

Help & Hope

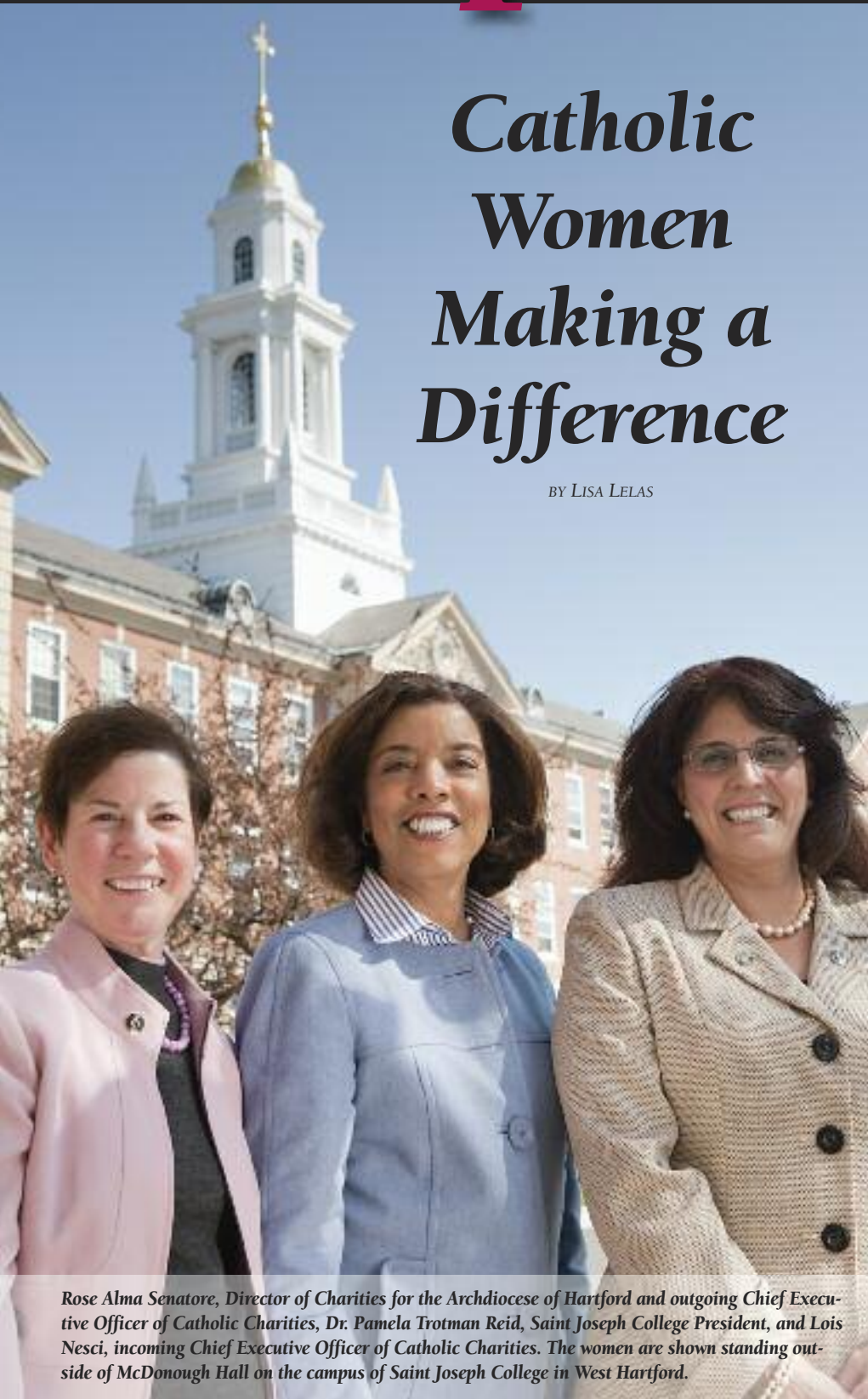
The Magazine of Catholic Charities

Archdiocese of Hartford

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Catholic Women Making a Difference

BY LISA LELAS



Rose Alma Senatore, Director of Charities for the Archdiocese of Hartford and outgoing Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities, Dr. Pamela Trotman Reid, Saint Joseph College President, and Lois Nesci, incoming Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities. The women are shown standing outside of McDonough Hall on the campus of Saint Joseph College in West Hartford.

Embracing the foundation of Catholic social teaching, three women's personal journeys to the top have been fueled by the spirit of giving and exemplify all that can be accomplished with a positive attitude and dedication to community service.

Rose Alma Senatore, Lois Nesci and Dr. Pamela Trotman Reid have long been looked up to as powerful women in the state's Catholic community. While they hold a common connection to Saint Joseph College, they also cling to similar core values that helped shape their respective life's path.

ROSE ALMA SENATORE

Rose Alma Senatore is the outgoing Chief Executive Officer. This year marks eight years in that position at Catholic Charities. She believes that her role as CEO has been "to fulfill the mission of the organization, which takes vision, leadership, the ability to make hard decisions and to move the agency forward."

"This has been an invaluable position for me, working so closely with the Archbishop, his vision and making that a reality, working with the Archdiocese, my co-workers, and the people we serve. I can't express enough how open to change everyone has been in pursuing new ideas. It's been wonderful working with the Archbishop, who is so socially active and open minded."

Although Senatore calls her departure as CEO a step toward semi-retirement, she will continue in her role as Director of Charities, a part time diocesan position representing the Archbishop on the trustee boards of the colleague agencies of Catholic Charities: St Agnes Home, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. Francis Home for Children, and the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry. "I will be keeping a strong connection to the organization and

PHOTO:CHRISTINE PALUF

Women *from previous page*

continue working with colleague agencies on any project the Archbishop would like to develop.”

Looking back as a graduate of SJC, Senatore feels her love of teaching and giving to others had been nurtured by the solid educational foundation she received there.

Senatore admits she could not see herself fully retired at this time, “but I’ll begin transitioning into full retirement when I feel like I’ve fulfilled the obligations of my career.” An avid golfer and exercise enthusiast, Rose Alma Senatore looks forward to any extra time semi-retirement may bring.

LOIS NESCI

Catholic Charities recently appointed Lois Nesci as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective July 1. Nesci looks forward to assuming her new position and explains “we need to make sure the agency continues to advance its mission as it has for the past 90 years...providing help and creating hope to those most vulnerable.”

As a graduate of Saint Joseph College, Nesci firmly believes that her education provided a solid pathway to her current career. “My education at SJC helped build and strengthen my foundation in all that I do today. I gained opportunities that fostered leadership skills and promoted the call to service.” Nesci still maintains close ties to the school as President of the Alumni Association and sits on the Board of Trustees. “It will forever hold a special place in my heart.”

Lois Nesci is a positive spirit to the core...one who clearly embraces life, hones opportunity, and loves to laugh and bring joy to others. She has volunteered in soup kitchens and traveled to Appalachia twice on service missions. “The Catholic Church always played an important role in my life,” she explains.

Aside from the many professional hats she wears, Nesci loves spending time with friends, cooking, reading biographies, traveling through New England, swimming and going to the movies, all of which help provide the balance needed to take on the next chapter of her life.

DR. PAMELA TROTMAN REID

Dr. Pamela Trotman Reid, President of Saint Joseph College, is another woman of admiration. About Nesci and Senatore, two successful graduates of SJC, Reid ex-

udes pride. “We are immensely proud of their accomplishments!”

Born and raised in New York, Reid welcomed the change that New England offered and has grown fond of Connecticut.

Saint Joseph College seems to breed successful women because of what Reid calls “the family-like sense of community. People come together, supporting and accepting each other for who they are, which helps build individual strength. You see in students the culmination of what I see as the formative stages of life...developing into strong women, thinking for themselves, having integrity, and developing faith.”

With more than 2,300 students (women undergraduate and co-ed graduate and adult weekend programs), Reid affirms what Saint Joseph College has to offer. “We really have it all,” she says. Located on 84 acres in suburban West Hartford, the college provides an array of cultural events, service opportunities, spiritual development and fitness and recreational options. “We try to encourage the spirit of giving back to the community. The act of volunteering enlivens our students.” With an extensive academic curriculum, the school is also about to open the brand new School of Pharmacy in downtown Hartford.

No job comes without challenges. “There are financial struggles we must endure. The campus was built in 1932 and we are always striving to keep it state of the art.” The high point for Reid every year is commencement day. “Many of our students are first generation college students and aware of the significant sacrifices their families made to get them there. I believe this fosters their sense of giving back.”

Throughout her own schooling, Reid studied the roles women have played and what shaped those roles. Attending an all-girl high school, “you get to see girls play all the parts,” she explains. “Here at SJC our students develop leadership skills, integrity, and they have the chance to explore their spirituality.”

As a high achiever, Reid admits it’s all about balancing life. “You simply have to carve the time for family and friends.” She loves spending time with her 3 grandchildren whenever she can, as well as biking and vegetable gardening.

“If I’ve learned anything about juggling life from gardening...it’s that you don’t have to pull out all the weeds. It’s about prioritizing.” ■

from the CEO

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

My time as Chief Executive Officer of the Agency is drawing to a close and I want to reach out to each one of you to say thank you for all that we have been able to accomplish together. We consolidated our Agency’s name to Catholic Charities, created new vision and mission statements, opened new facilities in Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury, and inaugurated the Help & Hope Breakfast as an annual event, where we have made many new friends and supporters.

Archbishop Mansell has asked me to continue my role as Director of Charities so I know that our paths will continue to cross. I am delighted that my colleague and friend, Lois Nesci, will be taking the reins at the Agency. She has been a great part of all our accomplishments, and I know she will continue our mission of Providing Help & Creating Hope.

I have especially enjoyed meeting and working with so many of you. I have been truly blessed to have had this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Rose Alma

Rose Alma Senatore
Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Charities



PHOTO:CHRISTINE PALUF



The Migration and Refugee Services Office Receives a Major Grant

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Hartford is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a major grant in the amount of \$425,000 from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The three year pledge was made possible, in part, by the generosity of the Family Service Society Fund, William and Estelle Fraidowitz Family Fund, and John Talcott Whitman and Louise H. Whitman Fund.

This grant will enable Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Resettlement Program to provide critical wrap-around case management and clinical services to refugee families who have immigrated into Hartford and require in-

tensive post resettlement services to fully integrate into the community and become self sufficient. The program is designed to provide high intensity home-based culturally and linguistically appropriate case management and clinical services after the initial 180 day resettlement services in efforts to address the unique needs of refugees, including behavioral health, family stability, Department of Children and Families and legal involvement, and academic and employment challenges. This intensive wrap-around model will assist refugees to fully acclimate to their new lives in this country. ■

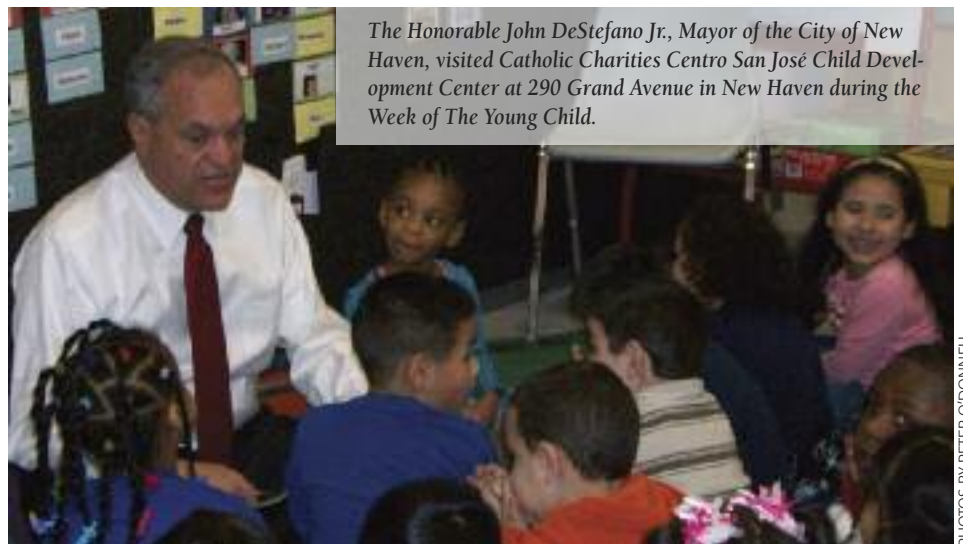
Local Mayors Visited Catholic Charities Child Development Centers to Celebrate the Week of the Young Child

The Week of the Young Child is designed to enhance awareness of the value of good early childhood education, a primary goal of Catholic Charities throughout its ninety year history of helping those in need in Connecticut. The event was held the week of April 11th through the 15th.

Special activities to mark the week included art shows which brought families together for viewings, guest readings by family members and community leaders (see attached photos) and field trips to nursing homes, parks and museums. The children were delighted by the special visitors and the added activities in their program. ■



The Honorable Pedro E. Segarra, Mayor of the City of Hartford, read to the children and received a special homemade gift from one student during his visit to the Institute for the Hispanic Family, located at 45 Wadsworth Street in Hartford during the Week of The Young Child on April 14th.



The Honorable John DeStefano Jr., Mayor of the City of New Haven, visited Catholic Charities Centro San José Child Development Center at 290 Grand Avenue in New Haven during the Week of The Young Child.

PHOTOS BY PETER O'DONNELL



✓ Tuesday, September 20 at Wampanoag Country Club in West Hartford –

The Annual Archbishop John F. Whealon Memorial Golf Tournament

✓ Friday December 16 at the Hartford Marriott Downtown – **Help & Hope Breakfast**



Catholic Charities adds another Family Center in Hartford

Catholic Charities, in collaboration with the City of Hartford and the Connecticut Department of Health and Human Resources, has opened a new Family Center in the recently restored Parker Memorial Recreation Center on Main Street near Brackett Park in Hartford. The new Family Center is part of the Brighter Futures Initiative of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

It is the fourth Family Center operated by Catholic Charities in Hartford with the goal of educating parents on topics ranging from the promotion of literacy in their children to family financial management. Parker Memorial Recreation Center includes basketball and volleyball courts, a pool, locker room, exercise equipment, a community room, kitchen and game rooms. ■

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VISION: Individuals, Families and Communities will become Healthy, Self-Sufficient and Productive – Thriving in a Just and Compassionate Society.

MISSION: Motivated by Christ's Social Teachings and Respect for the Richness of Diversity, *Catholic Charities* exists to Promote the Dignity, Self-Sufficiency and Human Potential of those in need.

Linda McMahon reads to a group of children at Centro San José in New Haven on April 13, 2011.



Linda McMahon Visited Catholic Charities Centro San José

Linda McMahon visited Catholic Charities Centro San José at 290 Grand Avenue in New Haven on Wednesday, April 13th to help us celebrate the Week of the Young Child. Catholic Charities Centro San José Neighborhood Youth Center is the recipient of a grant from the Vince & Linda McMahon Family Foundation. This generous grant will support a program that helps youth in the Fair Haven neighborhood avoid risky behavior and will allow them to continue to access a safe neighborhood youth center where they can engage in social activities and receive the supportive services they need. ■

PHOTOS: MIKE THUT

Linda McMahon (holding a child) stands with recipients of the services provided by the Family Center.

