

CCSEM invests a truly impressive number of hours in serving our clients.



Foster Care

On average, our caseworkers dedicate a staggering 982 hours annually serving each foster care client. Our professional staff goes to great lengths to make the licensing process for families as convenient as possible. All assessments for prospective foster parents are done in a client's own home. CCSEM staff ensure clients participate in state-required training classes in as convenient a location as possible to their homes. Regarding the costs of certification and assessments, CCSEM helps clients obtain as much state funding as possible to minimize their financial outlay.

Foster Parents Paula and Michael Freil

"We decided to go through Catholic Charities because we are Catholic. Any needs we had for the kids, Catholic Charities helped out very well. It is very rewarding to us. We just feel, instead of retiring, we could take care of kids. We've always had kids around, and we want to keep kids around."



Foster Parents Mark and Maryann Hoying

"We have three children of our own, two in college and one in high school. This seems to be a good time for us. We have plenty of space in our home. We have more time now. So it's been a good decision, with good life lessons for our teenagers and good life lessons for us. The impact of foster care on our family has been very positive. We would recommend Catholic Charities. The caseworkers have been there for us when we've had all kinds of questions. They have been great. They have been there to guide us, not just in the right direction, but to take care of all the little questions that come up. Our advice to a new foster parent is to just take the leap. The benefits tremendously outweigh anything that could be holding you back."

Adoption

Our caseworkers invest an average of 266 hours annually supporting each of our adoption clients. Prospective adoptive parents receive detailed information on the process and their options, as well as assistance with all required paperwork. CCSEM also facilitates the search for birth parents and children available for adoption.



Adoptive Parents Brenda and Steve Abbamonte

"If anyone is even considering it, there is the perfect child out there for them. Do it. Just do it. No matter the age. There are teenagers that need homes, which is something we might do down the road. This was all the hand of God in how our daughter came into our lives and how we became a family. We didn't think this was going to happen a couple of times, but she is with us now. It's definitely worth the struggles we've been through."

Adoption, Foster Care, and Supervised Independent Living Services



Providing Help. Giving Hope.
ccsem.org

Supervised Independent Living (SIL)

Helping fostered teens between the ages of 16 and 18 transition to life as independent adults is the goal of the CCSEM Supervised Independent Living program. Youths of 18 to 21 years of age in foster care also can voluntarily enter the young adult program through which they receive guidance on life skills for self-sufficiency and are supplied with household goods, small appliances and more to help them get started.

SIL Graduate Janell Lomax

"It's good to know somebody else knows what you are going through. You are not alone, even though sometimes you feel alone. It's just nice to have somebody going through it with you. Honestly I was a troubled



kid. I had a little bit of an attitude problem. When I first met (my caseworker) Kristie, it didn't feel like an interrogation. It felt like she cared. I still contact her if there is a problem. She has had my back for the longest time. She became like a mother and a big sister in a way. Somebody I can just bond with and who knows me. It feels good to have someone know, because when you meet people at certain stages of your life, they just see that part of your life. It feels good to have somebody who is not related to me who has seen me grow and become the woman I am today, because I came a long way."

SIL Graduate Yolanda Dinkins

"If I had to do this on my own, it would have taken me longer. I wouldn't have been as motivated. They (CCSEM) helped me with a lot of stuff, to get everything quicker and just by being there. (My caseworker) Kristie was great because she actually showed me she really cared, and she was there for me when nobody was. So basically she was like my mom."



"May we always care for our children, not counting the cost, so that they may never believe themselves to be mistakes, but always know their infinite worth... Children are never a mistake, and their sufferings are only reasons for us to love them even more."

—Pope Francis



Adoption and Foster Care Services

Children deserve a safe and caring family environment. Providing a child with love and stability during a time of uncertainty is a generous gift. Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan (CCSEM) is the only Catholic agency providing adoption and foster care services in metro Detroit. In the last eight years, CCSEM has worked with nearly 400 families in Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, and Wayne counties. For the fiscal year 2015-2016, 98 children and teenagers in Foster Care and Supervised Independent Living programs were assisted by CCSEM caseworkers, and 45 adoptions of children into loving homes were facilitated through CCSEM.

CCSEM Adoption, Foster Care, and Supervised Independent Living

Office location: 17500 West Eight Mile Road
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248-663-8059 Fax
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Hours: Monday–Thursday: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Reflecting a profound respect for human life at all stages and with a strong commitment to enhance family life, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan (CCSEM) is a nonprofit organization providing dozens of services to individuals and families. CCSEM annually assists more than 20,000 people of all faiths, races, and cultures throughout the region.

MISSION

Compelled by the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan provides compassionate, quality, professional services and support to people in need.

VISION

CCSEM strives to be the organization of choice for people in need, transforming lives, encountering Christ and mobilizing hope in our community.

VALUES

Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan holds foremost that all our actions and efforts will be modeled after Jesus Christ and in conformity to the teachings and values of the Catholic Church.

Dignity of Human Life – We act with respect, kindness and hospitality to all persons who come to us for assistance.

Compassion – We hold a deep awareness of the suffering of others, accompanied by the desire to relieve their pain.

Integrity – We can be trusted to deliver our services with conviction, courage and transparency.

Professionalism – Our professional staff and volunteers conform to the highest ethical standards and quality of services measured by the licenses and accrediting of our employees and programs.

Transformational – We endeavor to transform the lives of the people we serve by tracking measurable outcomes of improvement.