

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Clare Brown

Contract Specialist and
Grant Writer

What is your role at Catholic Charities (CC)?

I am officially part of the Grant Team as a Grant Writer now! I'm really lucky to have been able to move around multiple departments in the organization. I started out as the Donor Database Manager in Development, and then moved into Communications and Social Media Coordinator role. Then after COVID started, I moved into a Contract Specialist position with Healthcare Integration/Integrated Case Management. And now I'm in Grants! So lots of agency knowledge, which is super helpful in my current role writing about our work.

How long have you worked at CC?

I have been here for a year and a half. My first day was Juneteenth 2019.

What is your favorite part of your job?

Every day is different! Some days I spend all day writing and really digging into a grant application, and other days I spend the day researching our programs and the incredible work they do. And then like everyone, some days I spend all day on Zoom calls and get to catch up with my work friends!

What does your daily routine look like?

Daily routine during COVID is kind of an oxymoron, especially now that I'm working from home. Some days I really love being cozy with my doggy and my laptop, and some days I really miss my people! But whether I'm at the office or at home, each day involves lots of coffee and emails, then writing, writing, writing.

What is your favorite movie?

So many!! Ok top five: Practical Magic, Ladybird, Inception, The Goonies and Roman Holiday.

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live?

Probably the Amalfi Coast in Italy, that's my favorite place in the whole world.

How would people describe you?

Loud is the first thing that comes to mind. I have a very distinctive laugh! Hopefully they would say I'm friendly also.

Would you rather have all traffic lights turn green when you approach them, or never have to stand in line again?

Never have to stand in line again for sure! Going to Costco is like the Hunger Games right now so being able to skip that would be nice.

Do you have any hidden talents?

I think I'm really good at trivia.

Do you have any hidden talents?

I treat karaoke as a competitive sport, so I like to do 90s jams like Aaliyah, Lauryn Hill, maybe Whitney or Mariah if cocktails are involved.

Netflix or Hulu?

Definitely Netflix. I try not to have too many streaming services, or I'll never leave my house.

What is your favorite book?

Also hard to choose! The Mists of Avalon has been my favorite for a long time, but All About Love by bell hooks was a big time life changer.

Who is your hero?

So many strong women that are Sheros: Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Maya Angelou, Eleanor Roosevelt, Gloria Steinem, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Glass ceiling breakers that fought against societal norms and changed the world.

What else should we know about you?

I have an old lady dog, Ruby, that is a 13.5-year-old West Highland White Terrier that I rescued when I was going to college in Chicago that I will literally talk to anyone about at any time.

THANK YOU

Clare!