

Justice, Peace and Life

September 2021

"In the words of the 2nd century martyr and church father, Saint Irenaeus, "The glory of God is the human being fully alive." And that is the objective of CCHD, to help people grow in their humanity, to believe that together they can surface obstacles, to face and surmount them."

-Bishop Peter Rosazza, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of Hartford CT

Support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

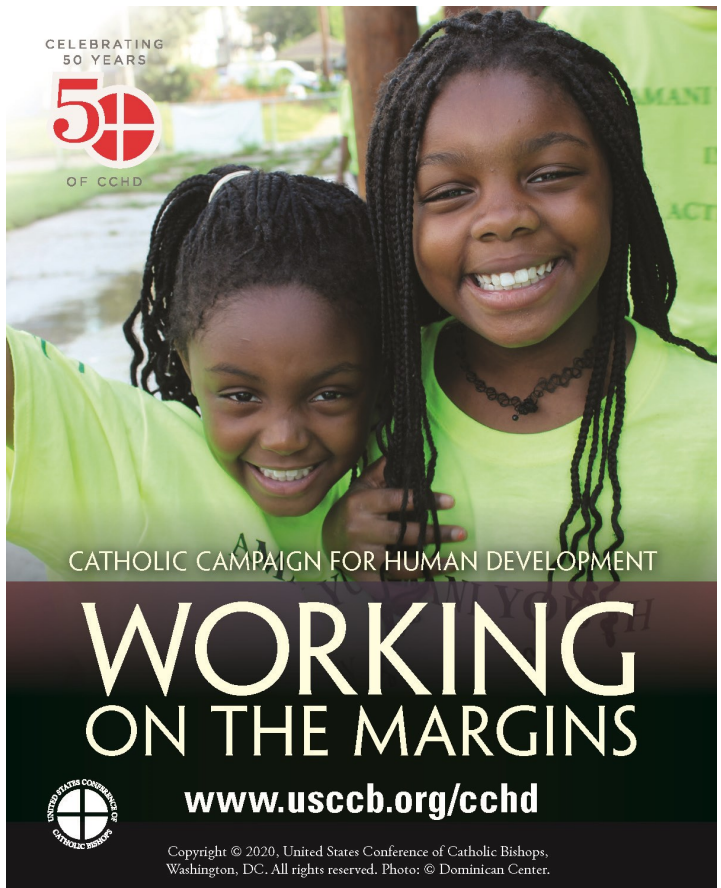
Please give generously to the CCHD collection on **September 18/19** at your parish!

Fight Poverty, Defend Human Dignity!

Fifty years ago our U.S. Bishops established the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)** to fund efforts by low income people to address the root cause of their poverty and oppression. CCHD has supported thousands of projects that empower people to improve their working and housing conditions, get better paying jobs, and stand up for their human dignity.

CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by supporting low-income people in participating in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out.

YOU can be part of this work by generously supporting the special collection for CCHD on **September 18/19**. The funds will provide grants to major projects across the country and smaller local anti-poverty projects right here in our diocese.



Get to know our Diocese of Rochester CCHD grantees!

Four amazing grassroots groups in our diocese are currently receiving major CCHD grants. Their proposals were reviewed by Diocese of Rochester clergy, religious and lay people along with CCHD national staff. Then they received Bishop Matano's review and recommendation. Final approval was given by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. It's a rigorous process and they are all very deserving of this support!

Learn about these groups by watching our short **online video** at tinyurl.com/OurCCHD

During the 2021 (virtual) 50th anniversary celebration of CCHD, look who sent a message of support and congratulations!



Screenshot photo provided by our CCHD Diocesan Director Laurie Konwinski



Support for Local Social Change

Your support for CCHD does other great things: 25% of the collection stays in our diocese to support local social change efforts. Past recipients of small local CCHD grants include:

- > a job training and employment program in Rochester for women in addiction recovery;
- > an Ithaca-based group of formerly incarcerated people advocating for criminal justice reform;
- > an immigrant women's group in Wayne County that teaches its members about protecting themselves from unhealthy relationships; and
- > a racially diverse men's group in Elmira focusing on community issues such as domestic violence and voter registration.



SEASON OF CREATION

**September 1– October 4
(Feast of St. Francis of Assisi)**

Join with Christians around the world in reflecting and acting on the call to protect God's creation. See www.seasonofcreation.org.

Some action steps:

Sign these petitions encouraging world leaders to address climate change :

www.prayandact4climate.org/action/petition/

www.bigshiftglobal.org/world-bank

And review how your own use of fossil fuels stacks up. www.footprintcalculator.org/home/en
Commit to reducing your footprint!

Ask To Have this Prayer Said at Mass this Weekend..

LABOR DAY PRAYER FOR WORKERS



Lord God,
Master of the Vineyard,

How wonderful that you have invited us who labor by the sweat of our brow to be workers in the vineyard and assist your work to shape the world around us.

As we seek to respond to this call, make us attentive to those who seek work but cannot find it.

Help us stand up for living wages for those who work hard to provide for their families but still have trouble making ends meet.

Protect especially health care workers and other essential workers during this time of pandemic.

Open our eyes to the struggles of those who are trafficked and exploited and help us speak for just wages and safe conditions, the freedom to organize, and time for renewal.

Work was made for humankind and not humankind for work. Let it not be a vehicle for exploitation but a radiant expression of our human dignity.

Give all who labor listening hearts that we may pause from our work to receive your gift of rest.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit that you might work through us to let your justice reign. Amen.

Based on *Prayer for the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers* Copyright © 2020,

This Labor Day, honor workers and their right to organize.

“There is no good society without a good union.” -Pope Francis

Justice & Peace Ministry Staff of Catholic Charities:

Monroe: Marcus Ebenhoe 585-546-7220 ext. 6202 Marcus.Ebenhoe@cfcrochester.org;

Chemung/Schuylers/Tioga: Kathy Dubel 607-734-9784 ext. 2135; Kathy.Dubel@dor.org

Cayuga/Ontario/Seneca/Yates/Wayne: Robert Vona 315-253-2222 ext. 102 Robert.Vona@dor.org

Livingston/Steuben: Leigh Shepard (585) 658-4466 ext. 11; Leigh.Shepard@dor.org

Tompkins: Laurie Konwinski 607-272-5062 ext. 12; Laurie.Konwinski@dor.org

Diocesan Life Issues Coordinator: Shannon Kilbridge 585-328-3228 ext. 1218 shannon.loughlin@dor.org