

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Media contact information located below.*

CATHOLIC CHARITIES, GONZAGA UNIVERSITY, GONZAGA PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND ST. ALOYSIUS OPEN 73 NEW UNITS OF PERMANENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES

SPOKANE, Wash., March 7, 2022 – Catholic Charities Eastern Washington (Catholic Charities), in partnership with Gonzaga University, Gonzaga Preparatory School, and St. Aloysius Parish invite you to the grand opening of Gonzaga Family Haven, Catholic Charities' newest affordable, permanent supportive housing community for 73 families.

“Families and most importantly, children need a roof over their heads at night before they can think about anything else,” said Rob McCann, president & CEO of Catholic Charities. “Gonzaga Family Haven will not only help families stabilize their lives but will give them options for a brighter future.”

GRAND OPENING EVENT INFORMATION

Date: March 30, 2022

Time: 11am – 1pm

Address: 975 E Foothills Dr., Spokane, WA 99207 *limited parking available

Gonzaga Family Haven will include on-site wraparound services such as case management, connection with neighborhood medical resources, substance abuse counseling, Head Start & ECAP Program afterschool tutor lab and academic support programs, personal health and wellness classes, adult education, employment readiness, food preparation and nutrition courses, and more! Gonzaga Family Haven is the 17th tax credit property that Catholic Charities has been awarded and constructed since 2012.

“Gonzaga University believes in the purpose and power of community, and we are excited to become a part of the Gonzaga Family Haven community,” said Thayne McCulloh, Gonzaga University president. “We are looking forward to offering many of our successful community engagement programs at the Family Haven. These service-learning opportunities, integral to the Jesuit educational model, are strategic and long-term commitments. We believe the Family Haven partnership holds the potential for Spokane to establish a national model of community-driven change.”

Gonzaga Family Haven will change the lives of families who have experienced the trauma of intergenerational poverty, homelessness and the chaos of family separation. Through a unique partnership with Gonzaga University, Gonzaga Preparatory School's embedded student volunteers, and St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish, the property will provide a full range of supportive services for community residents and become a hub for services in the neighborhood.

“Gonzaga Family Haven represents a groundbreaking opportunity for the Gonzaga Prep community to contribute service to our local community, in collaboration with Catholic Charities and Gonzaga University,” said Michael Dougherty, president of Gonzaga Preparatory School. “Students, faculty and families have been eager to provide service at the Haven, welcoming our newest neighbors by building relationships and community. We look forward to this long-term relationship, and especially the opportunity to share our educational mission in service to the youth and families of Gonzaga Family Haven.”

St. Aloysius Parish has provided ongoing support with donations and volunteers since the inception of the project. “Gonzaga Family Haven will be an important help to its families as they work for stability and togetherness,” said the Rev. Tom Lamanna, S.J., pastor. “We are so glad to partner with the families of Gonzaga Family Haven, Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, Gonzaga Prep and Gonzaga University. Through this partnership the words of Jesus’ call in the Gospels are put into action, and we able to be loving neighbors to one another.”

For more information, please refer to the media kit or visit www.cceasternwa.org/ghf.

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About Catholic Charities Eastern Washington

Catholic Charities Eastern Washington affirms the dignity of every person, partnering with parishes and the greater community to serve and advocate for those who are vulnerable, bringing stability and hope to people throughout Eastern Washington.

About Gonzaga University

Gonzaga University established in Spokane, Wash., in 1887, is a nationally ranked, Jesuit and Catholic, liberal arts-based comprehensive institution that develops every student’s intellectual skills, imaginative capacities, and ability to innovate so our graduates become leaders who shape and serve their professions and communities for the good of all. Gonzaga offers 16 undergraduate degrees through 49 majors, 66 minors and 66 concentrations; 20 master’s programs; and five doctoral degrees, through the College of Arts and Sciences and six schools: School of Business Administration, School of Education, School of Engineering and Applied Science, School of Nursing and Human Physiology, School of Leadership Studies, and School of Law.

About Gonzaga Preparatory School

Gonzaga Preparatory School, established in 1887, is a Jesuit, Catholic college preparatory school located in Spokane, Wash. Guided by the Gospel values of love and justice, the school offers a college preparatory curriculum that teaches its students to realize their potential as lifelong learners and leaders in service to others. The school seeks to offer its transformative program to all who desire a Catholic education in the Jesuit tradition, and more than 60 percent of students receive financial assistance to ensure the affordability of tuition.

About St. Aloysius Catholic Church

St. Aloysius Catholic Church is a Catholic parish of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) founded in 1890. The current church building opened in 1911. The church and our school are proud of our participation in the Logan Neighborhood. Our current grade school was constructed in 1940 but the school has served this neighborhood since 1916. The Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary staffed and ran the school for many years. St. Al’s continues to have the same passion for a Christ-centered Catholic education that the Sisters of the Holy Names, the Jesuits, and the parishioners of St. Al’s parish felt in 1916. This passion still burns brightly today in the hearts of the parish and our school community, including our 461 students.