



# Helping People Help Themselves



breaking the cycle of poverty for over 40 years

Catholic Campaign for Human Development  
2015 | Issue One

## BALTIMORE’S LOCAL CCHD COMMITTEE

BY BETH GRIFFIN

**W**ith their invaluable local knowledge and understanding, CCHD archdiocesan and diocesan committees are the eyes and ears of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Since its establishment in 1972, the CCHD committee of the Archdiocese of Baltimore has flourished under the direction of Msgr. William Burke and, for most of those years, the leadership of Glyn and Jeanne Bailey.

Local committees identify grassroots groups for a potential CCHD local or national grant. They meet with organizational leaders, conduct site visits, and determine whether a group meets all of the CCHD grant requirements. If so, the committee may recommend funding.

Msgr. Burke noted local grants are sometimes used as seed money to help organizations that “are not ready for prime time,” such as those in the process of moving from direct services to advocacy that addresses the causes of problems. If the organization continues its mission, as determined by interactions with, and visits by, the local committee, it may seek national funding from CCHD.

As an example, Msgr. Burke cites Project PLASE (People Lacking Ample Shelter and Employment). “They started out as a soup kitchen for homeless people. With CCHD funds, they

began to teach skills and opened a business to renovate homes for wealthy people in Baltimore city,” he says. “Later, they brought social workers to the state legislature to win state-funded housing.”

The local committee helps with the national grant application process and may speak on its behalf to area staff at CCHD headquarters in Washington, DC.

“We rely on the work of local diocesan committees to promote the collection, cultivate applicants, and build relationships. They are partners with us and essential to doing the grassroots work of CCHD in the dioceses,” CCHD grant specialist Sean Wendlinger says.

“Msgr. Burke’s group is particularly effective because it connects with Catholic parishes and local affiliates of national networks. They hear about things we might not, and we are able to give them information, too. It’s a two-way flow, and without them, CCHD would have substantially less capacity to do its work effectively,” Sean says.

Just three years after the Catholic bishops of the United States established CCHD, Cardinal Lawrence J. Shehan,



CCHD National Office Director Ralph McCloud (far left) and Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development (far right) present the Sr. Margaret Cafferty award to representatives of Baltimore’s Local CCHD Committee (from left: Ms. Patricia Fuentes, Ms. Marge Trenkle, and Mr. Glyn Bailey). Photo courtesy of Baltimore’s Local CCHD Committee.

Archbishop of Baltimore, appointed then-Fr. Burke to form a committee. “He put us under the office of the archbishop, which gave us direct accountability to him and some freedom of movement,” Msgr. Burke describes. “Subsequent archbishops have been very supportive,” he adds.

The Baltimore committee comprises sixteen volunteers committed to the social justice mission of the Church. Msgr. Burke says, “They’re good people, and this work touches a whole new area of life for most of them.”

He and the committee have witnessed many good ideas bloom into flourishing efforts to improve living and working conditions and change laws. “That’s why people stay on the committee. It’s exciting,” he says. (continued on p. 3)





## From the Director

### Dear Friends,

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has a tiny staff but a national reach. We accomplish the tremendous good work of promoting justice because we are blessed to have people in every diocese who identify grassroots organizations whose goals and values coincide with ours. They are the local CCHD committees, which bring community groups to the attention of their bishop and to CCHD for potential funding. The committees build and maintain close relationships with funded groups as they grow and expand their missions.

Like CCHD, the local committees are a beautiful result of the Second Vatican Council, whose fiftieth anniversary we are commemorating from 2012 to 2015. Vatican II called on the laity to create a more just community, and local CCHD committees help fulfill this mandate. While local committees are not required, they are strongly encouraged, because they function as the eyes and the ears of CCHD in cities and towns throughout the country. They understand unique local needs, and they know which groups fully represent low-income people and can help them organize to identify and meet their needs.

The featured group in this newsletter, the CCHD committee of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, dates to the early days of CCHD and may be the only local committee still operating with its founding director and chair, Msgr. William Burke and Mr. Glyn Bailey, respectively. Over the years, they and their colleagues on the committee have met with hundreds of small groups committed to helping people help themselves and change unjust structures. They have provided encouragement, inspiration, information, guidance, and the occasional well-placed nudge. They have also kept a watchful eye on funded groups to ensure they use CCHD grants in service of our common Gospel-driven goals.

We were pleased to honor the Baltimore local committee with this year's Sister Margaret Cafferty Development of People Award. Msgr. Burke, Glyn Bailey, and his wife, Jeanne, have worked tirelessly since 1972 to promote CCHD and help grantees empower low-income families to address poverty through institutional change. When we talked to people from some of the fine organizations the Baltimore local committee brought to our attention over the years, I was moved to hear them independently describe Msgr. Burke and his committee as people who "walk the walk." What a great tribute!

As we make our way through Lent in joyful anticipation of Easter, please know how much all of us appreciate your prayers and support of CCHD.

Gratefully,

Ralph McCloud  
Director, Catholic Campaign for Human Development

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### Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development/Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Most Reverend Jaime Soto, Chairman, Bishop of  
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Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, Bishop of Houma-  
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Dr. Linda Plitt-Donaldson, The Catholic University  
of America  
Dr. Richard Wood, University of New Mexico

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Laughing, he adds, “As a parish priest, it moves my mind from overflowing toilets and dirty floors in the hall! I lure the committee members with popcorn at our monthly meetings, fried oysters in December, and a great Italian meal in June.” Msgr. Burke is the longtime pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in an inner-city neighborhood of Baltimore.

Self-deprecating humor aside, grantees say Msgr. Burke and the local committee are unlike other potential funders. Todd Cherkis is the leadership organizer at United Workers, a group that received local and national CCHD grants.

He says, “A lot of people pay lip service to grassroots leadership, but this committee walks the walk. At our core and the core of CCHD are the shared values of human dignity and the worth of human life.”

“I am in awe of what Msgr. Burke has been able to accomplish with his leadership, courage, vision, and patience. He’s been a great sounding board and a part of so much in Baltimore. But what’s been exciting for me is he’s known us almost since we started and has seen us grow and change,” Todd says.

“Msgr. Burke and others on the committee have shown a real honesty about the process, and we can come to them with strategies we’ve developed. Poverty is really complicated, and they are open to our solutions, and they quickly refer us to people who also give great advice,” he explains.

Todd adds, “Msgr. Burke has a patience about the work which is rare. He knows the kind of things we’re trying to do are ‘big-deal projects’ that take a lot of time.”

Julie Reeder is the executive director of another CCHD-funded group in Baltimore, Youth as Resources. She says, “The local committee has written the book on how to be a funding partner.

They understand what we’re doing, and they’re not heavy-handed or directive.”

“The local committee is made up of activists that bump into our work. They know who we are, and we have allies in common. They are amazing leaders and role models,” she adds.

Julie says the local committee has been especially helpful with leadership development. “That’s a hard thing to quantify, and they have helped us to tell the story of our organization and its impact in a compelling way.”

Members of the local committee have provided technical assistance, the ability to qualify as an independent nonprofit organization, and clear-headed guidance during a recent sensitive staff matter, Julie says. “There’s no way we would be where we are today without them.”

She says Youth as Resources received an extraordinary contribution from another longtime funder after its representative met the enthusiastic local CCHD committee at a joint site visit.

Msgr. Burke says Glyn and Jeanne Bailey are the heart of the committee’s success. He recruited them in 1972, and Glyn says, “We’ve been at it one way or another since then.” Glyn served as the group’s chair until he and Jeanne retired to South Carolina and took up the same role in the Diocese of Charleston from 1988 to 1999. Glyn has chaired the Baltimore committee since the couple returned to Maryland in 1999. He celebrated his 92nd birthday in March 2015 and visits Jeanne daily at the long-term care facility she entered in September 2014.

Glyn says, “Community organizations are better-educated and better at it than when we first started. Vetting people on the group’s boards today is also more important.”

He says the Baltimore local committee runs a technical assistance workshop

for potential CCHD grant applicants. It helps groups determine whether they are candidates for CCHD funding and refers some to other grantmakers.

The committee also helps organize an annual social ministry convocation, which includes workshops on social justice and practical advice on conducting social ministry in parishes. Glyn says the 36th annual event in March 2015 drew more than 350 people.

Todd Cherkis says, “Through the local committee, we were invited to address a meeting of the bishops. It was a transformative moment for our two speakers, because it is heartbreakingly rare for people to treat our leaders with such respect and want to meet those most impacted by poverty.”

The CCHD committee of the Archdiocese of Baltimore was given the 2015 Sister Margaret Cafferty Development of Peoples Award on February 7 at the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington. The annual CCHD award recognizes a group or individual working on the margins that has demonstrated outstanding witness to gospel values and action on behalf of justice. The late Sr. Cafferty was a Presentation Sister who served as executive director of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and a USCCB-CCHD committee member.

Glyn Bailey accepted the award on behalf of the local committee.



Members of the Student Sharing Coalition, a local Baltimore CCHD grantee, pose for a photo in 1994. Photo courtesy of the Baltimore’s Local CCHD Committee.



Local Baltimore CCHD grantees with Msgr. William Burke (far left). Photo courtesy of Baltimore's Local CCHD Committee.

**A**rchbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the local CCHD committee and congratulated the members on winning the Sister Margaret Cafferty Award. He connected their work to Pope Francis's reflections on poverty and justice: "Poverty demands that we sow hope. . . . Poverty is the flesh of the poor Jesus in this hungry child, in the sick person, in these unjust social structures" (Address, June 7, 2013).

He continued, "The Catholic Campaign for Human Development in the Archdiocese of Baltimore consistently and generously acts in response to these words of Pope Francis and sows hope in those living on the margins throughout our city and state. With special gratitude to Msgr. Burke and to the members of his committee, who make the Holy Father's words come alive in their selfless acts and in the many ways in which they inspire others to seek justice and bring comfort to the marginalized in the name of Jesus Christ, I offer my continued prayers and heartfelt congratulations on this worthy honor."



Glyn Bailey, Baltimore CCHD Local Committee leader, accepts the Sr. Margaret Cafferty award on behalf of the committee. Photo courtesy of Baltimore's Local CCHD Committee.

### What Is CCHD?

**T**hrough the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Catholics and friends of CCHD across the country help poor and low-income Americans to help themselves and their communities out of poverty.

**S**ince 1970, the Catholic Campaign has contributed over \$280 million to more than 7,800 low-income-led,

community-based projects that strengthen families, create jobs, build affordable housing, fight crime, and improve schools and neighborhoods. CCHD requires that projects develop community leadership and participation so that their solutions to poverty will be long-lasting and effective, and so that CCHD's investment in people will help break the cycle of poverty. CCHD also educates Catholics about the causes of poverty and seeks to build solidarity between impoverished and affluent persons.



An initiative of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

**Today, 46.2 million people in America are living below the poverty line.**

That's more than ever before—and far more than the population of our largest state. Join us and help to break the cycle of poverty.



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