Dear Diocesan Director,

Citizens returning to society after incarceration face challenges in finding adequate employment, housing, and stable communities that allow them to flourish. This is particularly true in the neighborhoods of west Baltimore, Maryland, where high unemployment and crime rates impact the lives of the city’s low-income residents. Since its founding in 1977, Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development (BUILD) has, with support from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), worked to improve the lives of residents in this community by improving housing, job opportunities, and schools.

With your support for CCHD, BUILD has developed relationships with business leaders through its Turnaround Tuesday Jobs Movement to lower the barriers to jobs for returning citizens, particularly those from the most distressed zip codes in the city. Your generosity has empowered our brothers and sisters to work and begin new lives after release, giving them a chance to thrive. Please support CCHD and help our brothers and sisters create new lives for themselves today and their communities tomorrow.

The most effective things you can do to help the CCHD collection are to ask your pastors to mention the collection at Mass and to use the bulletin announcements, parish appeal, and social media tool kit, all of which are available for download at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection. Please share these resources with your parishes to support their efforts.

Remember, 25% of the funds you collect will stay in your diocese for antipoverty projects! If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Germain, assistant director for promotions, at 202-541-3365 or ngermain@usccb.org. Thank you for joining us to work on the margins.

Gratefully in Christ,

Most Reverend David P. Talley
Bishop of Memphis
Chairman, Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development