

**The Review and Renewal of
The Catholic Campaign for Human Development
As Accepted and Affirmed by the USCCB Administrative Committee
September 15, 2010**

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Introduction

For 40 years across the United States, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has put into practice Catholic teaching on the life and dignity of every human person, the Gospel command to care for “the least of these” (Matthew 25), and the Church’s call to practice “solidarity” in helping poor people help themselves escape poverty. CCHD is one essential way to carry out the teaching of Pope Benedict XVI:

... [L]ove for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind is as essential to [the Church] as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel. (Deus Caritas Est, # 21, 2005) If we love others with charity, then first of all we are just towards them. ... Justice is the primary way of charity. ... The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbors, the more effectively we love them. This is the institutional path ... of charity, no less excellent and effective than the kind of charity which encounters the neighbor directly.... (Caritas In Veritate, # 6, 7, 2009)

CCHD is an instrument of the Church working to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ:...

“to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, new sight to the blind, and to set the downtrodden free.” (Luke 4:18)

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out. CCHD has a complementary mission of educating on poverty and its causes. This dual pastoral strategy of education for justice and helping people who are poor speak and act for themselves reflects the mandate of the Scriptures and the principles of Catholic social teaching.

CCHD also provides the Catholic faithful with concrete opportunities to live out the love of God and neighbor in ways that express our baptismal call and continuing Eucharistic transformation. Pope Benedict XVI has taught that “restoration of justice, reconciliation and forgiveness” requires:

determination to transform unjust structures and to restore respect for the dignity of all men and women, created in God’s image and likeness. Through the concrete fulfillment of this responsibility, the Eucharist becomes in life what it signifies in its celebration. (Sacramentum Caritatis, #89, 2007)

CCHD is made possible by the generous support of Catholics in the United States, especially through an annual parish collection. CCHD’s grants to local anti-poverty efforts are screened, awarded and monitored in close partnership with local Catholic dioceses. CCHD grants to groups in a local community require the explicit approval of the bishop of that diocese.

CCHD is a unique and essential part of the Catholic community’s broad commitment to assist low-income people, families and communities. This commitment also includes our Catholic parishes, schools, Catholic Charities, health ministries, and countless other examples of service to “the least of these.” (Matt. 25) Like many other Catholic ministries, CCHD helps people overcome poverty without regard to their race, ethnicity or religion.

As a national initiative of the Bishops’ Conference, CCHD is an essential and complementary part of the Catholic social mission proclaimed by Jesus Christ and taught by His Church. CCHD does not replace, nor can it be replaced by, other expressions of the Church’s essential social mission. CCHD is one of the most widely supported collections and initiatives of our Bishops’ Conference, raising more than ten million dollars every year. CCHD helps our Church in the United States practice what we preach about human life and dignity, social and economic justice, solidarity and the common good in local communities across our country. Here are just a few examples of CCHD’s remarkable work:

- The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) is an organization of Latino, and Haitian migrant farm workers in Florida. Working with the local diocese, the Florida Catholic Conference and many other groups, CIW has won groundbreaking agreements with major fast food chains to increase wages and improve better working conditions for their members who pick tomatoes.

- St. Agatha Family Empowerment (SAFE) is a group of neighbors who worked in the North Lawndale area of Illinois with the support of St. Agatha Catholic Church to give youth positive alternative to drugs, gangs, and violence and offer access to employment and job training, educational assistance, mentoring and leadership development.
- The Federation of Congregations United to Serve (FOCUS) in the Orlando area has worked through local parishes, congregations and other groups to address issues of immigration, crime, education and housing. After one of their members died in a fire because there was no water in nearby fire hydrants, FOCUS undertook a successful campaign to have all fire hydrants, especially in poor areas, inspected and repaired so that no other lives are lost because fire hydrants failed.
- Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS) in San Antonio, Texas has worked for almost 30 years with Catholic parishes, other congregations, schools, and unions to involve their members in the public decisions that affect their lives. It has won over \$1 billion in public projects to improve drainage, streets and housing and to provide better education, healthcare, and job training in low income neighborhoods.

Across our nation CCHD funded groups are working for better housing, safer streets, improved education and the dignity and rights of workers. These groups strive to ensure that those without wealth or power have a voice on issues of poverty and economic justice and a seat at the table where decisions are made that affect human life and dignity.

From its first days, there have been some criticisms about CCHD's goals, guidelines and grantees. This criticism has become more visible with the wider use of internet communication and as polarization has increased in society and in the Church. CCHD takes any alleged violation of Catholic principles and CCHD policies very seriously. CCHD deeply regrets that in this past year five groups (out of 270) violated CCHD requirements and lost all CCHD funding because they acted in conflict with Catholic teaching. We apologize for the violations of CCHD policies by these groups and for the damage and confusion they have caused.

This Review and Renewal is putting in place stronger policies and clearer mechanisms to screen and monitor grants and groups to ensure that these past violations, though very limited, are not repeated. CCHD will do all it can to ensure that groups abide by these strengthened requirements and will act immediately and decisively if it is discovered that any group is violating these essential conditions for CCHD support.

Other questions address CCHD funding for some groups that abide by CCHD policies, but are also part of coalitions focused on worthy issues (e.g. immigration, health or housing) in cases where those coalitions or other members are accused of taking positions contrary to Catholic teaching. CCHD will not fund groups that are members of coalitions which have as part of their organizational purpose or coalition agenda, positions or actions that contradict fundamental Catholic moral and social teaching. CCHD is developing additional structures and guidance to address in greater detail the ethical implications of these relationships and what is morally acceptable and what is not for CCHD funded groups.

Review and Renewal of CCHD

The bishops who oversee CCHD have undertaken this serious and substantive review of the work of CCHD to make clear they have heard and are addressing the concerns that have been raised; have reviewed and are strengthening CCHD policies, practices and tools and are building on the principles of Catholic teaching and the experience and strengths of CCHD to help CCHD be a more faithful, effective and accountable means to carry out its unique mission and Catholic social and moral teaching. The elements of this Review are to:

ROOT CCHD clearly in the mission of Jesus Christ, anchoring the work of CCHD more deeply in Catholic teaching.

REVIEW CCHD to ensure it fully reflects our Catholic principles and our mission of helping poor people help themselves.

RENEW CCHD, not by abandoning its fundamental mission or principles, but by looking for new ways to carry them out in challenging times and in a more diverse community of faith.

RECOMMIT TO CCHD and its unique mission, history and essential place in the Church's broader efforts to overcome poverty.

A bishops' CCHD Work Group has worked diligently and met frequently, consulting with moral theologians and experts in grant making and charitable giving. The CCHD Work Group has communicated with all the bishops on several occasions, reporting on the directions of the review and seeking their input and suggestions.

Foundations of CCHD

The following Catholic and moral foundations guide this Review and the ongoing Renewal of CCHD:

Gospel Mission: CCHD continues the mission of Jesus and His Church “to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, new sight to the blind and set the downtrodden free...” (Luke 4:18)

Catholic Identity: The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is a work of the Catholic Church in the United States. It is a way to live out love of God and neighbor in ways that express our baptismal call and our continuing transformation through the Eucharist. CCHD draws its directions, policies and practices from Catholic social and moral teaching and prohibits funding groups that violate fundamental Catholic teaching. In all its work, CCHD seeks to carry out the following central themes of Catholic social teaching:

- **Respect for Human Life and Dignity**: CCHD works to protect and enhance the life and dignity of all, from the first moment of conception to the moment of natural death and every moment on the spectrum of life in between, especially focusing on the lives and dignity of those who are poor, vulnerable or suffering economic or other injustice.

- **Priority for the Poor:** CCHD practices the Church’s priority for the poor, helping low-income and vulnerable people improve their lives and communities by their own actions.
- **Participation:** CCHD works from the bottom up, emphasizing self-help, participation and decision-making by poor people themselves to address their own situations.
- **Subsidiarity:** CCHD focuses on local communities seeking to give voice to those closest to problems of poverty, as these communities address economic injustice working with local, state or national institutions to address the causes of poverty.
- **Solidarity:** CCHD is a sign of solidarity, standing with and for those who are poor, seeking to strengthen communities and helping to build bridges between those who are poor and those who are not.
- **Strengthen Family and Build Community:** CCHD works to support and strengthen the fundamental social institutions of marriage and family and other mediating structures, including parishes, neighborhoods, community organizations, economic development groups and worker and other associations.

Pursuing Justice: CCHD supports self-help efforts to bring about positive institutional changes that address root causes of poverty, carrying out Pope Benedict XVI’s teaching that “justice is inseparable from charity, and intrinsic to it. Justice is the primary way of charity...” and his call to pursue the common good through “the institutional path...of charity.” (*Caritas in Veritate*, 6-7)

Faithful Stewardship: CCHD seeks to make effective and faithful use of resources—financial, institutional and human—to advance CCHD’s mission in accountable and transparent ways.

Ten Commitments for CCHD’s Future

These foundations of CCHD and this Review have led to Ten Commitments for CCHD’s future and a detailed plan to implement them in every aspect of CCHD’s grant making. They have been shared with the USCCB Administrative Committee and all the bishops. They are a roadmap for the renewal of CCHD and contain specific steps to assure the bishops, our pastors and our Catholic people that CCHD will be true to its biblical mission, faithful to its Catholic identity, and accountable in the ways it uses Catholic contributions to pursue justice and overcome poverty.

This report does not focus on the wonderful work CCHD supports in our parishes and communities across our nation. Instead, it responds to concerns, addresses areas that can and must be improved and offers new directions that should be taken to carry out the mission and work of CCHD more faithfully and effectively. These Ten Commitments are neither an abandonment of CCHD’s foundations nor are they an effort to repackage “business as usual.” They offer a detailed strategic plan to make CCHD over time an even more effective sign of the Gospel at work and the teaching of the Catholic Church in action.

1. CCHD's Catholic Identity

CCHD will be more clear on the “Catholic” in the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. CCHD will review every aspect of its work, including funding criteria and guidelines, grant making process, and all applications and contracts to better reflect CCHD’s foundations and Catholic principles and to safeguard against any misuse of funds by groups. No CCHD funds will go to groups whose actions conflict with fundamental Catholic social and moral teaching.

- A. CCHD will consistently cite the mission of Jesus “to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, new sight to the blind and set the downtrodden free” (Luke 4:18) as the foundation of all CCHD activities and communications.
- B. CCHD will consistently make clear that it is an initiative of the Roman Catholic Church and a program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), not simply another funding source or foundation.
- C. CCHD will consistently emphasize the scriptural, sacramental and spiritual motivations at the heart of the Church’s social mission, including how support of and participation in CCHD flow directly from the baptismal call of every Catholic and is expressed and strengthened by participation in the Eucharist.
- D. CCHD will clearly reflect the teaching of Pope Benedict XVI in *Deus Caritas Est* and *Caritas in Veritate* about the centrality of the poor in the Church’s mission and the definition of charity, which “begins with justice” and calls for Catholics to pursue the “institutional path of charity” to advance the common good. CCHD will draw on Catholic social teaching to outline and shape its work and to provide a framework for action (e.g. *The Church in the Modern World, Catechism of the Catholic Church, Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, Centesimus Annos, Evangelium Vitae, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*) as well as statements of the U.S. Bishops on poverty, economic justice and public life).
- E. CCHD will emphasize the principles of Catholic social and moral teaching in all CCHD materials and communications (see the “CCHD Foundations” cited earlier). When CCHD speaks of “Catholic social and moral teaching,” it refers not to separate requirements, but to a consistent moral framework and common ethical principles, which begin with respect for the life and dignity of every person and include defense of the essential role of marriage and family life, the pursuit of social and economic justice and the search for the common good and genuine peace. CCHD will make the affirmative case that the same principles and values which call the Church to defend the unborn and vulnerable, marriage and family also call us to defend the life and dignity of the poor and those suffering injustice.
- F. CCHD will be more clear and specific in all materials about the positions, activities and relationships not permitted by CCHD, because they conflict with fundamental Catholic teaching, (e.g. advocacy of abortion, same sex marriage, euthanasia, racism, as well as use of the death penalty, punitive measures toward immigrants).
 1. Review and revise all CCHD forms, applications, grant agreements, website, etc. to clearly reflect CCHD mission and foundations, Catholic social and moral teaching and the directions and substance of this Review and Renewal.

2. Add introductory statement on CCHD mission foundations and identity on all forms, applications, materials.
 3. Add to grant application initial questions on how proposal will advance CCHD mission (“good news to the poor...”), promote USCCB priorities (human life and dignity, marriage and family, cultural diversity), and encourage involvement of Catholic people, parishes and institutions, as well as other community structures, in overcoming poverty.
 4. Revise CCHD Grant Agreement to more clearly state prohibited activities. CCHD materials will be more explicit about the positions, activities and relationships not permitted by CCHD, because they conflict with fundamental Catholic teaching (see # F above).
 5. CCHD will, with the assistance of USCCB General Counsel, add more specific language to the CCHD Grant Agreement that strengthens prohibitions on partisan politics and makes clear distinctions between politically partisan activities which are clearly prohibited and non-partisan voter registration, education and advocacy which are permitted.
 6. CCHD will work with USCCB General Counsel to revise and refine the CCHD Grant Agreement for greater clarity, consistency and effectiveness. This will include a review of the use of “fiscal agents” and requirements related to them.
 7. This revised grant agreement will be used for all pending and future funding allocations and grants.
- G. CCHD will work to create a new position to focus on promoting, safeguarding and monitoring the Catholic identity of CCHD and compliance with CCHD requirements. This position will be funded by reallocating existing resources within the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development.
- H. In its materials and application, CCHD will further emphasize and encourage CCHD links to dioceses, parishes, religious communities, priests, deacons, and religious as well as Catholic Charities, schools, and other ministries. CCHD application and reviews will ask how funded activities reach out and involve the Catholic community. Priority will be given to proposals which lead to greater diocesan and parish engagement with activities and participation in organizations which clearly carry out CCHD’s mission and foundations.
- I. CCHD will work with bishops, CCHD Diocesan Directors, committees, staff and CCHD allies to develop new traditional media to share Catholic principles and CCHD guidelines for diocesan staff, funded groups, and others to promote better understanding of CCHD mission, foundations, policies and restrictions.

2. Sharing the Good News of CCHD

CCHD will seek ways to tell the good news of what it does every day, as an arm of the Catholic Church in all of our dioceses, with better, pro-active communications strategies.

- A. CCHD will develop, with the USCCB Communications and National Collections structures, an overall positive communication and promotions plan. CCHD will identify key audiences and appropriate means to reach them, beginning with bishops and pastors, and extending to Catholics in the pew.

- B. CCHD will develop more timely, consistent and effective ways to monitor and respond to coverage of CCHD in both new and traditional media. CCHD will develop greater proactive capacity to assess and respond appropriately to concerns, questions, accusations and attacks.
- C. CCHD will improve, update and more closely monitor the CCHD and Poverty USA websites. CCHD will create YouTube postings and other new media utilizing bishops and others to share CCHD mission, activities, successes and place of CCHD in Catholic life.
- D. CCHD will create effective capacity to share the Review and Renewal of CCHD to address either concerns about CCHD's conformity with Catholic teaching or concerns that CCHD is abandoning its unique mission and focus on the poor.
- E. CCHD will offer materials and assistance to bishops, CCHD Diocesan Directors and Diocesan Communications Directors on communicating CCHD's mission and foundations, the good work being done and the elements of the Review and Renewal of CCHD.

3. Catholic Participation in CCHD

CCHD will lift up, strengthen and encourage the active participation of Catholic pastors, parishes and other institutions in the mission and activities of CCHD.

- A. CCHD will encourage the participation of Catholic parishes and parishioners, priests and deacons, religious and diocesan leaders in the activities and groups that carry out the mission and reflect the foundations of CCHD. The direct involvement of Catholic leaders and clergy, parishes and other institutions will be considered a significant positive factor and advantage in the review of applications for CCHD funding. Catholic organizations and organizations that include Catholic parishes, organizations and institutions in substantial numbers will receive priority consideration as long as they effectively carry out CCHD's mission and clearly reflect CCHD's foundations (as outlined in this Report).
- B. CCHD also provides opportunities for Catholic parishes, individuals, Catholic Charities and other structures to work on an interfaith basis and to cooperate with others in the pursuit of the common good. Community organizations, interfaith efforts, economic development, workers' organizations, legal assistance, innovative models, advocacy efforts and other ways to overcome poverty will be assessed for their effectiveness in pursuing institutional change that focuses on the causes of poverty, which is at the heart of the CCHD mission. CCHD considers these various approaches and differing strategies to overcoming poverty and giving greater voice to those who are poor as tools and means, not ends in themselves.
- C. CCHD will have structured dialogue with organizing networks and other relevant groups to discuss the CCHD mission and foundations, the impact of this Review and Renewal of CCHD, as well as what CCHD funds and what it does not fund and why. Although CCHD funds specific activities of particular groups that advance CCHD's mission and principles, some groups seek assistance in training, recruitment of staff, strategy and other matters from networks and other groups. CCHD will undertake dialogue to explore what has been accomplished, current strengths and difficulties, how communities have

benefited and how this CCHD Review and Renewal will impact these relationships in the future.

- D. CCHD's work not only makes progress against poverty possible in particular places; it also can strengthen parish life and enrich the broader Catholic community. Many pastors and parish leaders describe how CCHD funded groups help the parish carry out its mission. CCHD proposes to gather a number of Catholic pastors (and other persons with relevant theological, organizational and academic expertise) to examine how CCHD activities strengthen parish life and witness (or have not), and to explore how to better link the mission and activities of CCHD to the mission and community life of Catholic parishes and the Church.
- E. CCHD will continue to embrace proposals that advance CCHD's unique mission and reflect its foundations, especially those linked to Church structures. There are currently a number of CCHD grants whose organizational home is an "ecclesiastical entity." This is not now, and will not be, a hindrance to CCHD support in the future. In fact, priority will be given to proposals that involve or lead to greater diocesan and parish engagement in activities and organizations which carry out CCHD's mission and foundations.

4. CCHD and USCCB Priorities

CCHD will link its activities more directly to the Priorities of our Bishops' Conference, specifically defending human life and dignity, strengthening marriage and family life and reflecting and celebrating the diversity of our Church and nation.

- A. CCHD will directly and clearly link CCHD and its efforts to USCCB priorities and will ask in application and assessment tools how CCHD funding will advance these priorities. CCHD will work with others within USCCB to make CCHD an integral partner in USCCB efforts to advance these priorities, especially human life and dignity. CCHD will seek appropriate ways to integrate its activities to protect the life and dignity of those who are poor or suffering from economic injustice into the broader USCCB "life and dignity" priority.
- B. CCHD will seek creative ways to use national and local CCHD activities to support and seek out groups which clearly advance these priorities. CCHD will use new the program of Strategic National Grants to support creative and effective ways to address USCCB priorities in ways that reflect CCHD mission, foundations and donor intent. On the USCCB priority of marriage and family, both research and everyday experience makes clear that poverty and family life are closely linked. Economic stress clearly undermines marriage and family life and strong two-parent families are much less likely to experience poverty. The connection between family (broken families, absent fathers, domestic violence, unwed pregnancies, etc.) and economic (joblessness, low wages, discrimination, globalization, etc.) aspects of poverty should be an area of continuing focus for CCHD.
- C. CCHD staff leadership will meet regularly with USCCB staff from the Pro-Life Secretariat, Migration and Refugee Services, Cultural Diversity, Family Life, etc., as well as the General Secretariat to seek advice, participation, guidance and support.
- D. CCHD will also explore new ways to reach out and engage national organizations, with a variety of roles and perspectives on the social mission of the Church and the work of CCHD.

5. CCHD's Priority for the Poor

CCHD reaffirms its commitment to overcome poverty in the United States. CCHD will continue to focus on how the principles of participation, subsidiarity and solidarity shape CCHD's emphasis on the poor speaking and acting for themselves. CCHD will seek effective, creative and new ways to ensure that those who are poor guide the activities funded by CCHD.

- A. CCHD will continue to insist on the priority of “human development” with funded organizations, urging them to build capacity and develop leadership through engaging and working with people living in poverty.
- B. CCHD will continue to require that CCHD funded activities benefit people “living in poverty,” with people experiencing poverty constituting a majority of those benefiting from an organization’s efforts. One clear policy CCHD has used to assure that poor people have a decisive voice in the activities of an organization is board composition, where a majority of those who make actual policy are poor themselves. [NB: A useful measure of poverty is a percentage of the Area Median Income, with 50% of AMI considered “very low income” and 80% of AMI considered ‘low income.’(For example, in Kalamazoo Michigan 80% of AMI is \$43,000 for a family of 3 and 50% of AMI is \$28,300.)]
- C. In addition to board make-up, CCHD will consider other ways to assess how organizations effectively practice the principle of participation and a priority for the poor, including:
 - 1. Organizations with a predominately low-income membership focusing primarily on issues related to poverty which have or are developing effective structures and processes to ensure that low-income people are central in decision-making.
 - 2. Organizations which include both low-income and other parishes, congregations or groups where structures are in place to ensure that low-income participation is integral to decision-making and low-income priorities are central to the organization’s agenda and there is evidence of genuine solidarity and cooperation in overcoming poverty.
 - 3. Or other structures, vehicles and methods to insure that the voices of the poor themselves have a substantial role in setting directions, priorities and policies of an organization.
- D. CCHD will refine its understanding of poverty to include: “persons directly experiencing economic or social injustice, i.e. racial or ethnic discrimination, handicapping or disabling conditions, long-term joblessness, policies which break up poor families and particularly hurt low-income children, economic dislocation and disinvestment that undermine the ability to meet basic needs for them and their families.”
- E. For purposes of assessing participation and decision-making by those most affected by poverty, CCHD will consider priests and religious who primarily serve low-income people, parishes and communities and live in solidarity with their people in those communities as contributing to this goal. However, a board or organization made up exclusively or primarily of clergy and religious would not be considered a low-income board or organization for this purpose.

6. CCHD National Strategic Grants

While continuing to be responsive to problems at local levels, CCHD will become more proactive at the national level by making grants to address emerging challenges and the priorities of the Bishops' Conference.

- A. CCHD will enlarge the range of grant amounts (\$25,000 - \$75,000) to match the needs of individual groups, to take into account inflation over time and to reduce the number of grants so the smaller grant staff can strengthen relationships with and monitoring of CCHD funded groups.
- B. CCHD will establish CCHD Strategic National Grants, setting aside a portion of CCHD resources for strategic grants focused on particular needs, issues or priorities. The amount and priorities will be determined by the Bishops' Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.
 1. In keeping with CCHD's mission, applications will focus on strategies for fighting the root causes of poverty in the United States.
 2. In keeping with the idea of a "strategic" program and CCHD's Catholic identity, applications will receive higher consideration if they:
 - a) propose innovative and promising strategies for helping the poor help themselves;
 - b) clearly embody one or more of the USCCB priorities (human life and dignity, strengthening marriage and the family, cultural diversity, etc.);
 - c) focus on neglected dimensions of overcoming poverty (e.g. responsible fatherhood, family life, etc.);
 - d) anticipate coming problems (e.g. the recent foreclosure crisis), or
 - e) focus on urgent national strategic emphases (to be established on a year-to-year basis by the CCHD Subcommittee, based on input from key CCHD partners and a survey of the U.S. Catholic Bishops on priorities for overcoming poverty).
 3. These grants are not local, but can be regional or national. A group of dioceses can work together to develop a proposal. Proposals are to be consistent with CCHD mission (overcoming root causes of poverty) and reflect CCHD foundations (Catholic teaching, participation, non-partisanship, etc.). These grants are focused on particular situations or issues where broader, strategic, innovative and focused action is needed. The elements and criteria for this new initiative will be developed in 2011 and applications will be encouraged beginning in 2012.

7. CCHD's Diocesan Partnership

CCHD will strengthen the essential partnership between its national structures and local dioceses. The fundamental safeguard remains the approval of the diocesan bishop before a group can be funded. CCHD will improve and strengthen formation and training for CCHD Diocesan Directors, in addition to encouraging selection and support of qualified directors by dioceses. CCHD can only be as strong as its diocesan leadership and activities.

- A. CCHD will continue the essential and mandatory requirement that no group can receive CCHD funding without explicit written authorization of the local bishop. In

- addition, any action to suspend CCHD funding requires the involvement and agreement of the local bishop.
- B. CCHD renews its appeal and expectation that diocesan bishops will appoint and work with capable CCHD Diocesan Directors who have their confidence and support in assisting the bishop and the diocese in carrying out the local dimensions of CCHD's activities as a work of the Church (recruiting, screening, monitoring, working with funded groups, reviewing applications and promoting the CCHD collection, etc.).
 - C. CCHD will restore the practice of regular and systematic formation, training and skill development for CCHD Diocesan Directors. (Many CCHD Directors are new to their CCHD responsibilities.) This formation and training will focus on how CCHD Directors can better assist their bishops, appropriately encourage applicants, evaluate grant proposals, understand and communicate CCHD's mission and moral foundations and monitor compliance with CCHD requirements and grant agreements. This ongoing training will include CCHD mission and foundations as well as basic ethical discernment. (CCHD will explore coordinating training and formation efforts with other key Catholic partners, including USCCB Pro-Life Office, CRS and other USCCB partners. One model could be common training for Diocesan Directors on promoting the USCCB priority of Human Life and Dignity and then separate tracks on specific CCHD tasks, responsibilities and skills).
 - D. CCHD will share best practices for use of local CCHD funds (i.e. the 25% of the CCHD collection that remains in most local dioceses) to help ensure accountability, transparency and consistency with donor intent and CCHD's mission and foundations.
 - E. CCHD encourages the development of local CCHD committees to help promote the collection and work of CCHD, review local and national grants, etc. These committees should draw on qualified people with a variety of experience and expertise. Safeguards should be in place to avoid conflicts of interest.
 - F. CCHD will develop an updated and revised resource manual for Diocesan Directors based on the Gospel, Church teaching, CCHD mission, history and this Review and Renewal. CCHD will develop and make available specific training webinars that focus on particular tasks of CCHD Diocesan Directors.

8. Addressing the Moral Dimensions of U.S. Poverty

CCHD will propose ways to apply both traditional and recent Catholic social teaching to the moral and human dimensions of increasing poverty in the context of current economic turmoil. This effort would clearly share research and experience and apply Catholic teaching in ways that address and link family, economic and moral factors that leave so many poor in our nation.

- A. CCHD proposes the consideration, through normal USCCB procedures, the development of a bishops' Reflection on Poverty and Catholic Teaching to address the reality of persistent and pervasive poverty in our nation. The statement could reflect on the extent of poverty and its causes, its moral and human dimensions, apply the principles of Catholic teaching, share the experience and commitment of the Church and offer directions for principled action. This could be done by developing a pastoral message or other resources for education and discussion, prayer and reflection, action and advocacy.

- B. CCHD calls for this effort to place the renewal of CCHD in a broader moral, economic and ecclesial context. It should make new connections (and seek to overcome polarization) between analysis and action emphasizing economic and social responsibility and personal responsibility, family, cultural and moral forces. This statement will seek to build consensus on common efforts to help those who are poor escape poverty.
- C. CCHD proposes that this pastoral message on the moral scandal and human costs of increasing poverty would draw on:
- The powerful teaching of Pope Benedict XVI on the priority of the poor in Catholic life, the need for a clear moral framework for economic life and a set of directions for principled action.
 - The experience of the Catholic community in overcoming poverty, beginning with CCHD and extending to other Catholic efforts (e.g. education, Catholic Charities, family life, etc.).
 - The efforts to carry out the USCCB priority on Human Life and Dignity and complementary efforts in the Catholic community to address poverty and the ethical dimensions of economic life (especially Catholic Charities USA's Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America, Catholics Confront Global Poverty, etc.).
 - Past USCCB statements and initiatives, including *A Place at the Table*, *Putting Children and Families First*, *Economic Justice for All*, which offer enduring principles, but need to be updated and renewed in light of more recent Catholic teaching and new economic realities.

9. Ethical Guidance for CCHD

No group that advocates or acts in opposition to fundamental Catholic social and moral teaching is eligible for or will receive CCHD funding. Any CCHD funded group that subsequently and knowingly takes positions that contradict Catholic teaching in these areas (advocacy of abortion, same sex marriage, euthanasia, racism as well as use of the death penalty, punitive measures toward immigrants) will be cut off from any CCHD funding as soon as this violation of CCHD requirements is documented. CCHD will seek professional assistance in the ongoing review of the grant-making process to ensure that CCHD is doing all it can to screen for compliance with this fundamental requirement and other CCHD guidelines and restrictions regarding Catholic ethical foundations.

- A. CCHD funds cannot go to groups that knowingly participate in coalitions that have as part of their organizational purpose or coalition agenda, positions or actions that contradict fundamental Catholic moral and social teaching.
- B. The CCHD Work Group has consulted with several moral theologians and leaders in Catholic grant making and charitable giving on ways to improve CCHD's current practices and procedures. The Work Group sought assistance for CCHD on ethical dimensions of CCHD funding related to coalition and other relationships involving CCHD-funded groups, particularly what engagement is useful and permitted in seeking to advance CCHD's mission and what is not because it may involve issues of cooperation and genuine scandal.
- C. CCHD will establish regular and ongoing consulting relationships with one or more moral theologians with expertise on issues of cooperation and related matters to advise the Bishops' CCHD Subcommittee, national staff, diocesan bishops and CCHD diocesan

- directors, as well as funded groups, on the appropriate application of traditional moral principles of cooperation and collaboration.
- D. CCHD also will establish a Review Board to examine credible allegations of improper funding or violation of CCHD requirements, policies and agreements and to make recommendations to the Bishops' CCHD Subcommittee, other bishops as well as the CCHD national office. This CCHD Review Board will include distinguished persons with expertise in Catholic social teaching, moral theology, financial accountability and other grant-making issues.
 - E. CCHD plans to have the relationship with consulting moral theologian(s) in place by the beginning of 2011 and with the CCHD Review Board established during 2011.
 - F. The CCHD Work Group (and its parent committees) propose that the USCCB consider establishing an ad hoc group made up of bishops who chair or represent relevant committees (public policy, Collections, CCHD, Doctrine, etc.), with appropriate staff and consultants to review and apply Catholic teachings on the common good and cooperation with evil as it applies to coalitions, collaboration, dialogues, or other organizational relationships in a pluralistic society and sometimes hostile public culture. This ad hoc group should offer guidance for the USCCB on both the ethical limits and on affirmative opportunities in working with others to advance USCCB priorities and Catholic teaching.

10. The Soul of CCHD

CCHD will strengthen the understanding of its work as a “concrete practice of love” (Deus Caritas Est, 14) and work of the Church, responding to Scriptural mandates to hunger and thirst for justice and to live out our faith as Eucharistic people, knowing that “the Eucharist commits us to the poor” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1397). For Catholics, CCHD is important not just for what it does, but for what it says about who we are, what we believe and how our faith calls us to act in solidarity with “the least of these.”

- A. CCHD will continue to be presented as a resource of the Church in living our baptismal commitment and Christian responsibility to those who are poor and vulnerable. This will be reflected in all CCHD promotional and educational efforts.
- B. CCHD will more intentionally promote opportunities for Catholic engagement and witness in the larger community in the well-founded hope that the light of the Gospel and the wisdom of Catholic teaching will become more visible to those with whom we collaborate and whose work we fund.
- C. United in the mission of the Church, the defense of human life and dignity and the pursuit of justice and peace, CCHD will be more active in fostering collaboration and unity across parish, diocesan and national structures, organizations and ministries (e.g. catechesis, pro-life, family life, education, youth ministries, cultural and ethnic diversity, stewardship, vocations, advocacy, etc.).

Conclusion: Renewal and Recommitment to CCHD

For 40 years, the Catholic bishops and the Catholic community in the United States have carried out a serious and sustained commitment to help low-income people and poor communities improve their lives and address the causes and costs of poverty. Many things have changed in those four decades... in our country, our Church and in the realities of poverty. One thing has not changed—the Gospel call to hunger and thirst for justice. In fact, Pope Benedict

has placed concern for the poor at the very center of the Church's life. The current economic distress and widespread poverty that comes with it have made the mission and message of CCHD more urgent, timely and important.

With this Review and Renewal of CCHD comes Recommitment. In accepting this Report and affirming these Ten Commitments, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops recommits our community of faith to the essential national mission of a renewed and strengthened Catholic Campaign for Human Development. At this time of great economic suffering, it is more important than ever for the Church in the United States through the Catholic Campaign for Human Development to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in our time and in our nation.

CCHD proclaims and delivers "good news to the poor", the Gospel message of God's special love for those who are poor and the commitment of the Catholic community to stand with them in their struggles to defend their lives and dignity. CCHD helps to bring "liberty to captives" imprisoned by economic and social injustice. CCHD brings "new sight to the blind," when people fail to see "the least of these" as Jesus in disguise, as sisters and brothers, not problems or issues. CCHD helps to "set the downtrodden free," helping them escape poverty and build stronger families and communities that reflect their dignity as children of God. (Luke 4:18)