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September 12, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

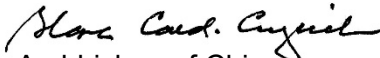
In Pope Francis' message for the Eighth World Day of The Poor, we are reminded of our mission to serve and accompany those in need: "We are called in every circumstance to be friends of the poor, following in the footsteps of Jesus who always began by showing solidarity when dealing with the least among us." To stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters means we must listen to their struggles and support them not just through direct action, but through true friendship. As followers of Christ, we must continue the work that the Lord has brought upon us. May our call to serve continue to fulfill our hearts with the action of justice and love for one another.

For over fifty years, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has funded groups and organizations at the forefront of the fight towards justice, as well as standing in solidarity with those who face marginalization in their communities. One example of a group that is living out this mission is Voice of the People, a community-based, tenant-controlled housing organization dedicated to empowering low-income people involved in community development, property management, advocacy and collaborative services.

Through the endeavors of Chicago priest and bishop, the late Most Reverend Michael Dempsey, as well as support from Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, the Archdiocese of Chicago is proud that CCHD originated from the work of outreach to residents on the West Side of the city. Following the vision of Bishop Dempsey's work, CCHD continues to uplift, empower, and aid local and national communities in the face of adversity. To learn more about CCHD's impact or to donate online, please visit [CCHDChicago.org](https://CCHDChicago.org).

Please consider contributing generously to CCHD through the second collection on **November 23 and 24**, and thereby continue to sow the seeds of hope amongst those who find themselves on the margins in Chicagoland.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Archbishop of Chicago