

## NEWS RELEASE

August 4, 2025

### **Catholic Social Services Reflects as East 56th Avenue Shelter Contract Concludes**

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** – Since October 2024, through a contract with the Municipality of Anchorage, Catholic Social Services (CSS) has operated the East 56th Avenue Shelter as a low-barrier, walk-in shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness in Anchorage. The shelter offered 200 beds to our most vulnerable neighbors and direct connection to additional services both on-site and through CSS's 3rd Avenue Resource & Navigation Center.

With the conclusion of this contract on August 31, 2025, Catholic Social Services will step away from operating this shelter, marking the close of a meaningful chapter in its service to the community.

During its time at East 56th Avenue Shelter, Catholic Social Services supported more than 1300 individuals, providing compassionate care and dignity to those seeking safe shelter and permanent stability.

To better meet guest needs, CSS expanded services by introducing on-site behavioral health case management, connecting individuals with essential care and long-term support. Through a partnership with a third-party contractor, CSS also established an on-site clinic providing EMT-level medical care, ensuring timely access to critical health services for shelter guests. In addition, CSS provided more than 7,000 transportation services to nearly 800 unique individuals.

Catholic Social Services is grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside homelessness services providers throughout the 2024–2025 winter shelter season—a period defined by dedicated coordination and partnership among many agencies to meet urgent community needs.

As it concludes operations at the East 56th Avenue Shelter, Catholic Social Services looks forward to continued collaboration with community partners in the shared mission to address homelessness and support those in need through its ongoing programs at Brother Francis Shelter, Complex Care Shelter, Clare House, and the 3rd Avenue Resource & Navigation Center.

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#### **About Catholic Social Services**

Catholic Social Services serves those most in need by working to end poverty, create opportunity and advocate for just communities. [Our programs](#) help over 10,000 children, families and individuals each year, regardless of their faith. For more information about CSS, visit [cssalaska.org/about-us/](https://cssalaska.org/about-us/)