



Catholic
Social Services

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CSS Facts • Fiscal Year 2020 • July 2019 – June 2020

For over 50 years, Catholic Social Services (CSS) has provided a family of services to support the most vulnerable in Anchorage. CSS provides shelter, meals, employment assistance, and medical care to those experiencing homelessness. CSS also aids children and their families, helps immigrants and refugees adjust to life in Alaska, and serves individuals with disabilities.

CSS operates 7 multi-faceted programs, including 2 emergency shelters, Brother Francis Shelter and Clare House, a food pantry, housing case management service, a pregnancy support program, services for individuals with disabilities, and a refugee resettlement and immigration program. Every program plays a role in our goal of ending homelessness, one family at a time. Through these programs Catholic Social Services served **approximately 12,000 clients**.



Programs of Catholic Social Services

Brother Francis Shelter, established in 1982, provides temporary shelter, day shelter, and emergency shelter for men and women. Brother Francis Shelter also provides an evening meal, shower and laundry facilities, access to a clothing room, a medical respite program and clinic, and job readiness. FY20 brought major changes to Brother Francis Shelter due to COVID. As a result of social distancing we went from able to sleep 240 people each night to 72. During **FY 2020**, Brother Francis Shelter provided **67,988** nights of stay and served **62,125 meals** to **2,365** men and women without a home.

Clare House, established in 1983, offers 24-hour emergency shelter and progressive housing for women with children and expectant mothers. They are provided basic needs, including food, clothing, and safe shelter. Case managers work closely to connect families to appropriate treatments, services, and resources so they can move out of homelessness and into secure, permanent housing. In the last quarter of FY20 Clare House reduced the number of families they could bring into shelter by 50% due to COVID. During **FY 2020**, Clare House provided **16,496** nights of stay to **229** women and children without a home. All **100%** of school-aged kids were linked to Child in Transition services.

Family Disability Services (FDS), *established in 1981*, provides respite services and skills training for people who experience developmental disabilities and offers their families a support system and much-needed break. Trained providers work with consumers in their homes and in the community. During **FY 2020**, FDS served **54** people, providing **32,853 hours** of direct-care services. Through a survey, **100%** of families reported being satisfied with the services by their direct care provider. FDS is the only program in Anchorage that provides family-directed respite, giving families the choice of who cares for their child.

Homeless Family Services (HFS), *established in 2008*, provides case management to veterans, individuals, and families living in shelters and unsheltered families with children — from securing emergency housing when shelters are full to connecting individuals and families to the resources necessary to secure a home. During **FY 2020**, HFS case managers housed **322 households** representing **537 individuals**.

Pregnancy Support & Adoption Services (PSAS), *established in 1967*, provides birth-options counseling, advocacy, support, and referrals for pregnant women and birth parents. PSAS is a licensed child placement agency, serving adoptive parents and adoptees through home studies for children in foster care through OCS and home study writer workshops. During **FY 2020** provided **over 400** adoption home studies for children waiting in foster care.

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS), *established in 1987*, provides a bridge for refugees (those who fled their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former lives to their new ones in the U.S. RAIS assists refugees in obtaining financially sustainable lifestyles in which the family's basic needs are met long-term. RAIS offers bilingual and bicultural services, including case management, life-skills orientation, and job-readiness classes for the first 5 years in the U.S. As a result, there are over 500 clients currently eligible to receive services. During **FY 2020**, RAIS resettled **36 new** arrivals and helped **61 clients** obtain employment.

St. Francis House Food Pantry, *established in 1962*, provides an emergency 2-3-day supply of food to those in need once a month. During **FY 2020** the food pantry changed from a client-choice pantry to delivering pre-packed food boxes for clients. This was in response to covid-safety precautions for our staff and our clients. During this year we saw large numbers of new clients and, we served approximately **30-150 households** each day the Food Pantry was open. Over **9,000 clients** brought **758,433 pounds** of food home to their families.

Catholic Social Services (CSS), accredited by the National Council on Accreditation, is one of the largest social service agencies in Alaska. CSS was incorporated in 1966 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to serve the poor, strengthen individuals and families, and advocate for a just community. CSS is the social service arm of the Archdiocese of Anchorage, serving, engaging, and employing people of all faiths.