



Participants share advocacy experiences at a diocesan training for citizen lobbying in support of state anti-poverty measures.

Diocesan Directors: Building Relationships

BY BETH GRIFFIN

Local diocesan directors are the eyes, ears, and caring presence of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

Appointed by their bishops or archbishops, CCHD diocesan directors identify, accompany, and build relationships with local groups that may receive CCHD funding. Directors also help parishes understand and practice Catholic social teaching and support the work of CCHD.

Almost all CCHD directors wear multiple hats in their dioceses, often related to social concerns, peace and justice, respect for life, and international outreach. All make it possible for CCHD to operate nationally with a small, focused grants staff based at its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"The directors have a critical role in engaging with current and potential funded groups," says Juan Aranda, a regional CCHD grants specialist in the national office. "They are the connection to the local bishop, too. They understand his priorities and can help him describe the importance and relevance of the CCHD mission and work to his people."

Anne Avellone is the CCHD director in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, where she also directs the Office of Social Justice and Respect Life. "CCHD is a significant part of my work. It is my entry point to the community and integrates into many of the activities of my office," she says. Anne's portfolio also includes Catholic Relief Services, immigration issues, and outreach to Santa Fe's African American Catholics.

"I knew the familiar red 'If you want peace, work for justice' bumper sticker, but I wasn't very familiar with CCHD when I took over from the previous director 15 years ago," Anne says. The previous director "had established a solid CCHD presence in the archdiocese from the early days of the organization in the 1970s. That foundation set the stage and has made all the difference," Anne adds.

Anne and her administrative assistant tap into the CCHD intern program each year to expand their reach into parishes and

➔ Continued on page 3

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Through 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.

Since 1970, the CCHD has contributed over \$300 million to more than 8,000 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 their solutions to poverty will be long-lasting and effective, and so 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.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends:

In this issue of *Helping People Help Themselves*, we share one of the secrets of success of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD): we have dedicated representatives in every diocese and archdiocese of the United States. These diocesan directors' efforts enable CCHD to identify, fund and monitor outstanding grassroots groups throughout the country. As our caring presence in local communities, diocesan CCHD directors act as our eyes and ears.

Each bishop or archbishop appoints a CCHD director to spread Catholic social teaching throughout the diocese or archdiocese. In addition, the director interacts with local organizations and invites groups to apply for CCHD funding. The director is often the conduit between a local initiative and the diocese or the CCHD national office. And the director connects parishioners and diocesan leadership with funded groups that may have overlapping concerns.

I have met many of the CCHD diocesan directors during my tenure. (I began my Church career as a diocesan director in Texas.) Each time, I am reminded of the adage, "If you want something done, ask a busy person." These directors generally have an entire portfolio of responsibilities within their dioceses and archdioceses. Many also serve on state and regional committees. Although CCHD is one of the many hats they wear, the enthusiasm and energy they dedicate to our shared mission inspire awe.

As you'll read in these pages, the directors come to CCHD from different backgrounds, but each has experienced a personal transformation through working with us. More accurately, they have been blessed by their interactions with the individuals who lead and participate in groups whose concrete efforts help break the cycle of poverty.

This is a time of nationwide self-reflection on how we think of and interact with people outside our accustomed circles. CCHD and the diocesan directors have long practiced the effective strategy of helping low-income people identify their own needs, participate in decisions that affect their lives and families, and work to change unjust systems and structures. What we do reflects the mandate of the Scriptures and is a tangible expression of our baptismal call.

I am grateful to the tireless diocesan directors—and to you—for supporting our work for social justice and human development.

RALPH McCLOUD, Director
Catholic Campaign for Human Development



**AN INITIATIVE OF THE
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

*More than 40 million
Americans live in poverty.*

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Archdiocese of Milwaukee Director of Dignity of the Human Person & Social Justice Ministry Rob Shelledy.



Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCHD Diocesan Director Anne Avellone.



Diocese of Salt Lake City Office of Life, Peace and Justice Director Jean Hill listens as participants share ideas for messaging the Catholic position on state budget proposals.

➔ Continued from page 1

community groups. “The interns spend an entire school year with us and often do Catholic social teaching education in parishes, youth groups, and in adult formation programs,” Anne explains. “They also help me identify and screen local groups for funding, and work through the grant process.”

Anne uses her credentials as a professional social worker to help some interns do supervised social work fieldwork as part of their CCHD experience. One past intern, now Fr. Graham Golden, OPraem, was a novice in the Canons Regular of Premontre (Norbertines) when he served with Anne. He is now a pastor of a parish in the archdiocese and an active promoter of CCHD.

In her experience, Anne says, CCHD is different from other funding organizations because of its insistence that a group’s leadership represent low-income people. “It’s a challenge and a long-term effort. You can’t just pluck someone out of a group and expect them to do what they need to do as a leader. CCHD provides incentives and guidance to train people,” she says.

“One group, the New Mexico Acequia Association, has told us over time how much they appreciate the structure of CCHD grants,” Anne recounts. “The executive director reminded me that 20 years ago, CCHD gave the fledgling organization a small local grant. They have grown into a statewide organization focused on protecting fragile water rights for rural communities. With CCHD’s encouragement, they developed a unique structure and a leadership training program for their members.”

Rob Shelledy, director of the Office of Social Justice Ministry/Dignity of the Human Person in the Archdiocese of

Milwaukee, says CCHD “technically” makes up 10% of his job. Nonetheless, his CCHD connections overlap his efforts on behalf of human concerns, Catholic Relief Services, and interfaith advocacy. Rob has been with the archdiocese for 15 years, serving in his current post for 10 years.

Milwaukee participated in Project Return, a CCHD Strategic National Grant program that addressed prison reform. Although Rob notes with sadness that the last decade of local advocacy on behalf of the issue showed little progress, he says those persistent efforts helped the Wisconsin Department of Correction to release certain nonviolent offenders from prison during the height of the COVID-19 outbreak.

He describes a formerly incarcerated man who is now the chair of Project Return’s board of directors. “At a funding meeting some time ago,” Rob recalls, this chairperson “told the participants how he testified at the state legislature about a proposed reform bill. He said he would have laughed in his own face if someone told him he would ever be in such a position.”

“But Project Return trained him and gave him confidence,” Rob explains. “And I realized that’s what CCHD is all about: advocating for him to improve his life and that of others with a similar experience. It’s a unique approach to grant-giving.”

Rob says that the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is a longtime supporter of CCHD. “The most engaged parishes are the ones where parishioners have a personal experience or shared activity with a CCHD-funded group. CCHD gives people the opportunity to develop relationships, which takes time and effort,” he says.

“The best thing about CCHD is its focus on the dignity of folks living in poverty,” Rob

says. “CCHD is very good at making sure that people with more economic resources work side by side with and get to know people who have less.”

To find your local CCHD diocesan director, visit tinyurl.com/y36e42qh and click under “Diocesan Directors” on the navigation bar.

In his role as diocesan director, Rob is heartened to see younger Catholics discover CCHD. “Some are pleasantly surprised to see the Church’s commitment to justice issues, and they want to get involved,” he says.

Jean Hill is the director of the Office of Life, Justice, and Peace of the Diocese of Salt Lake City. For nine years, she has been the diocese’s CCHD director as well as the communications director and government liaison and is responsible for Catholic Relief Services activities in the diocese. Because the diocese covers the entire state of Utah, her office acts as a state Catholic conference, too.

“We don’t have any real community organizing groups in the state, but we have groups that do community organizing,” Jean says. CCHD local funding supports anti-poverty initiatives in rural parishes and a nondenominational group that focuses on poverty, housing, food insecurity, and advocacy. The diocese is an active member of the group.

➔ Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

“In Utah, if we don’t work with others, we don’t work. That’s how we get things done,” Jean says.

Powerful Moms Who Care began two years ago with Jean’s encouragement and now receives CCHD national funding. The group is particularly interested in permanent supportive housing for the disabled and chronically homeless, as well as safe

transportation for schoolchildren. “Powerful Moms Who Care is training to get its message across in a way that is effective in a local culture where community organizing is still considered to be a little bit rude and in-your-face,” Jean says.

Jean has also tapped into contacts offered by the CCHD national office to help a group of low-income women tie into a network of

advocates that uses a chapter-organizing model to raise issues at state legislatures. “The power of our work is in building relationships with people and using active listening to find solutions together. It’s not just a feel-good opportunity. CCHD lives its message through its funding,” Jean says. 🌟

Transparency and Accountability

See how CCHD uses your contributions to make a difference in lives of people living in poverty. For the complete annual report for 2018 (our most recent reporting year), visit www.usccb.org/cchd-annual-report/

COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

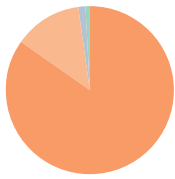
Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets for the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Revenue

National Collections Contributions	\$9,232,998
Grants, Bequests, and Other	\$99,355
Income on Investments	\$2,111,411
Total Revenue	\$11,443,764

Expenses

Grants and Donations*	\$18,434,013	84.9%
Allocations-Internal Grants**	\$2,828,202	13.0%
Promotions and Fundraising	\$325,858	1.5%
Administrative Expenses	\$122,501	0.6%
Total Expenses	\$18,882,372	
Total Expenses Including Internal Grants	\$21,710,574	



Changes in Net Assets from Operations	(\$10,266,810)
Non-Operating Activities Unrealized (Loss) Gain on Investments	(\$3,239,830)
Changes in Net Assets	(\$13,506,640)
Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year	\$48,464,586
Net Assets at the End of the Year	\$34,957,946

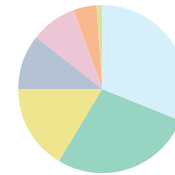
* Grants approved in 2018 totaled \$17,801,005. Grants and donations in 2018 totaled \$18,434,013 and included payments to grants approved in 2018 and in prior years.
 ** Internal grants include a distribution from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection for CCHD operations expenses and for the USCCB Justice, Peace and Human Development’s Education and Outreach program that includes engaging Catholics in our faith-filled call to address the root causes of poverty. See the complete USCCB financial report at www.usccb.org/about/financial-reporting.

2018-2019 DISTRIBUTION OF APPROVED GRANTS

Total Number of Grants: 246 Total Amount Approved: \$17,801,005

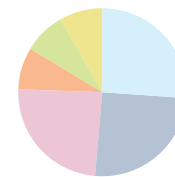
GRANT TYPE	TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS	AMOUNT FUNDED
Community and Economic Development	218	\$11,470,439
Strategic National	16	\$6,183,437
Technical Assistance	12	\$147,129

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS



AREA	PERCENTAGE
Economic Empowerment: New Businesses, Jobs, and Financial Opportunity	31.2%
Creating Resilient Communities, Access to Housing, and Strong Schools	27.5%
Defending the Rights of Immigrants	16.5%
Reforming the Criminal Justice System	10.6%
Building a Just Economy and Protecting Worker Rights	8.7%
Expanding Access to Health Care and Empowering Persons with Disabilities	4.6%
Protecting the Environment	0.9%

STRATEGIC NATIONAL AND REGIONAL GRANTS



PROGRAM AREA	PERCENTAGE
Defending the Rights of Immigrants	26.4%
Increasing Health Care Access, Defending Farmworker Rights, Community Organizing	25.1%
Building a Just Economy and Protecting Worker Rights	24.2%
Reforming the Criminal Justice System	8.1%
Building Cooperative Businesses	8.1%
Creating Homeownership Opportunities	8.1%