A faithful friend of mine once asked why Catholics shy away from using the word “radical.” In a political context, the word has come to be associated with drastic extremes that tend to divide instead of unite. Yet Jesus’ ministry was nothing short of radical, in that it called forth a new social order—one that included the excluded, denounced injustice, righted wrongs and promoted the common good.

“Radical” has yet another definition, one that speaks appropriately to the mission of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development: “of or going to the root or origin; fundamental.” In its commitment to challenging root causes of poverty and injustice, CCHD inspires a radical witness to Gospel values that are fundamental to the social mission of the Church.

Through its educational efforts and partnerships with grassroots organizations in marginalized communities across the Chicagoland area, CCHD witnesses to:

- Healing and reconciliation in the face of violence and incarceration as parents, families and neighbors commit to breaking the cycle.
- The power of community to inspire and equip people to be artisans of their own destiny.
- Courage, patience, and resilience in the face of displacement.
- Hope despite the hostility that traps our immigrant brothers and sisters in the shadows of society.
- Charity that goes beyond a simple handout.

We are grateful for the support of all who make the ministry of CCHD possible, especially generous donors and passionate volunteers. Together, let us continue, “to bear radiant witness to communion, service, ardent and generous faith, justice and love of the poor, that the joy of the Gospel may reach to the ends of the earth, illuminating even the fringes of our world.” (Evangelii Gaudium, no. 288)

In solidarity,

Liz Young
CCHD Diocesan Director
Total Collected in November 2018 — $597,095.73

- 38% to local grants — $226,896.38
- 6% to local justice education — $35,825.74
- 6% to local administration — $35,825.74
- 50% to national CCHD office — $298,547.87

Total Allocated in 2019–2020 Grants — $870,000

- National grants — $635,000
- Local community development grants — $215,000
- Local economic development grants — $20,000
Creating Resilient Communities and Strong Schools

Alliance of the Southeast — $20,000
Logan Square Neighborhood Association — $20,000
Lugenia Burns Hope Center — $15,000
Pilsen Neighbors Community Council — $15,000
Southwest Organizing Project — $20,000
Kenwood Oakland Community Organization — $40,000*
ONE: Northside — $40,000*

The Parent Engagement Institute, a collaboration between the Logan Square Neighborhood Association and Southwest Organizing Project, is a nationally-recognized model that builds leaders in the home, the school and the community. Parent Mentors in low-income schools throughout Illinois volunteer in classrooms as mentors and support staff, building confidence to advocate for their children and developing skills to utilize beyond the classroom.

Building a Just Economy and Protecting Worker Rights

Working Family Solidarity — $15,000
Arise Chicago — $50,000*
Centro de Trabajadores Unidos — $25,000*
Chicago Workers Collaborative — $50,000*
Latino Union of Chicago — $40,000*
The People's Lobby Education Institute — $50,000*

“I am tired of seeing African Americans and Latinos divided and fighting each other, when both of our communities face the same problems,” said a racial dialogue participant. Working Family Solidarity strives to build trust between low and moderate-income families of all races through honest dialogue, Know Your Rights workshops and concrete campaigns for justice. They empower local residents to fight for the well-being and stability of their communities, especially in the areas of equitable development, housing and jobs.
Economic Empowerment: New Businesses, Jobs, and Financial Opportunity

Co-op Ed Center — $20,000
South Side Community Federal Credit Union — $65,000*

The Co-op Ed Center provides training and technical support to aspiring worker cooperatives in communities of color, especially those that have been excluded from or exploited by the current economic system. CEC envisions a restorative Chicagoland economy built through worker cooperatives that are centered on the democratic and social justice principles of education, solidarity and collective self-determination.
Promoting Public Safety and Reforming the Criminal Justice System

Communities United — $20,000
Community Renewal Society — $20,000
Lake County Sponsors — $20,000
St. Agatha Parent and Family Empowerment Initiative — $20,000
Target Area Development Corporation — $15,000
Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation — $75,000*

It costs five times more to house the mentally ill in jail than to provide the health care they need. Current practices result in a cycle of imprisonment, emergency room congestion and homelessness. **Lake County Sponsors** is working to divert the flow of people with mental illness from the criminal justice system by providing crisis intervention training to local law enforcement personnel, establishing alternative drop-off points for people in crisis and securing funding to expand affordable housing for those with physical or mental disabilities.

Expanding Access to Health Care and Empowering Seniors & Persons with Disabilities

Coalition to Save Our Mental Health Centers — $60,000*
Jane Addams Senior Caucus — $45,000*
Progress Center for Independent Living — $40,000*

**Jane Addams Senior Caucus** is a thriving membership organization which builds a network of engaged seniors that act collectively to promote the rights and well-being of seniors, their families and their communities. Leaders are currently advocating for a Senior Housing Bill of Rights ordinance, which would take steps to ensure that seniors can age with dignity and safety, regardless of their housing situation.

Organizations marked with an asterisk (*) received national funding. National funding comes from the USCCB, to which we contribute a portion of the archdiocesan collection each year. Local funding comes from the collection amount retained by the Archdiocese of Chicago. All organizations listed in the report are based in Cook and/or Lake Counties.
Expanding Access to Dignified and Affordable Housing

Housing Action Illinois — $15,000
Chicago Housing Initiative — $25,000*
Metropolitan Tenants Organization — $30,000*

People are not their records. Housing Action Illinois co-chairs the Just Housing Initiative, a coalition that has been advocating for an ordinance to reduce housing discrimination for people with arrest and conviction records. Barriers to housing for returning citizens contribute to recidivism, exacerbate homelessness and exact a heavy toll on Illinois taxpayers. HAI is now working to implement and enforce the ordinance that passed this spring so that all of our neighbors can access this basic need of a safe and dignified life—a place to call home.
The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the domestic anti-poverty program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), working to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ “to bring good news to the poor...release to captives...sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free.” (Luke 4:18) The belief that those who are directly affected by unjust systems and structures have the best insights into knowing how to change them is central to CCHD. CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out.

CCHD has a complementary mission of educating on poverty and its causes. This strategy of education for justice and helping people who are poor speak and act for themselves reflects the mandate of the Scriptures and the principles of Catholic social teaching.

CCHD provides the Catholic faithful with concrete opportunities to live out the love of God and neighbor in ways that express our baptismal call and continuing Eucharistic transformation. CCHD is made possible by the generous support of Catholics in the United States, especially through an annual parish collection.

CCHD is an essential part of the Church in the United States' social mission, and a unique part of the Catholic community's broad commitment to assist low-income people, families, and communities.

To view our website or to donate online, please visit CCHDchicago.org.

We're also on Facebook @CCHDchicago.

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