

ROOTED IN SERVICE



*Catholic Charities
Bureau
Diocese of Superior*

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

ccbsuperior.org

WELCOME TO ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

In a world that changes so quickly, it is reassuring to know that some things endure. Among these lasting treasures is the call to serve, rooted not in trends, but in the enduring love of God. Our theme this year, *Rooted in Service*, reflects the steady mission of Catholic Charities Bureau. Grounded in faith, compassion, and joy, this ministry continues to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters.

This past year, Catholic Charities Bureau provided essential support to individuals and families throughout northern Wisconsin.

I am deeply grateful for the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and benefactors. Your compassion keeps Catholic Charities Bureau a beacon of light in uncertain times. You remind us that the Church's mission flourishes wherever love is freely given.

As we look ahead, I invite you to nurture the roots of faith and charity in your own lives. When we allow God's grace to deepen our roots, our service bears lasting fruit, transforming lives - including our own.

May Christ, the true vine, keep us rooted in His love and generous in service. With gratitude, I pray that God blesses you for your faithfulness and care for His people.

As I remain yours in Christ,



Most Reverend James P. Powers
Bishop, Diocese of Superior



From left to right:
Larry Wojchik, Board Chair
Alan Rock, Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Each of us, in our own way, is called to serve. This shared calling unites us as one family of faith. The theme of this year's Catholic Charities Bureau Annual Report, *Rooted in Service*, reminds us that service is not something added to our faith; it is the very expression of it.

We are deeply inspired by the resilience of those we serve and the generosity of those who make these services possible. The stories within this report reflect the best of who we are when we serve one another.

As we look toward the future, we remain committed to serving with integrity, transparency, and a spirit of joy. We will continue to listen to the needs of our neighbors and plant new seeds of hope wherever God leads us. May we continue to draw strength from our shared roots of faith and to serve with open hearts and willing hands.

Thank you for living the Gospel through your actions, your giving, and your prayers.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Wojchik".

Larry Wojchik
Chair, Catholic Charities Bureau
Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Rock".

Alan Rock
Executive Director
Catholic Charities Bureau



Catholic Charities Bureau Membership



Bishop James Powers,
President (center)
Fr. James Tobolski, Vice
President (right)
Alan Rock, Secretary/
Treasurer (left)

Catholic Charities Bureau Board of Directors

Standing left to right:
Bluette Puchner, Webster;
Kyle Torvinen, Superior;
Larry Wojchik, Clear Lake,
Chair; Dawn Staples,
Superior, Vice Chair
Seated left to right:
Mark Sitek, Superior; Kim
Pearson, Fall Creek; Mike
McCoshen Solon Springs



Catholic Charities Bureau Cabinet Staff



Executive Staff:

Left to Right:

Clarence Lodge, Director of Housing

Alan Rock, Executive Director

Clint Thursby, Chief Financial Officer



Amber Fallos,
Director Black River
Industries



Mark Kroll, Director
Challenge Center



Joe Wacek, Director
Barron County
Developmental
Services &
Diversified Services



Maureen Parkes,
Director
Headwaters

Mission of Catholic Charities Bureau

Under the pastoral leadership of our Diocesan Bishop:

To carry on the redeeming work of our Lord by reflecting gospel values and the moral teaching of the church.

To meet the critical needs and issues of our society through the use of our gifts and resources by mobilizing the Christian community in partnership with private and public enterprise.

To collaborate with all people of goodwill to alleviate human suffering by sponsoring direct service programs for the poor, the disadvantaged, the disabled, the elderly and children with special needs.

To create an environment of human dignity based on justice, mutual respect, understanding and trust. We profess the dignity of each person as a creation of God. This truth becomes the foundation of our great respect and love of each individual.

To translate our mission and vision into goals, commitments and action.

Catholic Charities Bureau Statement of Philosophy

Catholic Charities has since 1917 been providing services to the poor and disadvantaged as an expression of the social ministry of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Superior.

Accordingly, the purpose of the Catholic Charities Bureau is to be an effective sign of the charity of Christ. To this end, Catholic Charities:

- Provides services that are significant in quantity and quality.
- Assures an Ecumenical orientation exists in that no distinctions are made by race, sex, or religion in reference to clients served, staff employed and board directors appointed.
- Avoids unnecessary duplication of services already adequately provided by governmental or public organizations and other private agencies. Our programs are intended to complement the efforts of others.



*Catholic Charities
Bureau*



Code of Ethics

We will support the sanctity and dignity of human life and recognize the central role of the family in our society. We will respect and protect the dignity of the individual.

Code II:

We will give first consideration in the provision of our service to assist those members of our community who are most vulnerable and least able to help themselves.

Code III:

We will practice the virtues of charity and justice in our relationships with one another and with the people we serve as well as in our dealings with the community at large.

Code IV:

We will utilize our personal talents, trainings and experience for the benefit of enriching the lives of the people we serve.

Code V:

We will respect and conform to civil law and its governance. We will also seek to peacefully change those civil practices that adversely affect the well-being of the people we serve.

Code VI:

We will as faithful stewards assure organizational integrity by exercising prudent judgement in the utilization of the resources that are entrusted to us.

Code VII:

We will engage in activities that promote the well-being of the organization and avoid participation in actions that are intended to serve personal or private interests.

Code VIII:

We will guarantee confidentiality as a living principle within the organization and establish policies and procedures to protect the interests of the people we serve.

Code IX:

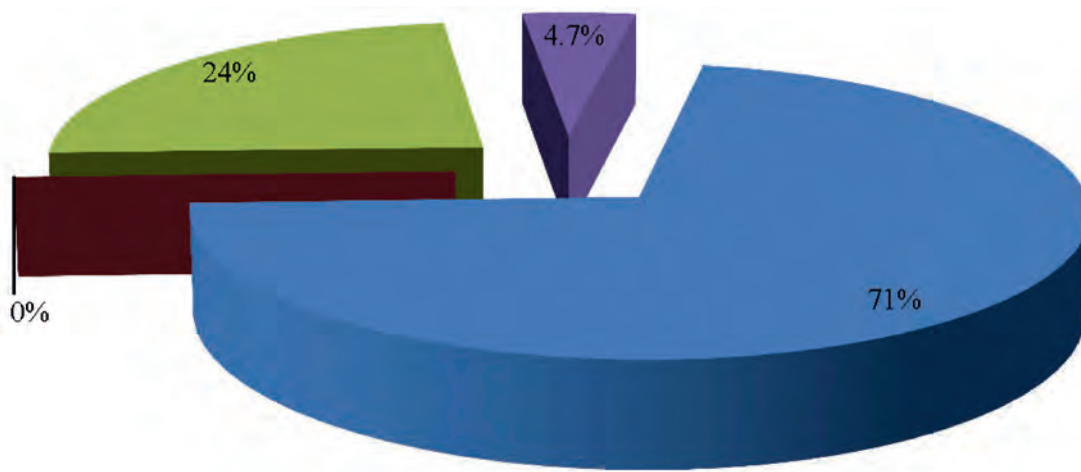
We will expect all persons affiliated with Catholic Charities to conduct themselves in a professional manner that brings credibility to the organization.

Code X:

We will collaborate with individuals, groups and other people of good will to achieve the fullest measure of charity and justice and strive to meet the highest standards of program excellence.

Catholic Charities Bureau
2025 projected operations by element
\$48,970,149/ 650 Employed

■ Comm Rehab ■ Child Srvs ■ Housing ■ Health/Therapy



Catholic Charities
Bureau

Catholic Charities Bureau Housing

**Clarence Lodge, Director of Housing**

1416 Cumming Avenue, Superior, WI 715-394-6617

**Clair Van Camp, Superior Regional Manager**

1001 Clough Avenue, Superior, WI 715-392-3447

**Patrick McFarland, Rhinelander Regional Manager**

880 E Timber Drive, Rhinelander, WI 715-369-2550

**Jennifer Whited, Chetek Regional Manager**

707 Tainter Street, Chetek, WI 715-925-2015

**Lacey Kohl, Medford Regional Manager**

132 S 7th Street #B9, Medford, WI 715-748-6962

**Rice Lake Regional Manager**

1310 N Wisconsin Avenue, Rice Lake, WI 715-236-2366

**Brook Haasl, Wisconsin Rapids Regional Manager**

272 110th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 715-421-0080

**Occupancy Office**

1100 Weeks Avenue, Ste B, Superior, WI 715-394-2012

Housing Regions

Chetek

Locations include:

Chetek, WI

Amery, WI

Siren, WI

Turtle Lake, WI

Medford

Locations include:

Medford, WI

Conrath, WI

Rhineland

Locations include:

Rhineland, WI

Crandon, WI

Land O' Lakes, WI

Phelps, WI

Minocqua, WI

Rice Lake

Locations include:

Rice Lake, WI

Minong, WI

Shell Lake, WI

Winter, WI

Hayward, WI

Superior

Locations include:

Superior, WI

Duluth, MN

Iron River, WI

Solon Springs, WI

Brule, WI

Wisconsin Rapids

Locations include:

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Plover, WI



Left: Centennial Apartments in Medford.

Right: St. Mary's Hall in Superior



Rooted in Service

Our over 650 staff members are the greatest instrument in carrying out our Mission for over 100 years in the 65 communities we serve. Some highlights of this year include:

- **Over 1,200 individuals served**
- **Over 650,000 miles driven**
- **Over 80,000 meals served**
- **Over 650 units of Housing**
- **Over 390,000 hours of service provided**
- **Through our food partnership with Second Harvest Northland we helped provide over 356,000 meals to those in need**



"The deeds you do may be the only sermon some persons will hear today." – Pope Francis I



175 N Lake Street
Barron, WI 54812
715-537-5341
www.barroncountydsl.org

For almost 50 years, BCDSI has served individuals with disabilities living in Barron County. From its humble beginnings, developed by concerned parents, BCDSI has transformed into an important root of the community.

BCDSI was one of the first Rest Areas in Wisconsin to contract with the Department of Transportation in 1987. Since then, they have continued to provide cleaning crews 365 days a year and always score high on satisfaction surveys.

In 2019, the Barron County Department of Human Services asked if BCDSI would develop a Summer Youth Program. The following summer, the program started and continues to grow and flourish, serving Barron County Youth ages 14-21.

Through a partnership with the Barron County UW Extension, BCDSI became the site for the Barron County Community Garden. Two plots are devoted each year to growing and donating the produce. Starting in 2026, the BCDSI Day Program will be planting, weeding, harvesting, and delivering the produce to three Food Shelves and the Barron Nutrition Program on a weekly basis.

While working with the Economic Development Corporation, a need was identified for a commercial kitchen in Barron County. BCDSI worked to get the kitchen up to standard and now rents it to 5 local businesses.

The roots BCDSI has in Barron County run very deep. They have a rich history of being an important partner that has expanded services in response to the needs of the community.





650 Jensen Drive
Medford, WI 54451
715-748-2950

www.blackriverindustries.org

BRI is firmly rooted in the small rural communities they serve. What began over 50 years ago as a mission of families committed to keeping their loved ones close has become a service to over 170 families in need. The quality services, great people they serve, and committed staff of BRI have transformed the community. People with all abilities are valued and contribute to make the lives of all citizens better. BRI works with over 55 local businesses and industries to support the ability of the people they serve to provide needed labor and products throughout North Central Wisconsin. The Day Services group extends volunteer services to local nonprofit organizations on a weekly basis. The people served strive for independence in a way that encourages their neighbors to be the best versions of themselves. Over 80 staff at BRI carry out the mission while at work and at home to deeply embed the value of all people in multiple generations. BRI is deeply rooted in the small towns, its people, and their hearts.



CHALLENGE CENTER

Serving Superior, Wisconsin and Surrounding Communities

39 N 25th Street E

Superior, WI 54880

715-394-2771

www.challenge-center.org

The staff at the Challenge Center is charged every day with a broad mission, to provide services that support those facing challenges to living and working in our community. They work to meet that mission in different ways. From operating group homes that provide long term family environments, day programs that enable meaningful interaction with peers and the community, to work services that provide a path to long term employment. The programs are designed to address the needs of some of the most vulnerable in our community as they strive to live independently.

A true hallmark of all the agencies under the Catholic Charities Bureau umbrella is that their programs develop and grow as a direct result of an unmet need in their community. This is especially true in the case of the Independent Living Program. One of the key factors that allow any individual to stay independent as they age or face a disability is their ability to maintain and stay in their own home.

From serving fewer than ten individuals just two years ago, they now serve over sixty with new referrals coming in each month. This rapid growth is a testament to the need for these services in the area. Program Team Lead and staff have been instrumental in creating services that meet the changing needs of each person served. They have worked to find and develop staff members that understand this is more than simply a job. It's a chance to positively impact those they serve.

The needs of those served vary. Some may simply need help with light housekeeping, while others may need daily assistance with showering, medication administration, laundry and cooking. Staff is available to assist with transportation to grocery stores, medical appointments or even outings with friends. Not only do these services positively impact those served, they also have a significant impact on family members sometimes struggling to find solutions for their loved ones. The peace of mind and confidence family members feel when they know their loved one's daily needs are being met are just one of the benefits of this program.

The Independent Living Program stands as one of the clearest examples of how they meet their mission. For so many in our area, the difficulty of living in our own homes as we age or deal with a disability is a daunting daily task with few solutions. The Challenge Center stands ready to be there for those they serve and their families, now and into the future.





7649 Tower Road
Siren, WI 54872
715-349-5724
www.dsisiren.com

DSI has been there to provide services to adults with disabilities living in Burnett County for over four decades. Over the years, the focus has changed with the needs of the community. Since 2019, DSI has been focusing on providing "Community Services". This is done through a wide range of volunteer opportunities along with classroom discussions and training. The impact on the community was recognized when DSI was chosen as the "Volunteer Organization of the Year" by the Siren Chamber of Commerce in 2024.

One of the successful volunteer sites has been working with the Interfaith Caregivers, Heat a Home Project. Two groups each week go to the Interfaith Caregivers wood processing site. They process and deliver wood for low-income individuals to help them heat their homes during the winter. This partnership not only helps the community, but also helps the individuals served by pushing themselves physically, learning that they are capable of more while helping community members.

DSI responded to a need identified late last year in Burnett County. One of the few Supportive Home Care providers closed which left a gap in services. DSI started providing Supportive Home Care services in 2025 which has been very successful. The goal is to significantly expand these services in 2026.

As DSI continues to grow and expand Community Services, they see daily how the individuals they serve grow closer and connected to the community and the community continues to welcome DSI with open arms.





Headwaters, Inc.

Empowering Lives

1441 E Timber Drive
Rhineland, WI 54501

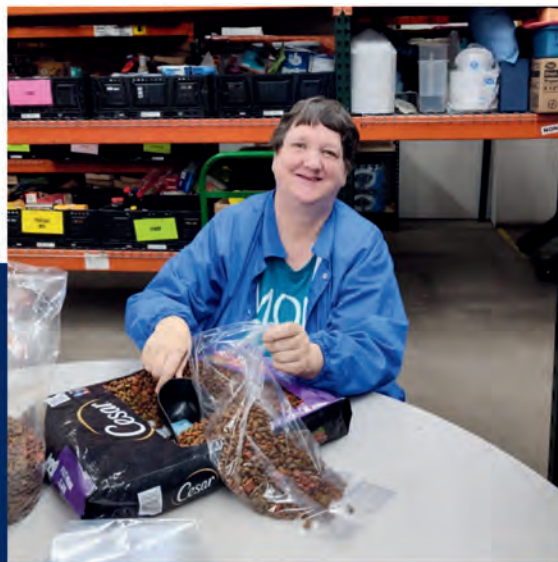
715-369-1337

www.headwatersinc.org

Community Based Day Services are designed to maximize a person's ability to manage everyday life activities in their community. Through this program individuals grow to become more active members of their communities and gain skills to help them find or keep employment. In 2025, a total of 52 individuals participated in the Community Day Program, including 7 high school students who took part in the Summer Focus Transition Program. A key component of this program is our commitment to contribute to our community through volunteering.

Participants volunteer weekly at the Rhineland Food Pantry and at our own Clothes Closet located at Trinity Lutheran Church. Headwaters pantry participants sort, and package donated produce, pet food, and toiletries for distribution. At the clothes closet, participants are responsible for sorting, hanging, and displaying donations as well as assisting shoppers. The shoppers can take what they need at no cost. Community Based Day Participants also participate in seasonal volunteer opportunities at Camp American Legion, DOT Adopt a Highway Program, and the Salvation Army. Participants volunteer weekly at Camp American Legion from May to September, cleaning the dining hall and raking the beach and hiking trail. They maintain a section of highway for the local Adopt a Highway organization, picking up and bagging trash 4 times per year. During the holiday season, participants ring the bell at local businesses for the Salvation Army. During the summer months, the Headwaters Focus program participants volunteer at the Oneida County Animal Shelter and Northwoods Alliance-Frederick Place. At the Animal Shelter, the participant volunteers provide care and socialization to the cats and kittens. The Focus participants also make several meals for the residents of Frederick Place, an emergency temporary homeless shelter in Rhineland.

Volunteer opportunities provide Headwaters participants with opportunities to contribute to the community and to gain skills for independent living and employment. Volunteer experiences are often identified as favorite day activities by many participants.



US Supreme Court Unanimously Sides with Catholic Charities Bureau

In 2025, Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc. and several of its affiliated service organizations achieved a significant legal victory in the United States Supreme Court. The case, Catholic Charities Bureau v. Wisconsin Labor & Industry Review Commission, centered on Wisconsin's denial of a long-standing unemployment-tax exemption for religious employers.

On June 5, 2025, the Supreme Court issued a unanimous 9–0 decision in favor of Catholic Charities Bureau, reversing the Wisconsin Supreme Court's earlier ruling. Wisconsin law provides an exemption from the state unemployment-insurance tax for nonprofit organizations that are operated by, and primarily for, religious purposes. Although Catholic Charities Bureau is directly affiliated with the Diocese of Superior and motivated by Catholic social teaching and would use a private trust to fund unemployment claims with the same benefit, the state had denied the exemption on the grounds that the agency's charitable work did not include proselytizing and served people of all faith backgrounds.

The United States Supreme Court rejected this reasoning. Writing for a unanimous Court, Justice Sonia Sotomayor explained that Wisconsin's approach improperly judged the religious character of Catholic Charities Bureau's work based on its outward activities rather than its mission and ecclesial structure. By conditioning the exemption on whether a charity evangelizes or restricts its services to co-religionists, the state engaged in impermissible denominational discrimination. The Court reaffirmed that religious organizations may serve the public broadly—without losing their religious identity or protections under the First Amendment.

This decision restored Catholic Charities Bureau's eligibility for the unemployment-tax exemption and offered clear guidance guarding against governmental intrusion into religious definitions and practices.

From left to right: Colton Stanberry, Counsel Becket Law; Eric Rassbach, Vice President & Senior Counsel Becket Law; Bishop James Powers; Alan Rock, Executive Director Catholic Charities Bureau; Kyle Torvinen, Board Director & Attorney; Nick Reaves, Senior Counsel Becket Law at the US Supreme Court



Wisconsin Supreme Court Ends State's Discrimination Against Catholic Charities Bureau

Following the United States Supreme Court's ruling, the case was overturned and sent back to the Wisconsin Supreme Court to determine the appropriate remedy. Rather than applying the exemption as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, under Attorney General Josh Kaul, proposed an alternative approach: eliminating the religious-employer exemption entirely.

The Attorney General argued for removing the exemption for all religious employers because the tax break is "discriminatory" and that ending the policy would "avoid collateral damage to Wisconsin workers." This proposal would not only affect Catholic Charities Bureau, but also every church, religious charity, parish school, and faith-based institution in the state while leaving over forty other exemptions in place like caddies and hospital interns.

Catholic Charities Bureau's legal counsel, Becket Fund, and many religious-liberty advocates noted that abolishing the exemption would go well beyond the United States Supreme Court's ruling.

On December 15, 2025 the Wisconsin Supreme Court denied this request and ruled that Catholic Charities Bureau is entitled to the exemption. This will allow them to participate in the Church Unemployment Pay Program (CUPP) which is the Wisconsin Catholic Bishops' unemployment program. It provides unemployment benefits that the United States Supreme Court recognized are "largely equivalent to the state system." This is a major victory for the organization after decades of litigation.

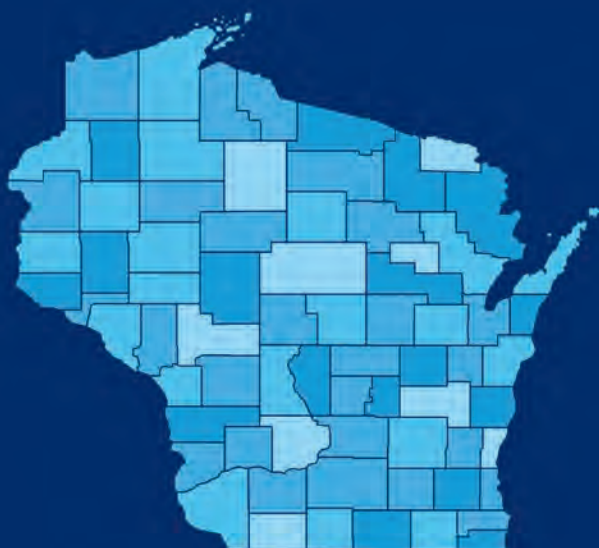


"I am deeply grateful for the the tireless work of the team at the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty." - Alan Rock, Executive Director, Catholic Charities Bureau

Central Administration	Superior	715-394-6617
Service To Families		
Eastwood Apartments	Medford	715-748-6962
Lead Free Douglas County 2010	Superior	715-394-6617
Services for People With Disabilities		
Acorn Apartments	Wisconsin Rapids	715-572-0080
Apple River Apartments	Amery	715-925-2015
Barc Lane Apartments	Chetek	715-925-2015
Barron County Developmental Services	Barron	715-537-5341
Bashara Apartments	Solon Springs	715-392-3447
Billings Park Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Black River Industries	Medford	715-748-2950
Blue Valley Apartments	Rice Lake	715-236-2366
Cedar Park Estates	Minocqua	715-369-2550
Challenge Center	Superior	715-394-2771
Co-Op Apartments Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Cypress Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Deerhaven Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Diversified Services	Siren	715-349-5724
East End Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Elmwood Apartments	Superior	715-392-3447
Evergreen Apartments	Rhineland	715-369-2550
Evergreen Apartments	Siren	715-925-2015
Gateway Pines Apartments	Land O' Lakes	715-369-2550
Harborview Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Headwaters	Rhineland	715-369-1337
Maywood Apartments	Medford	715-748-6962
McKenzie Manor	Superior	715-394-2771
Missouri Gardens Apartments	Superior	715-394-2771
Mountain View Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771
Northfield Apartments	Duluth	715-392-3447
Northwoods Village	Phelps	715-369-2550
Oakwood Apartments	Superior	715-392-3447
Phoenix Villa Hayward	Hayward	715-236-2366
Phoenix Villa North	Rice Lake	715-236-2366
Sumac Trail Apartments	Rhineland	715-369-2550
Westbay Apartments	Superior	715-392-3447
Woodview Group Home	Superior	715-394-2771

Senior Housing

Acorn Apartments	Crandon	715-369-2550
Acorn Apartments	Minong	715-236-2366
Bashara Apartments	Solon Springs	715-392-3447
Brule Valley Apartments	Brule	715-392-3447
Cedar Park Estates	Minocqua	715-369-2550
Centennial Apartments	Medford	715-748-6962
Evergreen Apartments	Chetek	715-925-2015
Evergreen Apartments	Shell Lake	715-236-2366
Gateway Pines Apartments	Land O' Lakes	715-369-2550
Lilac Grove Apartments	Siren	715-925-2015
Main Creek Villa	Conrath	715-748-6962
Maywood Apartments	Plover	715-341-7616
Northwoods Village	Phelps	715-369-2550
Phoenix Villa	Superior	715-392-3447
Phoenix Villa Iron River	Iron River	715-392-3447
Phoenix Villa Lake Nebagamon	Lake Nebagamon	715-392-3447
Phoenix Villa Rhineland	Rhineland	715-369-2550
Turtle Lake Apartments	Turtle Lake	715-925-2015
Winterhaven Apartments	Winter	715-236-2366
Wood Court Apartments	Woodruff	715-369-2550



Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.

1416 Cumming Avenue

Superior, WI 54880

Phone (715) 394-6617

1-888-831-8446

Fax (715) 394-5951

Tele communicators may reach us using the

7-1-1 WI Relay System

E-mail: lsorenson@ccbsuperior.org

Website: www.ccbsuperior.org



*Catholic Charities
Bureau*