

## CREATING AND MAINTAINING AN EFFECTIVE CCHD LOCAL COMMITTEE

Experience has shown that an effective local committee can help the CCHD Diocesan Director accomplish more for the program, extend their reach into parishes and other areas of the local Church, develop allies, and better integrate CCHD with other diocesan social ministry programs and goals.

### COMMON STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL CCHD COMMITTEES

<b>Committee Type</b>	<b>Comprehensive</b>	<b>Commission</b>	<b>Ad-hoc</b>
<b>Structure</b>	Committee may function as a unit or utilize two or more subcommittees e.g., for allocations, education, and promotion	Incorporates work of multiple diocesan social justice ministries	Informal group of one or more individuals or small, occasional task groups
<b>Advantages</b>	Ability to delegate tasks, foster a vibrant program; share truth and good news about CCHD, dispel rumors; build knowledge, skills, and support for CCHD	Allows sharing of resources to accomplish a wider scope of diocesan social ministry efforts	Flexibility
<b>Challenges</b>	Effort inherent in staffing a committee of volunteers	May require more coordination of a cross-organizational and larger group	Level of support may not be available when most needed
<b>Sample Tasks</b>	Participate in site visits, identify potential grantees, coordinate encounters between parishes and funded groups, create localized flyer, speak at parishes on Appeal Sunday, help arrange JustFaith Journey to Justice day	Ensure that CCHD is included in diocesan poverty awareness and other social justice events, collaborate with CRS, Parish Social Ministry, Justice for Immigrants and/or local programs	Conduct local M/M Youth Arts Contest, submit CCHD articles/photos for diocesan paper, plan an in-service program for clergy or educators, read grant proposals, help with site visits, write thank you notes to pastors

## 10 TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL LOCAL CCHD COMMITTEES

1. Clearly state the committee's purpose, preferably in writing, so all committee members understand it.
2. Designate a chairperson who understands and supports the national mission of CCHD, and is knowledgeable of how CCHD is organized and implemented locally in the diocese.
3. Utilize effective meeting techniques and establish general operating procedures, such as length of term, responsibilities of committee members, and relationship of the committee to diocesan CCHD staff.
4. Make sure the local committee has visibility in the diocese and with the bishop. Committee members may be commissioned by the bishop and acknowledged in their respective parishes. Foster a sense of integration of the local CCHD committee with other diocesan social justice efforts.
5. Include prayer in a manner that is sustaining, non-threatening, and encourages individuals to share their gifts as members of the Body of Christ. The committee's work is viewed and felt as an ongoing spiritual experience grounded in faith.
6. Establish annual goals and measure achievements. Honor the committee's contributions and celebrate its successes.
7. Participate in the full range of CCHD's mission. Make training available for committee members to sharpen their skills for doing CCHD allocations, education, and promotion activities.
8. When recruiting and selecting volunteers the Diocesan Director (or chairperson) should conduct individual conversations (one-on-ones) with potential committee members.
9. Aim to create a committee that is diverse in talents, skills, age, gender, geography, economic background, canonical status, etc. The committee should represent all areas of the diocese and should reflect the diversity of the Church. Low-income participation is a valuable and essential asset.
10. Think of committee members as ambassadors for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.