



New Program Supports Patients with Huntington's Disease

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Catholic Charities is honored to announce its newest program in serving the community, the St. Jude's Project. The St. Jude's Project will focus its work on providing counseling and community supports for the patients and their families facing a life-limiting illness, such as Huntington's Disease. Huntington's Disease is a hereditary neurodegenerative disorder that is often called "the family disease".

The project will support patients and their families through the difficult decisions and emotions related to prolonged life-limiting illness, and will also assist with the coordination of medical care, legal advice, as well as many other day-to-day community supports. Similar to ALS, Parkinson's or other life-limiting degenerative disorders, Huntington's has no cure at this time. Yet, there are few resources available to families needing support in caring for a loved one with the disease, which affects patient's mind and body.

The program will operate out of Catholic Charities location at 1001 Lawrence Street, NE, but will serve families throughout DC, Maryland and Virginia. The project will work in collaboration with the Georgetown Huntington Disease Center. Both programs operate as a result of the generous grant funding of the Griffin Foundation.

Kimberly Washington, LICSW has been named as the Clinical Lead for the St. Jude's Project. "This is critical work to those families who need help and I am very excited to get started," said Washington, who has more than four years experience in clinical social work.

Contact Kimberly Washington, LICSW at 202-635-5951 or kimberly.washington@catholiccharitiesdc.org for more information.

About Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities meets the most pressing human needs, serving tens of thousands of people annually through 65-plus programs in 47 locations throughout the District of Columbia and Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's Counties in Maryland. For more information, visit www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org.