



**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** Jan. 19, 2011

**Contact:** Trish Radke, [tradke@dmdiocese.org](mailto:tradke@dmdiocese.org)

(515) 237-5078, (515) 490-3791

[www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org)

## **Catholic Charities' Refugee Resettlement Program awarded \$15,000 from 100+ Women Who Care**

Catholic Charities' Executive Director Nancy Galeazzi announced that the Refugee Resettlement Program was awarded \$15,000 from 100+ Women Who Care, a group of local women who pool financial contributions to make a large impact on the Des Moines community.

Contributions awarded to the Refugee Resettlement Program will be used to purchase mattresses and car seats for refugees who have been welcomed to Des Moines through Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities' Board Member Jenelle Sarcone is a member of 100+ Women Who Care and made a presentation about the Refugee Resettlement Program at a meeting in December. At that time, 100+ Women Who Care voted to award Refugee Resettlement the group's quarterly donations which totals almost \$15,000.

"Catholic Charities would like to thank Jenelle Sarcone for her enthusiasm and hard work to make our program needs known," said Nancy Galeazzi. "This is great news for the Refugee Resettlement which has been extremely busy these last few months welcoming 35 people to Iowa in December alone."

A refugee is an individual who has been forced to flee their country of origin and who meets the United Nations' criteria of having a "well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion."

Resettlement efforts at Catholic Charities include housing, food and transportation assistance, cultural orientation and job placement during the first 90 to 180 days of arrival. Currently, Catholic Charities in Des Moines is the only refugee resettlement agency in Iowa.

For more information about Refugee Resettlement, go to [www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org), or call (515) 237-5078. For more information about 100 + Women Who Care go to [100pluswomensm.com](http://100pluswomensm.com).

*"Guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church, we serve all people in need with compassion and competence, advocate for justice, and encourage all people of good will to share in these efforts."*