

Congratulations!



2024 Voice of Hope Award Recipient

Sister Mildred Ely, H.M.



Sister Mildred "Millie" Ely, H.M. is a life-long resident of Northeast Ohio. Growing up in Conneaut, her mother, Helen, always instilled in her a sense of sharing and giving back to others. She can recall providing a simple sandwich and water to homeless men traveling on the local railway cars. This act of charity was the springboard to a life of service.

Sister Millie entered the congregation of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary just out of high school. At the time, her sights were set on becoming a schoolteacher. A quick stint with 3rd and 4th grade students, however, caused her to reconsider! Sr. Millie decided to change course and pursue the subjects she loved: math and science.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from Duquesne University, and a Master of Health Administration degree from St. Louis University. Sister Millie served both St. Joseph Hospital, Lorain, and St. Joseph Hospital, Warren, for over 25 years in positions ranging from pharmacist to President/CEO. She has also held executive leadership positions on the boards of Catholic Healthcare Partners, Cincinnati, and Mercy Health in Northern Toledo and Youngstown. Most recently, she served as the Chair of the Board of Directors for Mercy Health Youngstown from 2022-2023.

Sister Millie's involvement with Catholic Charities spans several decades. In the late 1980s, Sister Millie was introduced to the work of Catholic Charities through fellow Humility of Mary Sister, Consolata Kline, who served as Executive Director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Youngstown, and Brian Corbin, the Diocesan Director of Social Action at the time. She has remained connected to Catholic Charities ever since and has served in various capacities, which include her current role as chairperson of the Catholic Charities Audit, Budget, and Finance Committee.

From 2008-2013, Sister Millie managed the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Youngstown where she interacted directly with Catholic Charities in both organizations' shared efforts to help those in need.

A Sister of the Humility of Mary for 64 years, Sister Millie continues to serve on various committees that address the needs and concerns of her congregation. She receives inspiration daily through her congregation whose lives of service are strengthened by their dedication to prayer, contemplation and mission of bringing more abundant life to God's people, especially the poor.

"I have always held a strong belief in the wonderful work done by the people of Catholic Charities."

