

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



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November 17, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In Pope Francis's message regarding the Third World Day of the Poor, which will take place on Sunday, November 17, 2019, the Holy Father implored that, "If the disciples of the Lord Jesus wish to be genuine evangelizers, they must sow tangible seeds of hope. I ask all Christian communities, and all those who feel impelled to offer hope and consolation to the poor, to help ensure that this World Day of the Poor will encourage more and more people to cooperate effectively so that no one will feel deprived of closeness and solidarity."

Organizations funded by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) lead the call for all of us to stand in solidarity with those who have been marginalized in their communities and to act against injustice. For example, the Coalition to Save Our Mental Health Centers works to ensure that all Chicago residents, especially those who are low-income and underinsured, have access to adequate and affordable mental health services. For over two decades, it has worked to unite mental health consumers, professionals, faith leaders and community residents to keep Chicago's system of centers open and fully funded in the face of constant budget cuts. Since 2011, the Coalition has opened three new self-funded and community-controlled clinics to serve areas of the city that have been impacted by poverty, violence and other trauma.

By emphasizing self-help, participation and solidarity, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development is working to create safe, healthy and resilient communities where all of our neighbors can flourish. To learn more about CCHD's impact or to donate online, please visit www.CCHDChicago.org.

Your generous support of the CCHD Annual Collection, which will take place on Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24, is the primary source of funding for nearly thirty grassroots organizations working to combat poverty and injustice in Cook and Lake Counties. It is my prayer that you consider contributing to CCHD through this secondary collection and continue to sow the seeds of hope amongst those who find themselves on the margins of Chicagoland.

With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago