

Frequently Asked Questions About Heritage and Hope Appeal.

Why should I make a donation to the HOPE Appeal?

Gifts to the HOPE Appeal provide annual funding to over 80 programs and ministries that serve the people of the Diocese of Syracuse. HOPE Appeal money helps fund services to more than 200,000 people and 170 parishes in the Diocese through pastoral, educational, financial and charitable programs: these services are only possible through the coordinated efforts of an annual campaign. To insure that all those people who need our help continue to receive our care and concern, your support is needed now more than ever.

How is HOPE Appeal money used?

Funds received to support the HOPE Appeal are allocated only for the programs, services and ministries of the diocese as explained in the Appeal's case statement and brochures. Examples include Catholic Charities, Catholic Schools, Catholic Religious Education, Vocations, Evangelization, Parish Services, Social Justice and Parish Sharing.

How have HOPE Appeal contributions been used to support Catholic Schools?

HOPE Appeal campaign support for Catholic Schools is in the form of annual payments based on how much the campaign raises. In this current year, more than \$900,000 have been allocated for Tuition Assistance and Academic Development in our Catholic Schools. Almost 25% of all HOPE Appeal funds are directed to Catholic Schools.

How is Heritage Campaign money used?

Funds received to support the Heritage Campaign may only be used for the specific elements of the campaign's case statement including: Catholic Schools, Religious Education, Youth Ministries, Catholic Charities, Priest Retirement, Diocesan Parishes and HOPE Appeal Ministries. Distribution will be made by the Board of the Heritage Campaign, Inc., consistent with the case statement.

How have Heritage Campaign donations been used to support Catholic Schools?

Heritage campaign support for Catholic Schools is in the form of an endowment. The interest from this endowment will be used for schools. The amount available each year will depend upon investment performance. More than \$6,000,000 have already been advanced to Catholic Schools for teacher salary supplements.

I have read about lawsuits in other areas of the country. How would the Diocese of Syracuse respond to potential lawsuits?

As a result of media reports from other areas of the country, many donors, parishioners and campaign volunteers have shown great interest in the strategies the Diocese would employ to pay any financial obligations resulting from lawsuits. The diocese would pay any potential claims from insurance funds, unrestricted assets, or from the sale of property. The practices of the Diocese of Syracuse are to honor the intent of donors and to insure that funds donated for a specific purpose will not be spent for another purpose.