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LOCAL LEADERS CELEBRATED DURING CATHOLIC CHARTIES OF ONONDAGA COUNTY 37TH ANNUAL HOUSE OF PROVIDENCE AWARDS, SEPT. 28

**Ann Rooney, Jaime Alicea, and Monsignor Charles J. Fahey
Selected as Award Recipients for Community Impact**

Syracuse, NY – Catholic Charities of Onondaga County (Catholic Charities) will host the 37th Annual House of Providence Awards, presented by J.W. Burns & Company Investment Counsel, at the Oncenter (800 S. State St., Syracuse, NY 13202) on Wednesday, Sept. 28 starting at 5:30 p.m. The event is the agency's largest fundraiser to support the 40 programs it operates, which serve thousands of individuals in the area each year. For the second year in a row, the celebratory evening will include an extended cocktail party leading up to the award ceremony featuring three guests of honor.

"This event is special because it gives Catholic Charities the opportunity to recognize leaders and trailblazers whose impact aligns with the work we do," said Michael F. Melara, Executive Director, Catholic Charities. "I consider it a great privilege to be able to celebrate Msgr. Fahey, Jaime Alicea, and Ann Rooney for the significant contributions they have made in our community."

Ann Rooney, Deputy County Executive, Human Services, Onondaga County, will receive the **Humanitarian Service Award** for displaying a consistent desire to improve the human condition through a life of service, both personally and professionally. Retired Syracuse City School District Superintendent **Jaime Alicea** will receive the **President's Award** for the ways in which he has immeasurably enhanced public education in the community. **Msgr. Charles J. Fahey** will be presented with the **Bishop's Award** for his efforts to actively serve people in the Diocese of Syracuse.

The House of Providence Committee, led by outgoing volunteer co-chairs Patti Callahan and Joseph L. Charles, and Catholic Charities staff began planning this year's event in late 2021. Over 400 attendees from various industries will enjoy the evening's festivities, centered on the service efforts of the honorees, who will be added to a noble list going back to 1987.

More information about the event can be found online at www.ccoc.us, along with a list of sponsors. A live stream (<https://video.ibm.com/channel/DgcDDXaPzh6>) will be available for those who would like to watch the award ceremony, which starts at 7 p.m., but could not be present in person.

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Catholic Charities of Onondaga County is a human service nonprofit that works to reduce poverty in Onondaga County by serving those most in need. Programs include a shelter for men, food pantries, refugee services, elderly services, supportive housing, parenting classes, programs for children and youth, and more. The agency assists nearly 19,000 people annually and serves anyone in need regardless of religion, ethnicity, or nationality.