPIRE WOMEN, *Laconia, Serves Lakes Region*
THE MOORE CENTER, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
NH ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND, DBA FUTURE IN SIGHT, *Concord, Serves Statewide*
PENNACOOK PREGNANCY CENTER, *Manchester, Serves Southern NH*

CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT-RISK/ DEPENDENCY PROGRAMS:

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MANCHESTER, *Manchester, Serves Greater Manchester*
CASA OF NH, *Manchester, Serves Statewide*
CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND NEW HAMPSHIRE, *Concord, Serves Statewide*
FRIENDS OF FORGOTTEN CHILDREN, *Concord, Serves Greater Concord*
FRIENDS OF NH DRUG COURTS, *Concord, Serves Statewide*
FUELED BY KIDS, *Bedford, Serves Manchester Schools*
GOOD BEGINNINGS OF THE UPPER VALLEY, *West Lebanon, Serves Upper Valley*
GRANITE YMCA, *Manchester, Serves Greater Manchester*
GREATER NASHUA DENTAL CONNECTION, *Nashua, Serves Greater Nashua*
MAYHEW PROGRAM, *Bristol, Serves Statewide*
NASHUA POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE (PAL), *Nashua, Serves Southern NH*
NEW LIFE MINISTRIES OF N.E., *Manchester, Serves New England*
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MANCHESTER, *Manchester, Serves West Manchester*

SENIORS AND ELDERLY CARE AND ASSISTANCE:

CALEB INTERFAITH VOLUNTEER CAREGIVERS, *Lancaster, Serves North Country*
CARROLL COUNTY RETIRED & SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM, *North Conway, Serves Carroll County*
GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, *Lebanon, Serves Grafton County*
HOME HEALTHCARE, HOSPICE & COMMUNITY SERVICES, *Keene, Serves Cheshire County*
STEP UP PARENTS, *Portsmouth, Serves Statewide*

For descriptions of the grants awarded, please visit our website: www.catholicnh.org/bcaf.

Join us on Facebook  /bishopscharitableassistancefund) to hear more about the campaign and our grant recipients.

Sean and Liz Feren Named 2023 Co-Chairs

The Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, Bishop of Manchester, of the Roman Catholic Church in New Hampshire, has named Sean and Elizabeth “Liz” Feren as Co-Chairs of the Bishop’s Charitable Assistance Fund’s (BCAF) 2023 campaign. Now in its 38th year, the BCAF has raised and distributed more than \$7.4 million to assist organizations that work to improve the quality of life of individuals and families in New Hampshire, especially the poor and disadvantaged.

For more than 30 years, Sean has been employed with Veritiv Corporation, and is an Enterprise Account Executive. He has been actively involved in the Manchester community for decades, having coached youth sport teams including hockey, softball, baseball, basketball, soccer, and flag football, and as a past member of the Manchester Girls Softball League Board of Directors.

Liz has served as Healthcare Strategy Consultant for Catholic Medical Center since 2016. She is an active member of the Catholic faith community, having served as a consultant for the Diocese of Manchester, as Marketing Chairman and board member for St. Benedict Academy, Parental Advisory Committee member at Mount Saint Mary Academy, and Parent Committee member at Trinity High School.

The Ferens and their children, Maria, Mitchell, and JP, are parishioners of St. Joseph Cathedral and reside in Manchester.



2023 BCAF



Joos van Cleve
Flemish, 1485-1540
The Holy Family, about 1520
oil on panel, 29 1/4 x 22 in. (74 x 56 cm)
Currier Funds, 1956.5

Bishop’s Summer Reception Reimagined

The Bishop’s Summer Reception will be held at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, NH, on Wednesday, September 13, from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. We are trying something new where we can enjoy a perfectly climate-controlled facility, view amazing artwork, visit with friends, sip on cocktails and dine on hors d’oeuvres and desserts. Here we will celebrate our 2023 fundraising campaign, and learn about the work of the Bishop’s Charitable Assistance Fund for the citizens of New Hampshire.

If you have not been to the Currier Museum lately, you will not be disappointed. It features European and American paintings, decorative arts, photography, and sculptures. It also has a gallery of religious art, which is magnificent. The permanent collection includes works by Picasso, Matisse, Monet, O’Keeffe, Calder, Scheier and Goldsmith, John Singer Sargent, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Andrew Wyeth.

The Bishop of Manchester is excited about hosting the summer reception at this grand facility and providing you and your guests an opportunity to have a new and reimagined evening at the Currier Museum of Art.



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2023 Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund

The Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund makes grants to not-for-profit organizations without regard to religious affiliation for projects that help people in New Hampshire meet their basic needs. The Fund is operated by volunteer

lay men and women who serve as directors and who make recommendations to the Bishop of Manchester for grants to any organization in New Hampshire consistent with the mission of the Roman Catholic Church.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Peter A. Libasci, D.D.**
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Lisa Walker**



The Granite YMCA Helping Children

You can also donate online using a credit card.
Go to catholicnh.org/bcafdonate for more details.



We are always looking for new campaign committee members. If you would be interested in joining our committee and raising funds for the BCAF, please contact Melanie English at menglish@rcbm.org.

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Manchester, NH

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Sean & Liz Feren
2023 Campaign Co-Chairs

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Bradford Cook
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Mike Davey
Rob Eib**

**Thomas Farrelly
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