

Annual Review 2017

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Mission Fully Lived



“Thus we should not be afraid to face our challenges, but embrace them, seeing this moment as a graced opportunity to chart new ways to live out our mission more fully.”

—Cardinal Blase Cupich, *Renew My Church*

Dear CCHD Supporter,

I was honored to be Diocesan Director for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) from 2000-2008. Who would have thought that after nine years I'd again be connected to the work of CCHD? As always, God has mysterious ways of opening doors that we thought were closed. Last fall, as I was discerning the voice of God, I was asked to re-energize CCHD as part of Cardinal Cupich's *Renew My Church* initiative. As I confided in my close friends and spiritual companions, God's call was reaffirmed: “Yes, Elena, assist CCHD and I will be with you.. do not fear!”

Renew My Church calls the Church to be out in the community encountering God in the poor and marginalized—walking with them and empowering them to be critical agents of their own development. This is precisely what CCHD has been doing for the last 48 years since it was founded by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). We, as a Church, have been accompanying the poor through CCHD as they become leaders and bring justice to their communities on issues such as labor, housing, disability rights, anti-violence, healthcare, and economic development.

This year your faithful contribution to CCHD supported the collaborative efforts of several funded groups to confront the challenges presented by the state budget crisis. In the face of funding cuts to critical public services for seniors, students, low-income families, and other vulnerable populations, these organizations embraced the opportunity to envision an economic model that would prioritize people and planet over profit. For example, hundreds of community leaders united for a 200 mile march from Chicago to Springfield—raising awareness, building relationships, and changing the public narrative along the way.

I invite you to read more about the 21 local organizations that have been working towards justice in their communities with the support of CCHD this year, thanks to your generous participation in the CCHD collection during the third week of November in 2016.

Please pray for CCHD and its partner organizations as they continue walking with those on the margins. If you'd like to learn more about how you can get involved or receive updates about the work of funded groups, please contact Liz Young at eyoung@archchicago.org. You can also donate online at www.CCHDchicago.org.

Thank you for your continued support,



Elena Segura, CCHD Diocesan Director

LOCAL FUNDING

Chicago Coalition to Save Our Mental Health Centers

\$20,000

The Coalition organizes local residents, mental health professionals, mental health consumers, and faith leaders to create *Expanded Mental Health Services Programs* (EMHSPs), which result in new community mental health centers that serve all Chicago residents, especially those who are low-income and underinsured. In preparation for the 2018 opening of the new West Side EMHSP, they assisted in the formation of a governing commission and conducted a Mental Health Needs Assessment to inform the services that the center will provide.

Chicago Housing Initiative

\$10,000

Through leadership development, direct action, research, and policy-advocacy, the Chicago Housing Initiative (CHI) amplifies the power of low-income Chicago residents to preserve and expand subsidized rental housing, promote community stabilization, and advance racial and economic inclusion and equity. This year, CHI and its member organizations worked to hold the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) accountable for the *Keeping the Promise* ordinance and secured commitments for the creation of 450 public housing units, which will represent a 76% increase in the amount of affordable housing for low-income families on Chicago's north and northwest sides.

Chicago Workers Collaborative

\$15,000

Chicago Workers Collaborative (CWC) organizes low-wage temporary laborers to take action and protect their rights, fight anti-worker and anti-immigrant activities of employers, and strengthen protections for temp agency workers—some of the most victimized workers in the country. In FY17, CWC began a new initiative to challenge gender violence in the home and workplace, and united black and brown workers to advocate for the *Responsible Jobs Creation Act*, the most comprehensive protections for temp workers in the United States, which became law in September 2017.

Illinois Hunger Coalition

\$15,000

The Illinois Hunger Coalition (IHC) is the only statewide, anti-hunger organization working to address the underlying causes of hunger by working for a deeper and more transformative approach to racial and economic equity. This year, IHC secured protections of SNAP benefits for

over 260,000 unemployed adults and 40,000 low-income community college students.

Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization

\$15,000

Through the sustained engagement of low-income and working families, Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization (KOCO) develops multi-generational leaders who impact decision-making processes and public policies, improving the quality of life in local communities. Recent KOCO victories include pressuring the Chicago Board of Education to re-open a neighborhood school, restoring a canceled bus route that serves several senior residences, and securing the release of 9,000 additional housing vouchers.

Lugenia Burns Hope Center

\$10,000

The Lugenia Burns Hope Center (LBHC) is a leadership and community development institution that educates and empowers low-income African Americans to act on their own behalf. In addition to planning for a new senior center and additional affordable housing units, the Hope Center is mobilizing parents for school improvement, fighting for an elected school board and stronger local school councils, and implementing a community safety campaign.

Lake County Sponsors

\$10,000

Lake County Sponsors brings together 25 churches, mosques, synagogues, and non-profits to work together as agents for change for the common good. They won a commitment from the county board to open a new skilled-care facility for low-income elderly, launched *Waukegan to College* (W2C) to support teenagers in their pursuit of higher education, and built needed support for the construction of over 100 units of affordable housing for low-income seniors and families in Mundelein and Grayslake.

Logan Square Neighborhood Association

\$15,000

Logan Square Neighborhood Association (LSNA) is a community-based organization that advances diversity, leader development, and models of engagement for social change in the primarily low-income and immigrant communities of Logan Square, Avondale, and Hermosa. Recently, LSNA-led coalition campaigns to reduce housing displacement, resulting in the *Affordable Requirements* and *Keep Chicago Renting* ordinances.

Latino Union **\$20,000**

Latino Union is the Midwest's only organization that offers comprehensive workforce development, leadership development and organizing training programs for day laborers and domestic workers. This year they launched a public education campaign to enforce the *Illinois Domestic Workers Bill of Rights*, which took effect on Jan. 1. They are also working to protect the *Welcoming City* ordinance in response to the challenges facing Chicago's immigrant community.

Progress Center for Independent Living **\$20,000**

Run by and for people with disabilities, Progress Center for Independent Living (PCIL) addresses the lack of affordable, accessible, integrated housing by providing services to help members and others live independently in the community. In 2017 PCIL advocated at the state level to increase overtime allowances for personal assistants and oppose cuts to Medicaid, both issues that would threaten the independence of consumers with disabilities.

Pilsen Neighbors Community Council **\$10,000**

Pilsen Neighbors Community Council (PNCC) organizes on the Southwest side of Chicago to bring about justice and equity by investing in the development of community leaders and pastors through leadership training and action. In 2017 they participated in the opening of CPS's Parent University at Perez School to build a base of parent advocates. They have also been working to unite a cluster of 14 African-American congregations with their multi-racial young adult group to advance the *Change the Pipeline* campaign for public safety.

Parish Peace Project **\$15,000**

The Parish Peace Project (PPP) combines ministry and community organizing in a multi-parish effort to develop young-adult leaders and engage them in bringing peace to their communities using the principles of Catholic social teaching and restorative justice. Following a successful public meeting in response to hostile anti-

immigrant sentiment, young adults engaged in creating culturally inspired art projects that led to the installation of the *DREAMers* mural on Providence of God Church, which is now the PPP headquarters. PPP also worked with community groups to reclaim public space through the Increase the Peace initiative.

South Side Community Federal Credit Union **\$15,000**

South Side Community Federal Credit Union (SSFCU) equalizes economic power and fights poverty by providing holistic financial education and access to innovative savings and credit services to low-income communities. They are the only financial institution on the south side of Chicago with a community development mission. In FY 2017 SSFCU saved over 20 families from losing their homes to foreclosure, financed two new local businesses, and launched an incentivized savings program that connects wealth to health and wellness.

Target Area Development Corporation **\$15,000**

Target Area addresses crosscutting issues and combats community violence by amplifying and channeling the informed voices of disenfranchised families and other stakeholders into the decision-making and policy development process. In 2017 they served over 3,100 returning citizens with reentry services such as anger management, employment assistance, job readiness training, education, mentoring, and food pantry.

Waukegan to College **\$15,000**

Waukegan to College (W2C) works with first-generation middle and high school students to prepare for, enroll in, and graduate from college while also providing training and leadership development to parents so they can organize their communities for education reform. As a result of W2C's 6-year campaign led by parent leaders, the Waukegan School District secured a grant to hire seven full-time college and career counselors. This victory will have an immediate impact on more than 900 high school seniors and over 4,000 other students who will benefit from these services beginning in middle school.

At least 50% of the money collected in Chicago stays in Chicago.

In 2017, over 93% of the money collected in Chicago directly supported community and economic development initiatives in Cook and Lake Counties.

NATIONAL FUNDING

Arise Chicago

\$50,000

Arise Chicago organizes low-wage workers and builds partnerships with faith communities to fight workplace exploitation through education, organizing, and advocating for public policy changes. In the past year they collaborated to win the Illinois *Domestic Bill of Rights* and launched a historic campaign to open a Chicago Office of Labor Standards that would enforce Chicago paid sick days, minimum wage, and Arise-won *Anti-Wage Theft* ordinance.

Jane Addams Senior Caucus

\$40,000

Jane Addams Senior Caucus (JASC) unites and empowers seniors of all ethnic backgrounds to take control of their communities and act as vehicles for social, racial, and economic justice. This year JASC and their allies led a 200 mile march from Chicago to Springfield to build relationships state-wide and call on elected officials to pass a state budget that invests in the people of Illinois and the health of our environment. They also secured commitments for the preservation of over 150 units of affordable housing for low-income families and seniors.

Metropolitan Tenants Organization

\$30,000

The largest organizer of tenants and tenant associations in Chicago, Metropolitan Tenants Organization (MTO) educates, organizes, and empowers tenants to improve their living conditions, prevent homelessness, and preserve affordable housing. MTO continues work to hold the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) accountable for public and affordable housing policies through the *Keeping the Promise* ordinance. Recently, they recruited aldermen and nine new community organizations to support the Chicago *Healthy Home Inspection* program which would enforce building code standards and protect renters from health hazards in the home.

Organizing Neighborhoods for Equality: Northside

\$50,000

Organizing Neighborhoods for Equality: Northside (ONE Northside) is a mixed-income, multi-ethnic, inter-generational organization that unites diverse communities by developing grassroots leaders and acting together to effect change, especially on issues of racial and economic justice. This year they joined allies in the *March to Springfield* to protest state budget and lack of investment in their communities. They are working to create opportunities for action against threats to immigrants and refugees and those who benefit from Medicaid expansion, live in federally subsidized housing, and use food stamps.

Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation

\$55,000

Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation (PBMR) works to improve the lives of those who are impacted by incarceration and inequality by educating and empowering at-risk youth and vulnerable adults, forming advocacy groups to influence policy change, and creating a citywide dialogue around restorative justice. They have been a partner in the development of the *Restorative Justice Community Court* that opened this summer in North Lawndale and supported the creation of seven *Community Restorative Justice Hubs* that now exist in Chicago.

The People's Lobby Education Institute

\$50,000

The People's Lobby Education Institute (TPLEI) works to help ordinary people, particularly low-income people, become powerful leaders who will act collectively to shape a future for the people of the Chicago region. As a result of work by TPLEI and allies in the *March to Springfield*, \$125 million in corporate tax loopholes were closed in the state budget that passed in July. They defended the Cook County minimum wage increase against attempts to reverse it and introduced the *Equal Justice for All* act to address the crisis of mass incarceration in Cook County.

“I assure you of my support for the commitment you and many other local leaders are making to promote nonviolence as a way of life and a path to peace in Chicago.” —Pope Francis

Over one-third of CCHD funded groups in Chicago are taking concrete steps to combat violence in their communities.



The **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)** is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, 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 insight 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.

For more information or to donate online, visit www.CCHDchicago.org

For more information, contact Liz Young at 312.534.3891 or eyoung@archchicago.org