



# SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT

Catholic Campaign for Human Development  
2023 Annual Report



Dear CCHD Supporter,

What a great joy it has been to finish yet another grant year with you. Whether it is your first or fiftieth year supporting our ministry, we cannot emphasize our gratitude enough. Your prayers, participation and financial support are blessed by the Holy Spirit and truly sustain the work of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. We are delighted to reflect with you as we close out our 2023-24 grant year.

Although the litany of adversities in our country and city remain, so too does the call to justice and peace from individuals, community organizations and public leaders persist with continued strength. We are proud to support 12 organizations this grant year that are actively fighting against some of the most prominent issues plaguing our city:

Where communities are threatened with displacement due to environmental racism, **Alliance of the Southeast** is building the capacity of youth leaders and organizers to achieve community and social change.

Where communities are in need of a wealth-building ecosystem, Cooperatives like **Chi-Fresh Kitchen, Southside Food Coop** and **Genesis Cleaning Cooperative** empower one another with the tools necessary to build a lucrative local economy.

Where communities face job insecurity and gentrification, **Working Family Solidarity** strives to build racial solidarity to combat unequal development.

Where communities lack access to public services such as healthcare, education and welfare, groups like **Alliance for Community Services, Lake County Sponsors** and **St. Agatha Dream Builders Association** organize individuals to advocate for change.

Where communities are debilitated by the housing crisis, **Southside Together Organizing for Power** advances economic and social human rights through increasing access to affordable housing.

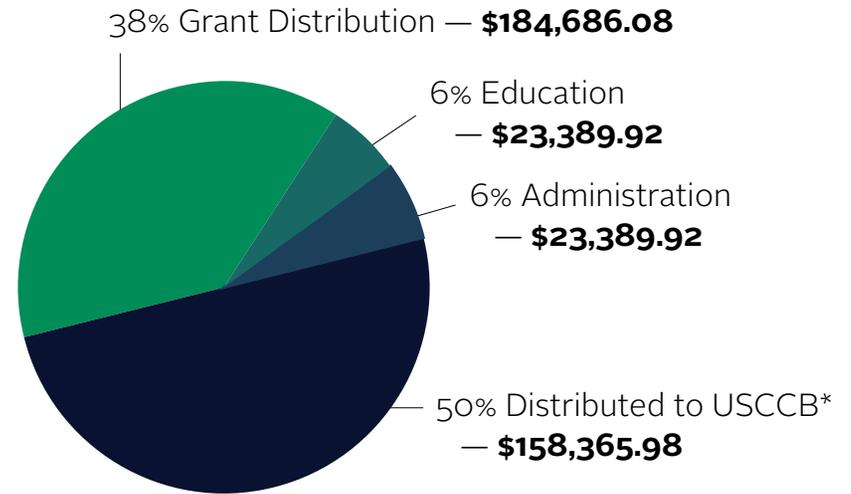
Where communities have health needs that too often go unmet, **Chicago Coalition to Save our Mental Health Centers** and **Progress Center for Independent Living** work to expand health services more equitably across the city.

The fight for justice is far from over. But as you read in more detail the good work of our grantees below, I encourage you to find hope in our achievements towards a more just society this year. As we gear up for another collection and grant year, I urge us all to continue this good work and continue to “seek peace and pursue it” (Psalm 34:14).

Once again, thank you for your generosity. We at the Catholic Campaign for Human Development are praying for you and appreciate your prayers always.

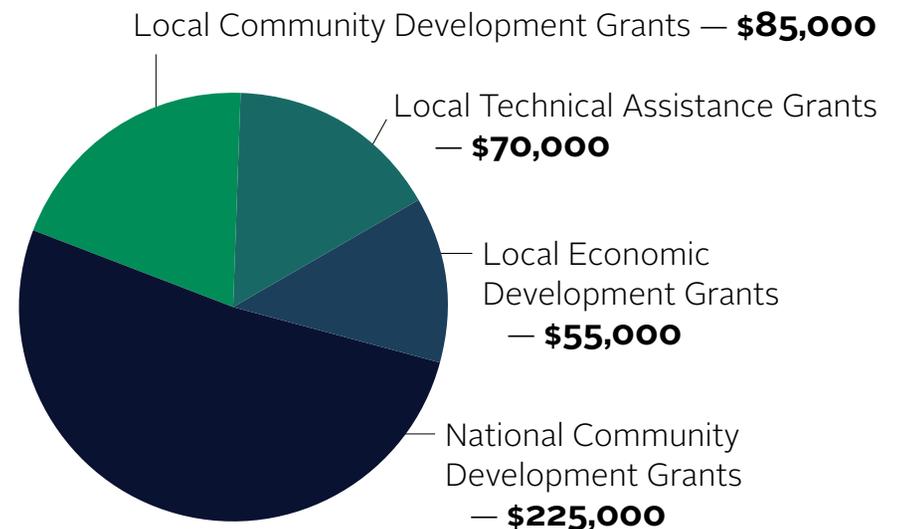
Peace,  
Danielle Bodette, CCHD and CRS Senior Coordinator

## Total Collected in 2022 — \$389,831.89



\*This chart and the corresponding percentages only reflect the funds collected before April 1. Funds collected after April 1 are proportionally distributed between grants, education and administration, which is reflected in the dollar amounts.

## Total Allocated in 2023-24 Grants — \$435,000



## Creating Resilient Communities and Strong Schools

Alliance of the Southeast — **\$35,000**

The **Alliance of the SouthEast** (ASE) began as Alianza Training Institute in 2002 to provide community organizing leadership trainings to Latino residents in southeast Chicago. ASE is now a multicultural, interfaith coalition of community organizations, faith institutions, labor institutions, businesses and schools working together to address challenges facing Chicago's southeast side. ASE's mission is to build the capacity of leaders, organizers and associations to carry out community and social change.

## Economic Empowerment: New Businesses, Jobs and Financial Opportunities

ChiFresh Kitchen — **\$70,000**

Genesis Cleaning Co-op, LWCA — **\$20,000**

Male Mogul Initiative — **\$20,000**

Southside Food Co-op — **\$15,000**

The **Male Mogul Initiative** seeks to build a community wealth-building ecosystem by creating a circular economy of business incubation, finance, direct services and community reinvestment. Its goal is to empower residents with the knowledge, resources and networks to build a thriving local economy through capital, training and infrastructure. The Male Mogul plans to invest in meaningful and innovative businesses that improve the vitality of under-resourced communities and create jobs in Chicago.

## Building a Just Economy and Protecting Workers Rights

Working Family Solidarity — **\$25,000**

**Working Family Solidarity** (WFS) was founded in late 2016 to build racial alliances between low income families, to overcome racial divisiveness, and attain racial equity and economic justice. It works to build racial solidarity beyond the workplace and to address the gentrification and unequal development affecting low-wage workers and their families. As a part of the “Jobs to Move America IL Campaign,” WFS has led the conversation with CTA to secure a partnership to create quality jobs and hire locally.



## Promoting **Public Safety** and Reforming the Criminal Justice System

Alliance for Community Services — **\$25,000**

Lake County Sponsors — **\$40,000**

St. Agatha Dream Builders Association — **\$35,000**

The **Alliance for Community Service** was formed in 2013 in response to the closing of local community service offices of the Illinois Department of Human Services and cuts to Medicaid. By bringing together consumers of public services and service workers, the Alliance empowers poor and oppressed persons to continue the movements for disability rights, welfare rights, racial justice and worker rights. Its goal is a just society and dignity for all persons, through preserving, expanding and improving access to public health, education and welfare.

## Expanding Access to **Healthcare** and Empowering Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Chicago Coalition to Save Our Mental Health Centers — **\$65,000**

Progress Center for Independent Living — **\$45,000**

The **Coalition to Save Our Mental Health Centers** is a Chicago-based organization working to restore and expand mental health services through the creation of Expanded Mental Health Services Programs (EMHSPs), which creates community-controlled and sustainably-funded mental health centers in high need areas. For nearly 30 years, 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.



## Expanding Access to Dignified and **Affordable Housing**

Southside Together Organizing for Power — **\$40,000**

**Southside Together Organizing for Power** (STOP) is a multi-issue community organization that advances economic and social human rights by organizing and developing leadership among people most affected by economic and racial oppression. Major victories include the preservation and improvement of over 600 subsidized housing units, the creation of a one million dollar Cook County fund for restorative justice alternatives to incarceration, and the opening of a trauma center to serve the South Side of Chicago.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Parish Vitality and Mission  
Human Dignity and Solidarity  
Cardinal Meyer Center  
3525 South Lake Park Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60653



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).

CCHD holds as central the belief that those who are directly affected by unjust systems and structures have the best insights into knowing how to change them. 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 handout.

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](https://CCHDchicago.org).

For more information, contact us at [ohds@archchicago.org](mailto:ohds@archchicago.org).



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