



CSS Facts • Fiscal Year 2021 • July 2020 – June 2021

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, case management, 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.

During FY2021 operated 7 multi-faceted programs. These programs include: Brother Francis Shelter, Clare House, Family Disability Services, Homeless Family Services, Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services, St. Francis House Food Pantry, and Supportive Family Services. Every program plays a role in our goal of creating permanent stability through trauma informed care, one family at a time. Through these programs **Catholic Social Services served an estimated 12,300 individuals.**



Programs of Catholic Social Services

Brother Francis Shelter (BFS), established in 1982, provides emergency shelter for men and women. Brother Francis Shelter also provides daily meals, shower and laundry facilities, access to a clothing room, a Medical Respite program and clinic, and job readiness. Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, Brother Francis Shelter continued operating at reduced capacity, focusing on medically fragile and elderly guests. During **FY21**, Brother Francis Shelter served a total of **466 guests**, providing **24,131 nights of stay** and **64,108 meals**. Within the shelter, the **Medical Respite** program provided a safe space to recover from illness and injury for **117 guests**.

Clare House, established in 1983, offers 24-hour emergency shelter and progressive housing for women with children and expectant mothers. Families 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 find permanent stability. Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, Clare House continued operating at a reduced

capacity. During **FY21**, Clare House provided shelter to **220 women and children**, amounting to **12,823 nights of stay** and **25,962 meals**.

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. Trained providers work with clients in their homes and in the community. During **FY21**, FDS served **48 people** with disabilities and provided **14,722 hours** of direct-service care to them and their families.

Homeless Family Services (HFS), *established in 2008*, provides case management to veterans, individuals, and families living in shelters and unsheltered families with children – working toward the goal of permanent stability. During **FY 2021**, HFS case managers helped **304 households (542 individuals) move out of homelessness** and into housing and helped **prevent homelessness for 100 households**.

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. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and a respect for unique cultures, history, and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish. RAIS offers case management, life-skills orientation, agricultural programming, and job-readiness classes. During **FY21**, RAIS served a total of **460 clients**. RAIS resettled **13 new arrivals** in Alaska and helped **50 clients** find new jobs, with an average starting wage of **\$13.78**. **88%** of clients who started new jobs **held those jobs for more than 90 days**.

St. Francis House Food Pantry (SFH), *established in 1962*, provides an emergency 2-3-day supply of food to those in need. Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, the pantry continued distributing food in pre-assembled boxes to keep staff and clients safe. The pantry continued to see an increased need in the community, with many families using services for the first time. During **FY21**, Saint Francis House provided food for **10,311 people**, and served an average of **1,180 families** each month. Altogether, Saint Francis House food pantry distributed **690,008 pounds** of food.

Supportive Family Services (SFS), *established in 2020*, provides holistic support to families with a variety of needs. Through these services, SFS hopes to provide support and resources that will help strengthen families. During the program's first few months of **FY21**, SFS hosted its first Parent Café, a group support network, with **8 families** and a total of **48 people** participating. Supportive Family Services absorbed Pregnancy Support & Adoption Services, *established in 1967*, which completed **168 adoption home studies** for children waiting in foster care during the first half of **FY21**. In the second half of **FY21**, PSAS discontinued service.

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.