
Accountability and transparency are important to me...



Was any of my donation used to pay for the investigation into former Bishop Bransfield or for any legal fees or settlements?

No. The Catholic Sharing Appeal is restricted to support ONLY the mission and ministries outlined in the CSA materials and online, www.dwc.org/csa. Funds received for the Catholic Sharing Appeal are not used for any other purpose, including any costs involved with the investigation, legal fees and/or settlements that the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston may incur or has incurred.

Were any of my previous donations to the Catholic Sharing Appeal used by former Bishop Bransfield for his personal use?

No. The Catholic Sharing Appeal is restricted to support ONLY the mission and ministries outlined in the CSA materials and online, www.dwc.org/csa.

How can I be sure that my support for the Catholic Sharing Appeal will go to the missions and ministries listed on the website and brochure?

When a nonprofit entity such as the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston promotes a charitable campaign with specific elements, such as the Catholic Sharing appeal, it is considered donor-restricted giving. Funds raised for the CSA must be applied to the elements of the appeal, according to rules and regulations governing non-profit entities that solicit donor funds. Within the accounting of the Catholic Sharing Appeal, account numbers are assigned, separate from other funds and accounts within the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, to ensure that 100% of every donation to the Catholic Sharing Appeal is applied to ministries supported by the CSA.

Where can I find key financials on the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, such as an independent audit?

In July 2019, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston announced that the firm, CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen) LLP – a national financial auditing firm that serves more than 30 dioceses across the country – has been engaged to be the auditing firm of record for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. The firm will conduct a thorough audit of all diocesan accounts, the results of which will be published in their entirety on the diocesan website once it is completed and received. Additionally, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is audited annually with portions of the audit report being published in the diocesan newspaper, *The Catholic Spirit*.

What oversight is in place now to ensure that the proper checks and balances are enforced?

The recently expanded Finance Council of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has strengthened a number of policies, internal controls and spending practices. The publication of audited financial statements for the diocese will serve as a transparent report on the adherence to these rigorous financial controls.

Are my offertory contributions to my parish assessed to the Diocese?

A number of changes have recently been made to the diocesan assessment model, used to fund parishes and missions throughout the state that cannot sufficiently provide for their own support. The new model benefits parishes, particularly those that support Catholic schools as well as smaller parishes in debt. The assessment model is the formula used to calculate the 3% assessment on all parishes in the diocese, which is combined with more than \$5 million in diocesan funds annually. Under the new model, diocesan assessments will be lower than roughly 90% of other dioceses across the country.

Are my contributions to the Catholic Sharing Appeal assessed to the Diocese?

No. Contributions that you make to the Catholic Sharing Appeal are not accessible income to the diocese. The first 50% of the parish goal will benefit programs and ministries, as outlined in the Catholic Sharing Appeal brochure and on the website. Every dollar after that will be returned to the parish.

How much of the Catholic Sharing Appeal donations were returned to parishes?

With a goal of \$2,000,000 in 2018, more than \$3,340,000 was raised. Eighty-six parishes and missions received \$2,370,000 of the CSA funds raised. To see how some parishes used their CSA parish share, please go to www.dwc.org/csa.

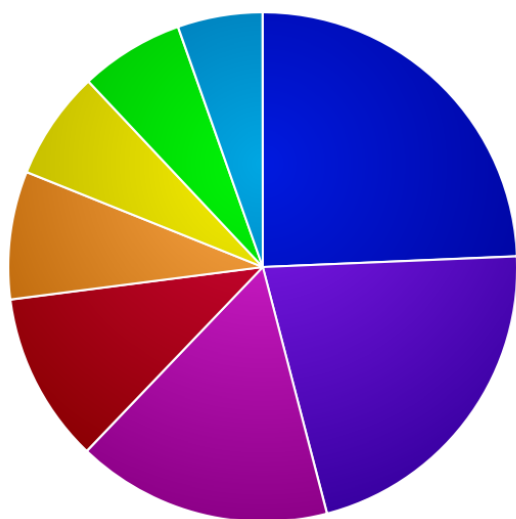
To strengthen financial stewardship, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston:

- Is constructing an online third party reporting system, Ethics Point, to allow for any individual to report an allegation of sexual or financial impropriety against a priest, lay employee, volunteer or bishop and to do so anonymously if desired.
- Hired a new external auditing firm, CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen) LLP and will publish the full annual audit report.
- Will put more guidelines into place so that the hierarchy of the diocese cannot override financial policies.
- Has expanded the Diocesan Finance Council, more than doubling its previous number and increased meeting frequency to monthly.
- Has expanded the College of Consultors and increased meeting frequency to monthly.
- Has dissolved “The Bishop’s Fund” (the discretionary fund established by the former Bishop) and the remaining assets are being transferred to the general account for the diocese.
- Will conduct more transparent reviews of all capital projects.
- Is working to rebalance the distribution of resources in the diocese so that greater resources will remain with parishes.
- Is restructuring the Diocesan School Board and enhancing the training of advisory bodies.

ALL CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL DOANTIONS ARE RESTRICTED

- The CSA supports programs that provide spiritual, charitable and educational help to men, women and children.
- All CSA funding supports only programs and ministries within our diocese.
- Each diocese is independent and CSA funds cannot be sent to another arch/diocese, the USCCB or the Vatican.
- No funding from the CSA has ever been used for legal fees or settlements related to clergy abuse.
- The diocese carries a separate insurance policy to pay for abuse cases and related settlements.
- CSA funds are treated as restricted funds and used for the sole benefit for the programs outlined in the appeal materials enclosed and available on our website – www.dwc.org/csa.

In 2007, the appeal was renamed from the Annual Bishop’s Appeal to the Catholic Sharing Appeal. This change was enacted to better reflect the purpose of the appeal. Since that time, more than \$20,605,707.36 has been received through the Catholic Sharing Appeal. Of that amount, \$11,410,422.47 has been returned to parishes and the remaining \$9,195,284.89 has provided support for programs and ministries throughout the diocese.



2018 Diocesan Share of the Catholic Sharing Appeal

- \$225,000 Catholic Education
- \$200,000 CCWVa (RESTRICTED- SET AMOUNT)
- \$150,000 Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry
- \$100,000 Communications and Marketing
- \$75,000 Formation and Mission
- \$64,000 School-Based Health Programs (RESTRICTED- SET AMOUNT)
- \$61,000 Other (Safe Environment, Archives, Worship and Sacraments)
- \$50,000 Vocations

**Amounts were based on each parish reaching at least 50% of their CSA goal. Because not all parishes reached that amount, actual amounts for each program is lower, except for the “restricted – set amount” programs.*
