

Circles of Mercy

*A Sponsored Ministry of the
Sisters of Mercy NE Community*



*A twenty-one year tradition of
providing hope, hospitality and
empowerment to individuals in
the Rensselaer Community,
especially women and women
with children...*

Circles of Mercy Mission Statement...



Drawing upon the Gospel and the spirit of Catherine McAuley, Circles of Mercy will try to improve the quality of life in the community by working to end the cycle of poverty, especially among women and women with children.

Animated by Catherine McAuley's passion for the poor, we honor the dignity of each person. We offer hospitality and provide services, to instill hope and empower individuals without regard to a person's religious affiliation, ethnicity or gender preference...

Circles Motto: "Hope and Hospitality"

Mercy Charism...



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- Preferential option for the poor
 - Life of generous service to persons in need
 - Special concern for women and children
 - Spirit of hospitality
 - Justice and Compassion
 - Trust in the providence of God
 - Critical Concerns: Earth, Immigration, Nonviolence, Racism and Women...

Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy...



The spiritual works of mercy:

- Instruct the ignorant;
- Counsel the doubtful;
- Admonish the sinner;
- Bear wrongs patiently;
- Forgive offences willingly;
- Comfort the afflicted;
- Pray for the living and the dead.

The corporal works of mercy:

- Feed the hungry;
- Give drink to the thirsty;
- Clothe the naked;
- Welcome the stranger;
- Visit the sick;
- Visit the imprisoned;
- Bury the dead.

Circles of Mercy Provides Services Through Linkage...



Needs Coordination for Individuals / Families,
Focus on Women and Women with Children:

- ❖ Free tax prep assistance; VITA & AARP Programs
- ❖ Financial literacy training
- ❖ Basic computer skills training
- ❖ Assistance with resume prep & job search
- ❖ Human Service Resource Referrals
- ❖ Client advocacy and support
- ❖ Kids Programs; Adopt-a-Family, Back to School, Easter Baskets

Circles Provides Services Through Linkage...



Needs Coordination for Individuals / Families,
Focus on Women and Women with Children:

- ❖ Catherine's Closet & Thrift Shop-including:
- ❖ Clothing grants for clients and families
- ❖ Cate's Kids and Baby Blessings Closet
- ❖ Layette Sets for new-borns
- ❖ Monthly grants for baby clothing
- ❖ Monthly grants for diaper and baby wipes

Circles of Mercy's 2017 Accomplishments...



- ❖ *Annual Report is given to the Sisters of Mercy*
- ❖ *The Mission of Mercy is Alive and Growing*
- ❖ *Met or Exceeded our Strategic Planning Goals*
- ❖ *Maintained Existing and Added New Partners, Volunteers and Benefactors*
- ❖ *Ended 2017 with a Surplus of over \$10,000!!!*
- ❖ *Eight-seven (\$0.87¢) cents of every \$1 donated goes to our programs (13% administrative cost)*
- ❖ *7,900 service transactions involving 1,600 clients*

Volunteer Service Options at Circles...



- ❖ *Always in Need of Sharing Your:
Time, Talent and Treasure...*
- ❖ *Catherine's Closet Volunteer...*
- ❖ *VITA IRS Tax Prep Volunteer...*
- ❖ *Consider Becoming a Trustee...*
- ❖ *Mentors for our Women Clients...*

Community Service Actions To Help Circles...



- ***Clothing Drive to Share Your Gently Used Clean Clothing...***
- ***Conduct a Baby Shower, Diapers and Baby Wipes Drive...***
- ***Adopt-a-Family at Christmas...***
- ***Easter Baskets for Cate's Kids...***
- ***Back to School Supply Donations...***

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