Our Mission
Cardinal McCloskey Community Services strives to protect, empower and promote independence for at-risk children and families and those with developmental disabilities through quality community-based services.

Our Vision
As a dynamic organization, we will lead, advocate and serve to enhance lives by anticipating and responding to community needs.

The CMCS Leadership Award Presented

The CMCS Leadership Award is presented annually during our Professional Development Day event to an employee who embodies the “CMCS” qualities inspired by our former Vice President of Human Resources and his 35 years of dedicated leadership to the organization; hence this award has been renamed in 2018 to “The CMCS Barry Schmitt Leadership Award”:

“C” – Compassionate: A Sanctuary Model Ambassador who consistently models the 7 commitments and Sanctuary practices.

“M” – Modest: An employee that is highly respectful and humble and who has a highly collaborative and conflict-free approach to interactions.

“C” – Catalyst Leader: An employee who embodies CMCS’ management philosophy based on the Development Dimensions International (DDI) model by being a change agent and who sparks action in others.

“S” – Steward: An employee who has been employed with the organization for at least 5 years and who supports organizational endeavors by supporting the agency’s mission, vision and values creed through involvement in agency-wide initiatives and activities.

This year’s award recipient is Ms. Emily Pomales, Assistant Director of the Waiver Services Providers in our Bridges to Health Program. Ms. Pomales, who has an 11 year tenure with the organization, started her career as a Waiver Services Provider and her quiet, consistent, professional work ethic has been the basis for her continuous growth and development during the time she has been with CMCS, all the while supporting families with the greatest effectiveness, compassion and humanity.

Ms. Pomales’ dedication to youth and families is demonstrated every day in her role as Assistant Director. She provides support, direction and resources to the Supervisory team, which allows them to provide the highest quality and most meaningful services. One of the most recent examples, is her helping to coordinate services for families, to attend school, family visits and therapy, simultaneously. These services are critical to a child’s ability to heal from trauma and achieve lasting healthy permanency. The most significant example of Ms. Pomales’ compassion is the relationship and commitment she has shared with one of our youth – L.R. Despite the changes in Ms. Pomales’ roles and responsibilities, her commitment to L.R. continues to strengthen and the impact of this commitment has been clearly depicted in the artwork LR submitted to the 2016 Bridges to Health Statewide Summit contest, asking “What does B2H mean to Me?” LR graphically shows
A Letter from the President & CEO’s Office

Summer was here and gone in a flash. With vacations over, everyone has returned to their routines, by heading back to school and work. CMCS was busy making this summer one to remember. We held a variety of events with this goal in mind. Our first event was our Annual Explorer for a Day outing. With your generous support, more than 125 children spent the day at the Bronx Zoo discovering the wildlife and making new friends. Next we planned for Back to School, by launching our annual backpack campaign that provided much needed school supplies to our foster children. The backpacks were enthusiastically assembled with the help of adults with developmental disabilities from our Day Habilitation Program. Finally - Our 11th Annual Golf Outing was a big success – it was a great day for golf and the day continues to be a cornerstone of our fundraising efforts.

With fall upon us, it is time for CMCS to recognize the exceptional work of our staff. “The Barry Schmitt Leadership Award” was presented to an individual who embodies CMCS’ management philosophy with compassion and modesty. This award was presented at our annual Professional Development Day which promotes skill building and leadership. Staff also joined in recognizing September’s National Suicide Prevention Month. As part of this observation - CMCS has developed screenings in all of our divisions that not only assess for suicide risk but ensure that we are referring for needed services to promote optimal health and wellness.

We would like to express our gratitude to all of our donors, corporate sponsors and foundation partners for their continued support. With all of your help, we are able to continue to provide exceptional care to those we serve.

One of these special donors is Maureen Medure, whose lifetime of philanthropy is also characterized by her gracious enthusiasm and commitment to CMCS. Cardinal McCloskey Community Services is delighted to have Maureen serve as the first Chair of the Cardinal McCloskey Legacy Society. The CMCS Legacy Society will include those, who through their charitable giving, have included us in their estate and/or financial planning. As Chair, Maureen will advocate for others to become visionaries while fully participating in the future path of CMCS.

Upon receiving a grant from the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, CMCS will begin implementing Wendy’s Wonderful Kids. This program has been found to be quite effective at serving children who have been in foster care the longest, including older youth, sibling groups and children with special needs. CMCS continues to strive to find forever homes for children in New York’s foster care system.

Your continued support of our programs upholds the level of care that CMCS commits to those in our care today and every day. We could not reach this goal without all of your support. And as the calendar moves towards Thanksgiving – we want to say that we are thankful for you – Thank you always for your support.

Sincerely,

Beth Finnerty, President & CEO

CHANGE THE LIFE OF A CHILD:
BECOME A FOSTER PARENT!

Consider opening up your heart and home to a child in need of support and care. Share the love of family and help change the life of a child.

Our foster care programs are in need of nurturing foster parents to provide loving and stable homes to provide temporary care to children who cannot safely remain in their homes at this time. Cardinal McCloskey Community Services provides care to children of all ages: from infants through adolescents, of various ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds. Our staff will assist you through the certification process and continue to support you throughout the time the child is in your home.

The rewards of helping to care for a child in need of foster care are those you can feel in your heart.

For additional information on becoming a foster parent for children in our Bronx programs, please call: 718-993-7700. For our Westchester County program, please call 914-620-5043.
The CMCS Leadership Award
continued from cover

his personal growth with the help of his family, school and our B2H program. LR’s artwork won this award and proudly hangs on the wall in our main Bronx office.

Of the qualities needed to be selected for the “CMCS Barry Schmitt Annual Leadership” award, modesty would be Ms. Pomales’ signature quality. Ms. Pomales’ manner is respectful and unassuming. She is often willing to take a back seat while others enjoy the attention for efforts that she has primarily orchestrated. Ms. Pomales’ leadership exemplifies the principles of DDI and Sanctuary. She is trauma sensitive, empathetic and leads from a position of personal power and by example. Not only has Ms. Pomales utilized both Sanctuary and DDI principles to guide her own professional growth and development, she has also done so while cultivating staff and guiding their professional growth. Stewardship is often described as commitment and caring for an organization that allows its growth and success. One strong example is the work Ms. Pomales has done, in advance of each “Stepping up for CMCS Walkathon”, over the past several years. Ms. Pomales tirelessly works toward organizing events that raise funds for this yearly event. B2H has been the top fundraising program, two of the past three years and Ms. Pomales has been integral to that success. Ms. Pomales also never misses an opportunity to engage youth in CMCS sponsored events, such as Taking the Stage, that promote their commitment to community service and ultimately builds their self-esteem. Ms. Pomales is committed to CMCS’ Mission, Vision, and Values Creed and we express our utmost appreciation for her tireless commitment to the organization as a whole. •

Zippidy “ZOO” Da Day

On June 28, 2018, an expected washout of a day could not dampen the spirits of our Explorers! As if they were making their way through a tropical rain forest, our “Explorers for a Day” were on a mission to uncover all of the wild adventures that awaited them at the Bronx Zoo.

The overnight showers ended just in time for the arrival of our “Explorers” at the Bronx Zoo. There was a steady flow of children arriving throughout the morning. At noon, all the children gathered for lunch in the zoo’s pavilion. It was truly a sight to be seen.

It was a wonderful day for these children, many of whom have never been to the Bronx Zoo. The children’s joy was evidenced by their beautiful smiles. Their memories of this day will last them a lifetime.

The Bronx Zoo outing is one of the many resources and activities offered to those in our care that imparts feelings of joy and happiness.

Everyone at CMCS would like to thank the donors who sponsored a child (or children) at our “Explorer for a Day” outing. It was an extraordinary day, as these children were surrounded by fun and laughter. On behalf of CMCS and the children and families we serve, thank you for your kindness and generosity.

We can’t wait until next year for the 3rd Annual Explorer Outing! •
Fore! 11th Annual CMCS Annual Golf Outing & Dinner

On Monday, September 17, 2018, Cardinal McCloskey Community Services held our 11th Annual Golf Outing & Dinner at Leewood Golf Club, which was once again amiably hosted by CMCS Board member, John McCombe. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our friends and sponsors at this event, we were able to raise over $190,000 to support the crucial programs of CMCS. More than 100 golfers enjoyed a brunch before a shotgun start at noon. After a great day on the course, golfers, and volunteers were joined by many dinner guests for the evening segment of the event.

Following cocktails and hors d’oeuvres, guests proceeded into the dining room where John McCombe welcomed Devin to the podium. Devin spoke about his time with CMCS and how many of the CMCS staff in the audience had helped him on his journey from foster care to becoming an independent adult. Devin spent 20 years in foster care, ten of those years with CMCS, before attending culinary school. Devin is currently employed as a chef working with our Early Childhood Education program. He has also moved into his own apartment with the help of the Hearts to Home program. Everyone in attendance was quite moved by Devin’s speech and let out a rousing round of applause.

Next up for the evening’s festivities was the live auction with John McCombe presiding over the fast paced bidding. This year’s auction included some great prizes including dinner for 12 at Oceana and tickets to “Come from Away”, the U.S. Open and the New York Yankees, just to name a few.

Once again, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those who made this year’s Golf Outing & Dinner such an enjoyable time for all. We look forward to seeing everyone back on the links next year!
For nearly 75 years our partners in the CMCS mission have aided in the growth and the societal impact of CMCS. Partnerships develop and grow in many ways. In the case of Maureen Medure, nearly a lifetime of awareness and support for CMCS culminates in her becoming Chairwoman of the Cardinal McCloskey Community Services Legacy Society.

Maureen Fitzgerald Medure grew up in White Plains and was aware of the Cardinal McCloskey Home for Children as a child. In the early 1970’s when the organization was establishing group homes for troubled youth, Maureen and her husband offered a home they owned in White Plains to CMCS as a rental, to serve as a residence for youth. Eventually this home became a residence for adults with developmental disabilities, known today as Whitney House. Whitney House is now owned by CMCS and Maureen’s long time partnership with CMCS continues to strengthen.

The death of her husband, in 1990, required Maureen to take an active role in managing their real-estate holdings. Maureen then sold Whitney to CMCS and held the mortgage for several years, with the intention of including CMCS in her estate planning. Maureen had specified upon her death the mortgage balance be forgiven as a gift to CMCS.

Maureen shared her thoughts on the reasoning behind her original legacy gift to CMCS. “During this ongoing business relationship, I became acquainted with many of the caring people at CMCS and became more aware of the scope of services they offer to at-risk children, families and adults with disabilities. I witnessed the growth of the organization and how it readily adapted and responded to the challenges and needs of the community. They have provided a path and a hopeful future for those in their care. I hope that my contribution will in some small way continue to assist CMCS in their work serving children, families and disabled adults”.

Maureen’s lifetime of philanthropy is also characterized by her gracious enthusiasm and commitment to CMCS. Cardinal McCloskey Community Services is delighted to have Maureen serve as the first Chair of the Cardinal McCloskey Legacy Society. The CMCS Legacy Society will include those, who through their charitable giving, have included the agency through their estate or financial planning. Maureen will help form a Legacy Society Committee who will advocate for others to become visionaries and fully participate in the future of CMCS.

“I hope that my contribution will in some small way continue to assist CMCS in their work serving children, families and disabled adults”.

Preparations have begun for our annual toy drive. Space in our building in Valhalla (generously donated by Turbonomic, an IT company that delivers workload automation) will be transformed from ordinary office space into Santa’s workshop with toys and gifts for the thousands of children and families in our care.

Our work begins in October, as we reach out to many, and others reach out to us. Over 50 volunteers from CMCS staff, DD Service Individuals, vendors, CMCS donors and students from local schools will work to help ensure that each child and family is included and feels the magic of Christmas.

On average, 6,000 toys are collected and distributed annually to those in our care with the support of over 50 corporate and individual donors.

This year’s Toy Drive Wish List includes the following items: dolls, educational toys, board games, art supplies, sporting equipment, cold weather clothing/accessories. If you prefer to donate a major retailer gift card, our team will happily purchase those special items on the wish list.

If you would like to help support the 2018 Toy Drive, please contact Steve Tone at stone@cmcs.org or by phone at 914-997-8000 x193.
FOUNDATION GRANTS

Cardinal McCloskey Community Services is grateful to our corporate and foundation partners for their generous support of CMCS programs and projects:

- The Strategies for Success Program, an educational advocacy program for youth in foster care, has received grant funding from: Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation, Catholic Charities, Alfred E. Smith Foundation, George Link, Jr. Foundation, Inc., Charles A. Mastronardi Foundation, and a two-year grant from The New York Community Trust.

- The Sunrise Drop-In Center, a safe haven for homeless, runaway and at-risk youth in the South Bronx, was awarded a grant from the New Yankee Stadium Community Benefits Fund, Inc.

- Our Preparing Youth for Adulthood (PYA) Program received a grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters, specifically for youth in college or vocational programs.

- Developmental Disabilities Services received a grant from The Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities, Inc. for a sensory room.

- Clinical Services received a grant from The Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in the City of New York, and the new McCloskey Cares Clinic received a grant to create a child-friendly waiting room from The McKeen Fund.

- The Westchester County Treatment Family Foster Care Program received a grant from the TD Charitable Foundation towards a van to transport children and families to activities.

- Adoption Services received a Wendy’s Wonderful Kids Grant from the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption to place children who are most likely to age out of foster care with adoptive families.

- The New York City Poison Control Center awarded us a grant to conduct Spanish-language workshops.

- General operating grants were awarded to CMCS from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of NY, Sarah I. Schieffelin Residuary Trust and the Wasily Family Foundation.

CMCS thanks all our funders for their partnership in supporting our response to critical unmet needs of the more than 4,000 families we serve.

Foundations Update

CMCS implements Wendy’s Wonderful Kids Program

CMCS is honored to be implementing Wendy’s Wonderful Kids (WWK), a signature program of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, that will bring children waiting to be adopted from foster care, one step closer to safe, loving and permanent homes.

The Foundation provides grants to adoption agencies to hire and train WWK adoption recruiters who implement the Foundation’s Child-Focused Recruitment Model. In 2011, a rigorous five-year national evaluation by Washington, D.C.-based Child Trends, revealed that a child referred to the Wendy’s Wonderful Kids program is up to three times more likely to be adopted, especially older youth groups and children with special needs.

Each year, many children in foster care turn 18 and leave the child welfare system without permanent families. Through Wendy’s Wonderful Kids, CMCS can focus dedicated time to matching children waiting in foster care the longest, with families planning to adopt. Every day, we strive to find forever homes for children in New York foster care system.

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is the only public nonprofit charity in the United States that is focused exclusively on foster care adoption. Learn more at [www.cmcs.org](http://www.cmcs.org).
National Suicide Awareness Month

September was National Suicide Awareness Month. As an agency that is staunchly committed to self-care, health and wellness, we recognize the importance of becoming more educated and educating others on this important issue. According to The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, children in foster care were almost three times more likely to have considered suicide and almost four times more likely to have attempted suicide than those who had never been in foster care. To mitigate risk, CMCS has developed comprehensive screenings across all divisions to assess for risk and to ensure that we are referring for needed services to promote optimal health and wellness.

In our commitment to Social Learning, we were able to raise awareness across various CMCS locations during the month of September. The hashtag initiative, “#BeThe1To” is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline’s message to spread the word about actions we can all take to prevent suicide. The goal of the “#BeThe1To” movement is to change the conversation from “suicide” to “suicide prevention”, by promoting healing and hope. In September, our clinical teams spearheaded information sharing on this important topic. The Clinical Team provided invaluable resources on what steps we can all take to prevent suicide by learning to help ourselves, help others, or seek consultation from trained providers. Through our promotion of Open Communication and Social Responsibility on this important topic, we can continue to provide support and take action for those who need it.

WAYS TO GIVE

In these challenging economic times, CMCS is more reliant than ever on private philanthropy. We have several methods for you to help CMCS continue its life-changing work. You can make your tax-deductible contribution to CMCS in any of the following ways:

Check: Please make your check payable to Cardinal McCloskey Community Services and mail it to us in the enclosed envelope.

Credit Cards: We accept American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Please fill out the enclosed envelope, contact us by phone, or visit our secure website: www.cmcs.org

Matching Gifts: You can double your gift to CMCS if you or your spouse work for an organization with a Matching Gift Program.

Real Estate: Gifts of personal residence can be made for an immediate income tax deduction. Or, with a retained life estate, the donor or designee can live in their home for the rest of their life. After that time, the real estate is owned outright by CMCS, without the complications of probate proceedings. This gift allows the donor to receive current income deductions for the discounted value of the property.

Bequest: You can leave a bequest to CMCS in your will or trust. A donation through your will or trust is fully tax deductible, and enables us to provide critical assistance to those in our care.

Securities: You can avoid capital gains tax on securities held long-term and provide an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value at the date of transfer. To transfer securities to CMCS, please contact Kerry Gutekunst at (914) 997-8000 ext. 114 or kgutekunst@cmcs.org.

Please consult with your tax advisor, and thank you for your continued support of CMCS; we could not fulfill our mission without your help!
SUPPORT OUR TOY DRIVE

You can take part by volunteering or donating items beginning Monday, November 26th, 2018 at 115 East Stevens Avenue, Suite LL5 in Valhalla, NY.

For additional information, please contact Steve Tone at (914) 997-8000 ext. 193 or stone@cmcs.org

For more information, please visit www.cmcs.org or contact the Development Office at (914) 997-8000 ext. 114 or KGutekunst@cmcs.org