

CCRT: Catholic Community Response Team

Our Area Church In Action

“I was hungry and you gave me food; I was a stranger and you made me welcome” (Mat. 25:35)

Pontiac Area Vicariate
September 2010

When and Why was CCRT Formed?

- **Opened March 2004**
- **Response from the Vicariate to several factors:**
 - **2 populations in the Vicariate divided by I-75**
 - **A relatively affluent population**
 - **A population living at or below poverty level**
 - **St Vincent de Paul (Pontiac) not able to respond to all requests**
 - **Need to coordinate responses from different parishes**

An overview of our Vicariate...

Median Income in the Vicariate:

Auburn Hills	\$ 53,100
Lake Orion	\$ 53,100
Oxford	\$ 55,700
Pontiac	\$ 27,802
Rochester	\$ 67,400
Rochester Hills	\$ 80,937
Waterford	\$ 50,758

Median Income in State of Michigan **\$ 46,039**

Data based on the 2005 census

An overview of our Vicariate...

People living at or below the level of poverty:

Auburn Hills	6.3%
Lake Orion	5.6%
Oxford	5.3%
Pontiac	29%
Rochester	2.7%
Rochester Hills	4.7%
Waterford	8.2%

Federal poverty levels:

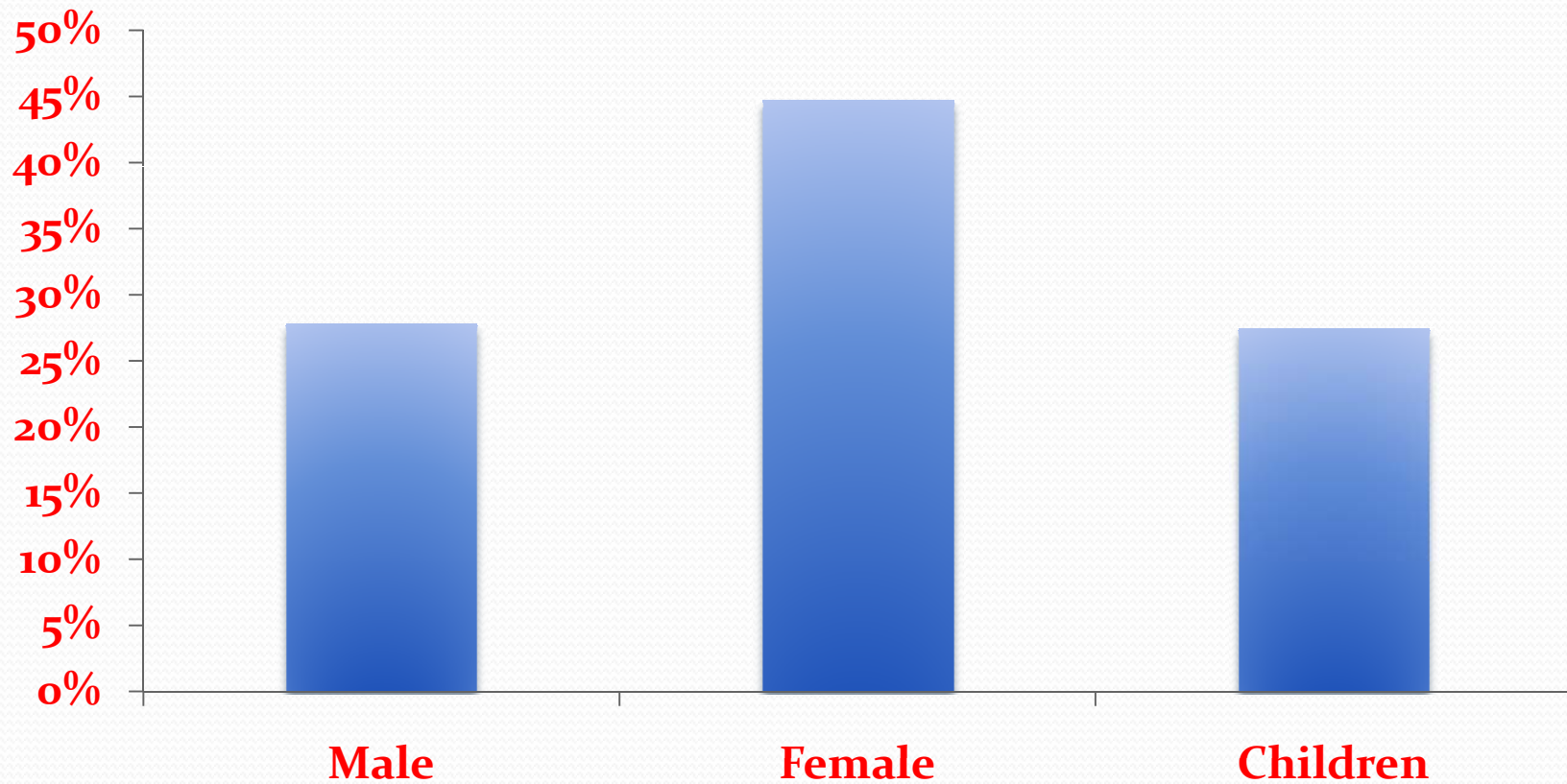
Family of four:	\$ 20,614
Family of two:	\$ 13,167
Individual:	\$ 10,294

Median Rent:	Rochester Hills	\$ 882
	Pontiac	\$ 704

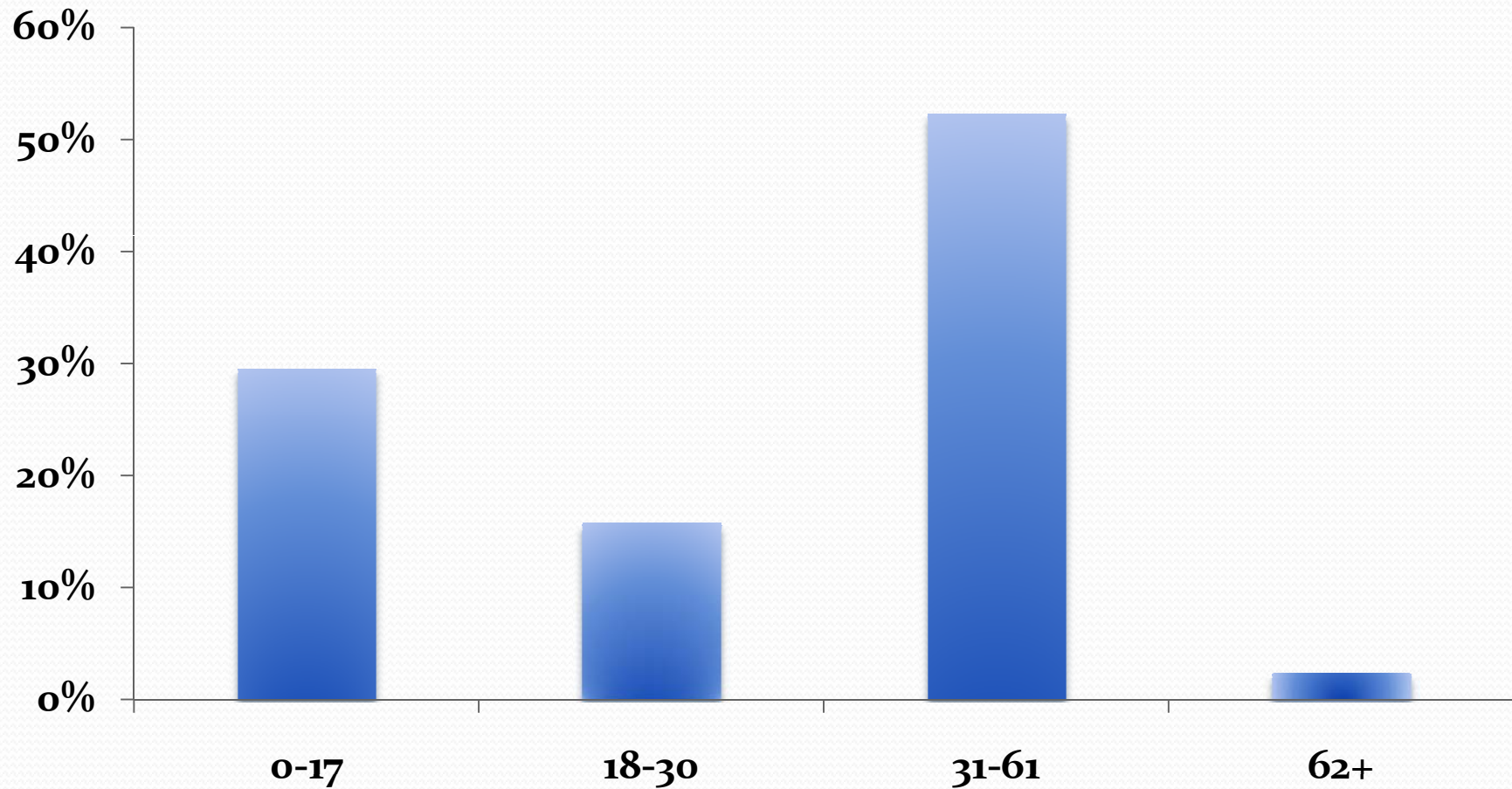
Whom do we serve?

- Currently CCRT serves a client base of 2,955 persons.
- More than 8,000 services have been provided.
- We serve a very varied population:
 - Homeless people
 - People released from jail
 - People facing eviction and/or utility shut-off
 - People struggling with addictions
 - People with mental illnesses
 - People in need of clothing/food/furniture...
- Most of the clients have an average monthly income (disability or work) between \$ 600 and \$ 900 – below the federal poverty level

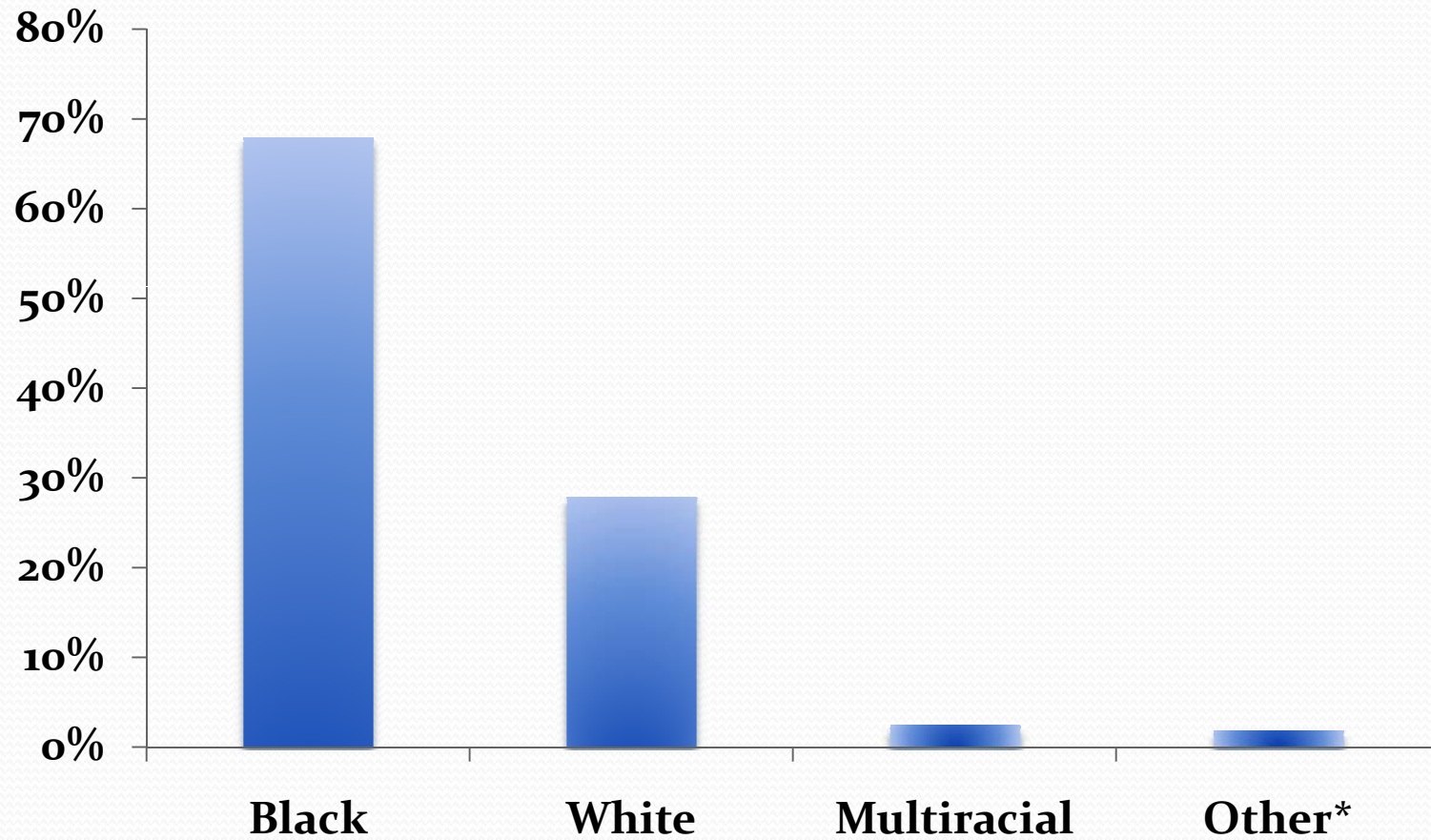
Based on the last 6 years,
a profile of our client make-up...



Age of our clients...



Race of our clients...

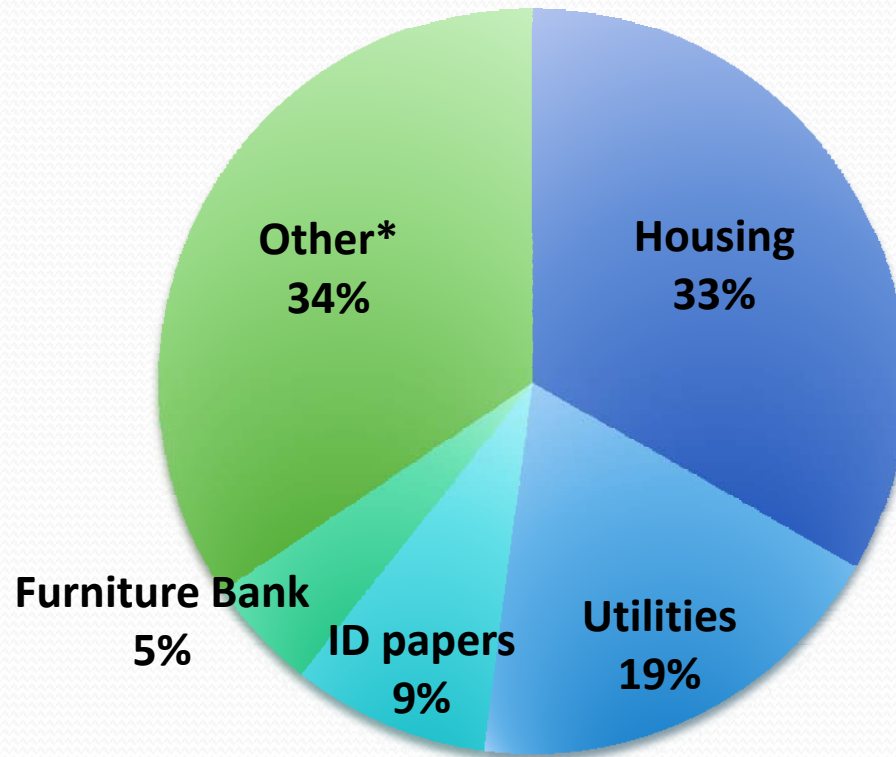


*Other includes Asians and Native Americans

What do we do for our clients?

Service	# Requests	# Assisted
Food, food vouchers	1532	1532
Housing, Rent payments security deposits	182	110
Utility payments	182	110
Clothing	676	659
Furniture/Household goods	385	372
Transportation	16	15
Identification Doc. Job information	177	164
Personal grooming supplies Healthcare/prescriptions	488	458

Financial help to our clients...



***Other includes medical/dental and prescriptions, transportation, car repairs, help for employment etc.**

Other programs...

- Gift of Sight program
- “Sleep Tight” program provides beds for persons with medical needs and impoverished people.
- Tax service to help low-income persons file current and past years returns.
- Extensive intake for all persons coming to CCRT which help for referrals to other agencies such as Catholic Social Services, Mental Health facilities, Community Network Services.
- New in 2010 participation in recruitment for tutors for the Pontiac Community Schools. Data have shown that almost half our clients do not have a high school education. We plan to help recruit tutors through out the Vicariate.
- Uniforms Drive

Services by Phone

- **30-50 calls per day**
- **From Oakland County and beyond**
- **We serve as:**
 - Mini-triage
 - Referral to Agencies and other Services
 - Explanation of “logistics”
 - Schedule appointments as needed

How do we operate?

- Two thirds of the staff salaries as well as leasing and utility costs have been funded through a grant from the Archdiocese of Detroit.
- The other third of the expenses have been funded through the Pontiac Vicariate and other subsidies.

2 Major Sources of Funding* through the Vicariate and Oakland County Community

- Overhead (Staff, Utilities, Rent, etc.) funded through:
 - AOD grant (\$20,000)
 - PAV subsidy (8,025) (*51% of total budget*)
- Source of revenue for financial help to clients funded through:
 - Tithing from some parishes (\$ 5,400)
 - Community Support** (\$ 21,060) (*49% of total budget*)

N.B. All food, clothing, furniture, etc. are donations through LOC and private individuals.

* July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

** Community Support includes targeted Foundation Grants (Rochester, Bloomfield) Individual grants and donations.

Community Support for CCRT funds used to resolve client emergencies

- Private donations
- Vicariates and other Parishes
 - Various parishes in PAV and other Vicariates
- Diocesan Programs
 - Project Life
 - Adopt a Family
- Partnering agencies
 - Lighthouse, OSHA, Salvation Army
- Partnering foundations
 - Rochester Women's foundation, Village Foundation Club, Bloomfield Hills

CCRT location and staffing

We are presently located in Pontiac, Franklin St. sharing offices with Catholic Social Services of Oakland County

- 2 small offices and a storage room
- 2 paid staff each working 15 to 20 hours a week
- 12 volunteers donating 2 to 8 hours a week
- Intern(s) from Wayne University and (or) Job Corps youth worker paid through State Funding
- Hours 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday – Friday
- We usually see clients by appointment but exceptions are made in emergency situations

The *multiple* activities of one day's work:

- Intake process
- Referral to agencies for specific programs
- Food and clothing acquired through Ladies of Charity (St. Hugo)
- Gather funds for responding to evictions, utilities shut/off
- Facilitate donation and distribution of furniture
- Referral for medical/dental needs
- Act as a conduit to link information and services
- And we do a lot of **listening... listening... listening**

Specific Help from the Vicariate Parishes

- **St. Irenaeus, St. Andrew, Marist Academy** all run “personal grooming” drives to keep our closet full.
- **St. Joseph:** Christmas gift program
- **St. John Fisher:** Giving Tree gift cards; Youth Group gift cards.

Why is CCRT in Pontiac ?

Issues facing the city...

- Lack of homeless shelters in the city
- Prisoners being released without proper help (I.D.'s, housing, etc...)
- Eviction from houses and apartments
- Exploitation by landlords (renting to clients foreclosed properties, condemned properties, etc...)
- 29% of people living below the poverty level* and 49% of children below the poverty line

***National Poverty level for a family of 4: \$ 20,614**

A Final Blessing...

- May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, so that you will live deep in your heart.
- May God bless you with anger at injustice and oppression, so that you will work for justice, equality and peace.
- May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer, so you will reach out your hand to comfort them and change their pain to joy.
- And may God bless you with foolishness to think that you can make a difference in the world, so you will do the things which others say cannot be done.

The Franciscan Four-Part Blessing