



**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** June 9, 2011

**Contact:** Trish Radke

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

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

## **On June 23, charity begins at home plate**

### **Fundraiser at Iowa Cubs to provide critical support for Catholic Charities**

On June 23, people of all ages can join in efforts to help friends and neighbors in need, and it all begins at home plate. Catholic Charities Night at the Iowa Cubs is June 23 at Principal Park when the Iowa Cubs take on the Memphis Redbirds at 7:05 p.m.

Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines has been the title sponsor of Catholic Charities Night for seven years and has helped raise more than \$450,000 for Catholic Charities which provides social services to 25,000 Iowans of all faiths each year.

“Mercy Medical Center and the Iowa Cubs and have made this night a success for seven years now and have helped position us to expand our services to vulnerable populations including homeless families and refugees,” said Catholic Charities Executive Director Nancy Galeazzi. “Our hope is that people will come out to the ballpark in support of work which truly makes a difference in our community.”

Tickets for the game can be purchased through Catholic Charities before June 17 by going online to [www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org), calling 515-237-5078 and at a number of Catholic parishes. Ticket options include:

- Centennial dinner with Bishop Richard Pates on the Cub Club Veranda starting at 5:30 p.m. with reserved ticket for \$75 each
- Pregame picnic buffet starting at 5:30 p.m. with reserved ticket for \$25 each
- Reserved seat ticket for \$10 each
- General admission ticket for \$5 each
- *New in 2011* – Pregame tailgate with food by Jethro’s BBQ, beverages and GA ticket for \$20; first annual Bags Tournament at the tailgate (buy-in \$5, email [tradke@dmdioces.org](mailto:tradke@dmdioces.org) to sign-up)

**-more-**

Small business packages and a limited number of skybox sponsorships are also available.

Bishop Richard Pates will be in attendance to throw out the ceremonial first pitch, visit skyboxes and fans in the stands. Recipients of Catholic Charities' Bishop Charron Caritas Award, Larry Bell and Mercy Medical Center, will also be honored on the field before the game. The Caritas Award is named for retired Bishop of Des Moines, Joseph L. Charron, who continues to inspire people of all faiths to join in service to those in need.

All proceeds from tickets purchased through Catholic Charities before June 17 as well as sponsorships and a silent auction held inside the main gates during the game will support Catholic Charities, a social service organization that has been offering help and hope to people of all faiths since 1924. Programs include A New Beginning Adoption & Pregnancy Counseling Program, Counseling Services, Hispanic Community Outreach, St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter, St. Mary Family Center, Phoenix House Domestic Violence Shelter & Sexual Abuse Program and Refugee Resettlement Services.

For more information or to purchase tickets go to [www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org) or call 515-237-5078 by June 17.

*"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."*