

March 26, 2020

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq.
President
Board of Charles County Commissioners
200 Baltimore Street
La Plata, MD 20646

RE: Support for the Charles County Charitable Trust's Budget Request

Dear Commissioner President Collins,

On behalf of Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington (Catholic Charities), I am writing to express my great appreciation for the work of the Charles County Charitable Trust (Charitable Trust) and offer my strong support for the Charitable Trust's budget requests for Fiscal Year 2021 and beyond.

Catholic Charities is deeply grateful to have received grant awards from the Charitable Trust for each of the past five years, including funds to support Catholic Charities' Angel's Watch Shelter. Located in Charles County, Angel's Watch provides safe, dignified emergency shelter for single women and families experiencing homelessness. Angel's Watch also offers a comprehensive array of supportive services to empower individuals and families to regain housing stability and increase their self-sufficiency. Grant funding from the Charitable Trust provides critical support for our Angel's Watch personnel and allows us to provide clients with direct assistance to help them secure permanent housing as quickly as possible.

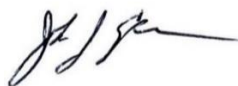
Charles County residents account for nearly 80% of Angel's Watch clients, indicating how homelessness in the Tri-County region disproportionately affects Charles County. Angel's Watch has served 199 individuals since the start of our current fiscal year. Of those individuals, 157 were Charles County residents, including 75 adults and 82 children. The long-standing partnership between Catholic Charities and the Charitable Trust has ensured that the needs of Charles County residents do not go unmet, and we remain committed to working together to address the growing challenges of homelessness and poverty in Charles County.

Catholic Charities also greatly appreciates the Charitable Trust's work to promote the effectiveness of Charles County's nonprofit sector. From conducting local economic and social impact studies to convening community forums, the Charitable Trust makes a tremendous difference in building the capacity of the County's nonprofit community. Furthermore, the programs supported by the Charitable Trust's grants program play a critical role in promoting service delivery for marginalized, low-income Charles County residents.

I respectfully request your support in advocating for full funding of the Charitable Trust's proposed budget in Fiscal Year 2021 and beyond. Should you have any questions regarding Catholic Charities' partnership with the Charitable Trust, I would be pleased to speak with you directly. I can be reached by phone at 202-772-4369 or by e-mail at john.enzler@cc-dc.org.

Thank you for your consideration and for your steadfast commitment to serving the most vulnerable members of the Charles County community. I wish you well during these difficult times.

Sincerely,



Monsignor John J. Enzler
President and CEO