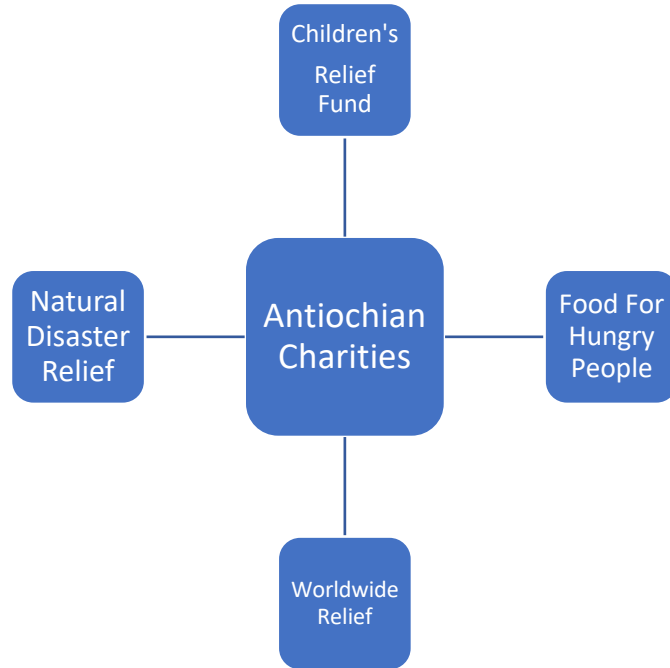


Charitable Outreach Committee
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
Fifty-Sixth Biennial Archdiocese Convention
St George Orthodox Church ---Phoenix, Arizona July 23-30, 2023

Antiochian Charities

The Antiochian Charities currently encompasses four programs:



1. Charitable Outreach Committee:

The community needs addressed by our churches/organizations and parish volunteers are rapidly increasing. Since the establishment of the Charitable Outreach Committee in 2019, we have been blessed to be able to provide over **\$70,000** in COVID funding to individuals and **\$207,500** in grant funding to churches/organizations to support charitable outreach. Through this grant program, existing initiatives were sustained or expanded, and new charitable activities initiated. The common theme is that there is a desperate need to address food, clothing, and housing insecurity in North America.

Our committee is grateful for the support and generosity of the parishioners in our Archdiocese who, through the Food for Hungry People program have provided a mechanism for parishes to take care of their own and to help feed and clothe their surrounding communities. These efforts assist underfunded community organizations and make a difference in the lives of thousands of people each year. Many of our parishes have applied for funding each year to expand their charitable services in an attempt to meet the ongoing and expanding needs in the communities.

Charitable Disbursements for 2022-2023

FFHP Grants

Grants awarded 2022: \$88,000

Grants Awarded 2023: \$56,000 – through May 31



2. Food for Hungry People:

Robin Lynn Nicholas

Every year our Food for Hungry People program encourages the participation of entire families, adults, and children alike through prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Great Lent. More than ever before, we are experiencing devastating hunger at home and around the world, and our Church families are committed to alleviating this unnecessary and painful heartache. For 49 years we have raised funds to help feed our hungry brothers and sisters.

Through your generosity and prayers, we have assisted the hungry and poor in the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Europe.

Parish Collections

2022- \$198,034.83

2023- \$100,000.00 as of June 30th

Our Food for Hungry People & Charitable Outreach program has collected close to **seven million dollars** to date.

Annual Canned Food Drive: (73 parishes reported. 63 parishes collect all year)

2021 -282,876 pounds of food

2022 -415,237 pounds of food

Since 1984 over **seven million pounds** of food have been collected and distributed to those in need within our local Parish Communities.

For 49 years we have:

- **helped the homeless and the sick**
- **fed starving babies, children, and adults**
- **sheltered and guided run-away and thrown-away teenagers**
- **aided and visited those in prison and cared for their families**
- **brought food, clothing, assistance, and hope to the homeless**
- **provided food, medicine, and aid to war-torn and disaster struck victims**
- **given assistance to our local communities in need**
- **supported local food banks**

For 49 years our Archdiocese has touched the lives of thousands of people whose needs have touched our hearts.



3. Children’s Relief Fund

Deborah Brown

The CRF is a vital component of our Antiochian Charities programs. We currently have 49 sponsors for 134 children in Palestine and 104 sponsors for 157 children in Lebanon. Sponsors contribute \$400 annually and are matched with a child from either Lebanon or Palestine. The child may use the money to pay for schooling or personal expenses. Sponsors receive a picture and a bio of their child and can freely communicate with their child if they desire. There is a waiting list of available children in each country, so additional sponsors are welcome. We ask that a sponsor make a commitment until their child reaches the age of 18. We also accept general donations to our program, which we use for children whose sponsorships have lapsed.

Funds are distributed once per year in February/March for the prior calendar year.

Palestine

2022 Funding \$53,700 – 134 Children

Lebanon

2022 Funding \$66,584 – 157 Children

General Donations \$12,750

4. Worldwide Humanitarian Relief-2022

Al-Kafat	\$15,000
Al Moutraniah (Metropolitan BASILIOS)	6,000
American Friends of Bethlehem Development Fund	15,000
Antiochenisch-Orthodoxe Metropolie-Germany	15,000 (Euros)
Churches for the Middle East Peace	1,000
Covent of Maaloula	10,000
Institute de Theologie St Jean Damascien (Balamand)	75,000
Monastery of Balamand	5,000
St George Orphanage	5,000
St Pantelimon Orphanage	5,000

The Saint Constantine School
Tele Lumiere & Noursat USA

15,000
5,000

Total

\$157,000 plus Euros 15,000

5. Natural Disaster Relief

Earthquake Relief ----\$1.25 Million



General charitable contributions to the Archdiocese are monitored by the Charities Committee, which has adopted a strict process for the distribution of funds. Specific bank/investment accounts are in place for contributions to FFHP, CRF, general charities and other specific charities to ensure that funds for these different programs are kept separate. Moreover, an endowment fund was established for both FFHP and CRF to enable these programs to continue in the future.

My thanks to Rev. Fr. Ted Pulcini and Robin Lynn Nicholas for the many hours contributed to the committee's work. A very special expression of gratitude to Robin, who has tirelessly administered the Food for Hungry People program for 47 years. My sincere thanks to Deborah Brown for her dedication and commitment as our Administrator for the Children's Relief Program. Debbie will be retiring at the end of summer. It is truly a blessing for me to have the opportunity to collaborate with these individuals.

Anne Bourjaily Thomas, Ph.D., Esq., Chair



Anne Bourjaily Thomas
Chairman



Rev. Fr. Ted Pulcini
Spiritual Advisor



Robin Lynn Nicholas
FFHP & CO



Deborah Brown
Children's Relief Fund