

# Because we are Catholic



Funds raised through the **Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal** are directed to Community Services, Education, Vocations, and Parish Life programs and activities throughout the Diocese.

The distribution of dollars, which are held in a Trust that is restricted for these purposes, is monitored by a group of volunteer Trust Advisors who represent parish communities in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill Counties

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Counseling services and pregnancy support for expectant mothers.
- Food assistance programs in Allentown, Reading, and Pottsville.
- Affordable Housing Services throughout the Diocese of Allentown.
- Senior living programs and support including care for our retired priests.



**50.8%**  
OF APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

Donate online at [BecauseWeAreCatholic.org](http://BecauseWeAreCatholic.org) • 800-831-4443

# Because we are Catholic



## Why does the Diocese need to conduct the Annual Appeal?

Through the Annual Appeal, the Diocese provides funding for a wide range of services and ministries which are larger than any one parish could support. By coordinating efforts and pooling resources, the Diocese enables parishes and parishioners to serve thousands of children, adults, and families throughout Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill counties.

## Are Annual Appeal Funds used to pay legal fees or settlements from the sexual abuse crisis?

No. The Annual Appeal does not fund legal fees or the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program for victims and survivors of abuse.

## Why should I support the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal?

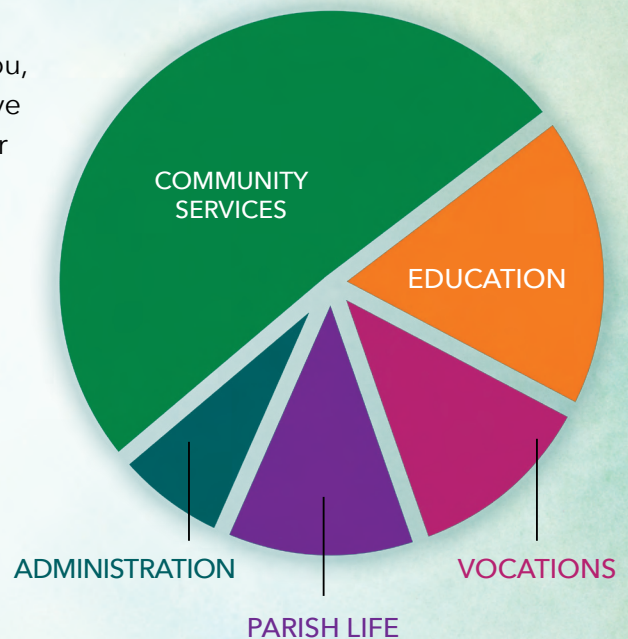
Our Catholic family of faith in the Diocese of Allentown is committed to helping those in our community who are most in need. Your support of the Annual Appeal helps to ensure that you, your loved ones, your neighbors, and your co-workers have help when it is needed. Your gift is an outward sign of your faith in God and the work of His Church.

## How does the Appeal support my parish?

The Annual Appeal provides financial support for parish life programs including adult formation, marriage preparation, natural family planning, youth ministry, and outreach to our Hispanic community. Additionally, the Appeal generates incentive rebates for parishes.

## How can I make a gift?

For your convenience, pledge forms are available at every parish. You can also make a gift by phone (1.800.831.4443) or online at [www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org](http://www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org)



The administrative cost of running the Appeal is approximately \$265,000/year, which is about 7.4%. In other words, every one dollar spent on the Appeal makes an additional \$15 available for direct service, ministries, and pastoral care.

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