



For Immediate Release

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www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org

Catholic Campaign for Human Development grants awarded to local organizations for poverty prevention programs

Six organizations in the Diocese of Des Moines will receive a total of \$7,600 from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) to support community-based efforts to combat poverty.

Grant recipients are as follows:

- Hispanic Ministry Outreach, Sacred Heart of Valley Junction for ESL, health benefits education and legal assistance - \$1,500
- AMOS Health Care for All (Mid-Iowa) for Labor Market Strategy Project- \$1,000
- LINK, St. Patrick's Church, Perry for literacy, substance abuse prevention for parents and youth, basic computer classes, tax credits and Power Learner Campaign - \$1,800
- Center for Social Ministry, Des Moines area organization heading the JustFaith program for 30-week justice education program - \$1,800
- Mercy College Building Hope Project, a project providing a year long-structured service learning experience for students and faculty focused on assisting homeless and underserved individuals - \$750
- Faith in Action, a four day retreat for high school students in the Des Moines area - \$750.

CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty social justice program of the U.S. Catholic Church. It was founded in 1969 as a means of addressing the root causes of poverty. Each fall there is a collection in parishes across the country to help support this anti-poverty effort. The diocese sends 75 percent of the donations to the CCHD national office to support projects across the country. The diocese keeps 25 percent to help fund local self-help initiatives to benefit local communities.

CCHD in the Diocese of Des Moines is part of Catholic Charities' Social Justice Consortium which promotes the social justice mission of the Catholic Church through a coordinated effort to work toward a comprehensive and consistent ethic of life for the pursuit of the common good.

In addition to CCHD, other Social Justice Consortium initiatives include: Respect Life, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities' USA Poverty Campaign, Center for Social Ministry, Domestic Violence/Sexual Abuse Advocacy, Justice for Newcomers, Disaster Preparedness and Response and

For more information about Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Des Moines contact 515-237-5078 or go to www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org.

"Guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church, we serve all people in need with compassion and competence, advocate for justice, and encourage all people of good will to share in these efforts."