



# CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

At-A-Glance



# What is CCHD?

The Archdiocese of Chicago played an integral role in the creation of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), founded in 1969 as the official anti-poverty, social justice program of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Half a century later, CCHD Chicago remains true to its mission of empowering low-income Americans to participate in the decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities. CCHD accomplishes this by:

- 1) Providing economic and community development grants to grassroots nonprofits that are working to bring permanent, positive, and systemic change to their communities.
- 2) Providing educational opportunities to help Catholics encounter, learn, and act to address root causes of poverty.
- 3) Building bridges of solidarity between communities of different racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.

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## THEMES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

- Human Life and Dignity
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Solidarity
- Subsidiarity
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Dignity of Work
- Care for Creation

# How Does CCHD Operate?

## Fundraising

The work of CCHD is made possible by the generous support of Catholics in the United States, especially through a parish collection that takes place during the third weekend of November each year. Donations are also accepted year-round at [www.CCHDchicago.org](http://www.CCHDchicago.org).

## Grantmaking

Each year a committee of nearly 30 priests, religious, and lay leaders assembles to assist local CCHD staff with the grant evaluation process. After reviewing applications and conducting site visits, their funding recommendations are submitted to Cardinal Cupich, who approves all grant decisions.

## Education

CCHD seeks to provide justice education opportunities that promote understanding about poverty and its root causes. Educational programs include the annual CCHD internship and Creating on the Margins youth art contest.



**Members of Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation—a Back-of-the-Yards-based grantee that promotes restorative justice—stand in front of their peace garden.**




## **Coalition to Save Our Mental Health Centers**

When the City of Chicago announced plans in 2012 to close half its mental health clinics, the Coalition organized citizens in affected areas to vote for self-taxation to create new, community-controlled ones. Thanks to the Coalition's efforts, new clinics are open in Albany Park (2014) and North Lawndale (2018), and a third campaign is underway in Logan Square.

## **Chicago Workers Collaborative**

Chicago Workers Collaborative organizes temporary, low-wage laborers—often victims of discrimination, wage theft, and gender violence—to advocate for their rights. The group has launched an initiative to address sexual transgressions in the home and workplace, and united black and brown workers to pass the Illinois Responsible Jobs Creation Act—the most comprehensive protection for temporary laborers in the United States.



# Who Does CCHD Fund?

Each year, CCHD provides grants to 20-30 nonprofit organizations that address critical social issues like housing, workers' rights, disability and senior rights, public safety and criminal justice, education, food insecurity, and mental health.

Central to CCHD is the belief that those who are directly affected by unjust systems and structures have the best insights into how to change them. As a result, CCHD expects that grantees:

- Develop their members into leaders
- Seek low-income individuals for governing roles
- Enact institutional change by addressing policies and structures that create poverty or keep people poor
- Refrain from partisan political activity
- Comply fully with Catholic moral and social teaching



## South Side Community Federal Credit Union

Left: an SSCFCU member promotes financial literacy at a *Savings With Santa* event. SSCFCU's mission is to bring affordable, non-predatory banking services and financial education to the underserved Washington Park community. In just 3 years, they saved 1,200 families from foreclosure through HUD counseling, opened 1,262 new member accounts, and processed 574 low interest rate loans totalling over \$1.1 million.

# How Can I Get Involved?

## **Join a CCHD Committee or serve as a Parish Promoter**

Members of the Allocations Advisory Committee, Promotions Committee, and Justice Education Taskforce advise on a particular aspect of CCHD, while Parish Promoters serve as CCHD ambassadors in their own parish communities.

## **Volunteer your time and skills**

Possibilities include partnering with a grantee on a capacity-building project, designing marketing materials, helping with administrative tasks in the office, and covering community events as a journalist or photographer.

## **Engage your parish in community action**

Connect your parish with a nearby grantee or educate your parish community about a social justice issue.

**Let us know your goals, skills, and desired time commitment and we'll work with you to find a good fit!**



Members of ONE:Northside hold up signs following a group action to promote affordable housing in Chicago.



“We cannot wait any longer to deal with the structural causes of poverty... Without a solution to the problems of the poor, we will not solve the problems of the world. We need...to implement better distribution of resources, from the creation of new jobs to the integral promotion of those who are excluded.”

—Pope Francis, *Interview with La Stampa*  
1 November, 2015



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



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To view our website or to donate online, please visit  
**[CCHDchicago.org](http://CCHDchicago.org)**.

We're also on facebook **[@CCHDchicago](https://www.facebook.com/CCHDchicago)**.

For more information, please contact **Liz Young** at **312.534.3891** or  
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Cover: Members of CCHD grantee Illinois Hunger Coalition participate in a "Fight for 15" rally to persuade the City of Chicago to raise minimum wage to \$15.

Inner Back Cover: Edited photograph of Pope Francis taken in Philadelphia at the concluding Mass of his visit to the United States, Sept. 27, 2015 courtesy of Jeffrey Bruno, <http://bit.ly/2q9u3vs>