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**The following quotes are from some of Catholic Charities’ most notable supporters and advocates, sharing their thoughts on why Catholic Charities is such a vital part of the community.**

**Mayor Brandon Scott, Baltimore City:**

**“**What you have in an organization like Catholic Charities is one that does work in communities, with communities, and with people for the right reasons because it’s the right thing to do.”

**“**This is the kind of organization that you can rely on – not one that’s trying to do the easy things or tackle the easy tasks, but the toughest tasks that we face in our city, and that’s why I always appreciate them for their work and their diligence in our city.”

“Catholic Charities invests in our people. And if you want Baltimore to be better, if you want Baltimore’s business community to be better, the best investment is in people and organizations that invest in people in Baltimore.”

**Archbishop William E. Lori, Baltimore Archdiocese:**

“We see all around us, great potential and great promise. Catholic Charities is one of the ways to bring out that potential and fulfilling it. Fulfilling the promise, the promise in every person, the promise that God has made to bring us to happiness and to bring us to the fullness of salvation. And so I am enthusiastic about the campaign, and I pray it will be eminently successful.”

**“**I think the work of Catholic Charities is vitally important. First, among the many needs you see in our society, including here in Maryland, people have a deep-seated need to be respected, to be loved, and not simply to be helped but to be encouraged to become the people God meant them to be.”

“What Catholic Charities sees in the people most in need among us, most vulnerable, most defenseless, is promise – the promise of a better life, the promise of recouping God-given dignity, the promise of leading a happy, productive life, the promise of building community.”

**Steve Bisciotti, owner, Baltimore Ravens:**

"These programs play an essential role in uplifting our communities. Now, more than ever, it's critically important to invest in the well-being and development of those who need it most. Our hope is that we can help make a positive impact that will be felt by many."

**John Harbaugh, head coach, Baltimore Ravens:**

“Catholic Charities is about treating each person with the dignity and respect that they deserve. The same dignity and respect that we would hope somebody would treat us with.”

“Strengthening individuals, building one another up – helping individuals fully become the things that God intended for them to be. That’s what Catholic Charities strives for.”

**William “Bill” McCarthy, executive director, Catholic Charities of Baltimore:**

“The greater promise is everything in the collective work of people coming together to provide greater opportunities for everybody, to make our neighborhoods healthier, to make our neighborhoods safer, to make our schools better, to make our health system more equitable.”

“I think we see the greater promise in the lives of people today, our generations to come, is to create a more healthy, vibrant community where everyone has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.”

“Our volunteers, in their own individual ways, share a boundless compassion that forms the foundation of our movement to improve lives.”

“The greater promise is the majority of the people – and that’s what we’re talking about –that are coming together because they love this community, they love their neighborhoods, and they love their neighbor.”

**Michael Middleton, executive director, Cherry Hill Development Corporation:**

“Catholic Charities have done everything it can in our relationship to bending to the wants and desires of this community.”

“Historically, I think, Catholic Charities has sought to address the needs of those that are in the most need, with communities like Cherry Hill, and with Bill’s [McCarthy] sense of, ‘How can we be used?’ in a sense, which is one of the reasons I respect him.”

“During the time that we were planning, and Catholic Charities was planning for this redevelopment, everything was brought to the community through the Cherry Hill Community Coalition meetings. If the community raised an eyebrow or didn’t like something, Catholic Charities went back to the drawing board.”

**The following are quotes from some of the devoted volunteers and employees who have dedicated their time to support others, along with quotes from a few of the recipients of Catholic Charities’ programs and services.**

 “This place is like a lifesaver to me. I’m going to do anything I need to do.” -**Cedric Howard, senior cook at Our Daily Bread**

“Catholic Charities, its incredible employees and its magnificent mission helped me to grow.” -**Ralph W. Buddy Emerson, Jr., retired SVP, M&T Bank**

“They give you structure so that, when you go out into the world, you can look at things differently. A lot of good has come out of this experience.” -**Reginald Johnson, recipient of services from Sarah’s House**

“I do this work because I want to give back. At Anna’s House, I am helping individuals gain shelter, food, and support.” -**Dennis Chisholm, volunteer at Anna’s House**

“To see the dedication of both the staff and community volunteers, many of whom had been with Catholic Charities for some time, made me hopeful for the future of Baltimore.” -**Kristen Hasse, Messiah College student and volunteer**

“There is nothing that can ruin my day when I spend the morning at Our Daily Bread.” -**Rosalind Gray, Plano-Coudon Construction administrative assistant and volunteer.**

“Finding the dignity of another human being, and recognizing that, is an act of love.” **-Patti Bulger, Catholic Charities senior services provider**

“Nothing warms my heart more than seeing the generations of my family join me in spreading love and kindness to the staff and children at St. Vincent’s Villa.” -**Geri Olsen, volunteer at St. Vincent’s Villa**

“The persistent determination of the staff at My Sister’s Place Women’s Center to offer these women support while advocating for their needs during the pandemic motivates me to try to help in whatever way possible.” – **Karen Sun, My Sister’s Place volunteer**