



# DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

## NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 16, 2020

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## David Bellamy named Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities West Michigan

**Grand Rapids, Mich.** — Upon recommendation from a selection committee, Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak, bishop of Grand Rapids, has appointed David Bellamy as CEO of Catholic Charities West Michigan (CCWM) following a national search.

“Catholic Charities West Michigan’s mission is to offer hope and compassion through innovative, collaborative programs. Particularly now, individuals in our community need to know they are recognized as children of God worthy of dignity and respect. I am confident that David is the right person to lead the organization in its important mission,” said Bishop Walkowiak in welcoming Bellamy to the position. “David’s experience in executive leadership, health care, and finance are valuable skills that will help Catholic Charities complete their expansion in Muskegon and grow into the future.” Set to open later this year, the new Kolbe Center will offer treatment for alcohol and drug addiction. New administrative offices will also be located on the 7<sup>th</sup> street campus in Muskegon.

“As a lifelong Catholic, I look forward to carrying out the mission of Catholic Charities West Michigan in our community,” stated Bellamy. “I am eager to work with the staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities who, daily, build up our community and support individuals in overcoming challenges and improving their lives.”

Bellamy is currently the executive director of Northern Health Plan. His previous career experiences include serving as the chief financial officer for McLaren Northern Michigan and leading his own consulting firm. He holds a master’s degree in business administration from Tulane University in New Orleans and a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Aquinas College.

He serves on the board of directors of Alcona Citizens for Health and previously served on the boards of Catholic Charities West Michigan (2008-11), the Pine Rest Foundation, Opera Grand Rapids, and the Grand Rapids Ballet Company.

Bellamy succeeds former CEO Chris Slater who resigned in June 2020 to take a position with School Choice Associates. Laura Ploof has been serving as interim CEO. Bellamy will begin his new duties on Sept. 28.

### About Catholic Charities West Michigan

For more than seven decades, Catholic Charities West Michigan has been feeding the hungry, counseling those who struggle and building strong families. Through a broad spectrum of social service programs focused on the needs of children and families, CCWM serves the residents of 26 counties in West Michigan. Headquartered in Grand Rapids, CCWM has more than 275 employees who work from nine locations and last year touched the lives of more than 32,000 individuals from Traverse City to Benton Harbor and points in between. For more information, visit [www.ccwestmi.org](http://www.ccwestmi.org).

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