

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Fight Poverty in America. Defend Human Dignity.

PARISH RESOURCE GUIDE



Dear Pastor/Parish Administrator,

Parishes can make a positive difference in their communities. I'm sure you have experienced that yourself. When we look at the problem of poverty in our country, our parishes can be places of change in a number of ways.

They can be active in community organizations like Faith and Action for Strength Together (FAST) in Pinellas County, Florida. FAST is composed of 35 diverse congregations and represents more than 30,000 people dedicated to issues of social concern, improving quality of life, and defending the dignity of low-income residents. The local diocese was a key stakeholder in creating FAST, and the local bishop plays an instrumental role within the organization. FAST has impacted county-wide discipline reform in schools, provided quality child care for low-income working parents, and convinced the local county commission to put more than \$19 million in a trust to construct and rehabilitate more than 1,000 units of affordable housing.

Parishes can also create change by joining in support of the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). CCHD funds groups all over the country that identify the systemic problems that keep low-income residents in poverty and then work to solve them.

CCHD is able to support groups like FAST through the participation of parishes in the annual Collection. Your help is needed to make this year's Collection a success. Remember, 25% of the proceeds from your local Collection remains to fight poverty in your diocese. Please use the resources we have provided to you, such as announcements and bulletin inserts. Most importantly, please mention the Collection from the pulpit.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Mencarini Campbell, promotions director, at 202-541-3365 or mcampbell@usccb.org. If you have not received your materials, or if you need more, please contact us at 202-541-3346 or ncpromo@usccb.org. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Roger P. Morin
Chairman, USCCB Subcommittee on the
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

"Seeking to help others with immediate needs and seeking justice are two sides of the same coin in our service to our sisters and brothers in need. The Church's role in advocating for and promoting justice is akin to . . . how I feel about going to Mass. It is part of the DNA of the Church. It is not an option not to engage in this ministry. It is something Christ modeled for us, and we are to imitate [it] if we take the Gospels and Catholic social teaching seriously."

—Fr. John Tapp, chairman, Committee on Affordable Housing, of Faith and Action for Strength Together (FAST)

Fight Poverty in America.

Simple Steps to Promote the CCHD Collection in Your Parish

- 1 Announce the Collection in your parish so your parishioners know what it is and when to expect it.
- 2 Use the parish appeal language, bulletin announcements, clip art, and poster to educate your parishioners about the Collection and the work of CCHD. Additional resources are available at www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.
- 3 Distribute the bulletin insert and collection envelopes to your parishioners.
- 4 Pray for those living in poverty and for change, that an end will be brought to systems that keep people in poverty, and that the dignity of each life will be protected.

Bulletin Announcements

English

Week Before the Collection

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). CCHD was founded 40 years ago by the bishops of the United States when they realized that the lives of those in need would not improve until the systems and policies that keep people in poverty were changed. For 40 years, CCHD has funded community groups that seek justice and create lasting change.

Week of the Collection

Today, we take up a Collection that helps fight poverty at its roots. For 40 years, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has provided funding for groups that make lasting change and lift up the poor in the United States. The Collection has helped secure funding for low-income day care centers, legal advocacy to enforce fair wages, programs that emphasize education, and affordable housing in low-income neighborhoods.

Week After the Collection

Thank you for your contributions to the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! Your generosity has laid the foundation for important systemic changes in low-income communities all over the United States. Through CCHD and its beneficiaries, we manifest Catholic social teaching and carry out Jesus' mission to "bring glad tidings to the poor. / . . . to proclaim liberty to captives / and recovery of sight to the blind, / to let the oppressed go free" (Lk 4:18).

Spanish

Para la Semana Antes de la Colecta

La próxima semana realizaremos la Colecta para la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano (CCHD, por sus siglas en inglés). Los obispos de los Estados Unidos fundaron CCHD hace 40 años cuando se dieron cuenta que la vida de los más necesitados no iba a mejorar hasta que no se cambiasen los sistemas y las políticas que mantienen a las personas en la pobreza. La CCHD, a lo largo de 40 años, ha financiado a grupos comunitarios que buscan justicia y producen cambios duraderos.

Para la Semana de la Colecta

Hoy realizaremos la Colecta que ayuda a luchar contra la raíz de la pobreza. A lo largo de 40 años, la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano ha proporcionado fondos a los grupos que hacen posible unos cambios duraderos y ayudan a los pobres a salir adelante en los Estados Unidos. La Colecta ha ayudado a conseguir fondos para guarderías infantiles de bajos recursos, asesoría legal para hacer respetar salarios justos, programas que enfatizan la educación y casas a precios módicos en vecindarios de bajos recursos.

Para la Semana Después de la Colecta

¡Muchas gracias por sus contribuciones a la Colecta para la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano! Su generosidad será la base para importantes cambios sistémicos en comunidades de bajos ingresos en todo Estados Unidos. Mediante la CCHD y sus beneficiarios, ponemos de manifiesto la enseñanza católica y cumplimos con la misión de Jesús para "llevar a los pobres la buena nueva, . . . anunciar la liberación a los cautivos y la curación a los ciegos, para dar libertad a los oprimidos" (Lc 4:18).

Defend Human Dignity.

Parish Appeal

Across the country, work is being done to fight poverty at its roots in places that offer inadequate education, tolerate unaffordable housing, and turn away from communities in need. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is justice and charity in action through the Church. CCHD funds community groups that work to change the systems that keep them in poverty. Your support will create lasting change.

A lo largo y ancho del país se trabaja para luchar contra las raíces de la pobreza en lugares que ofrecen una educación deficiente, toleran viviendas costosas y les dan la espalda a comunidades que sufren necesidades. Por medio de la Iglesia, la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano (CCHD, por sus siglas en inglés) es justicia y caridad en acción. La CCHD financia a grupos comunitarios que trabajan para cambiar los sistemas que los mantienen en la pobreza. Su apoyo producirá cambios duraderos.

Intercessions

R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our Holy Father, N., our bishop, N., and all Church leaders, that they will continue to proclaim Christ's love and compassion for the poor as they lead the Church in its work to promote justice in our world. Let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

For the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, for all who work to address poverty in this country, and for our parish community, that we may follow Christ's example of love and solidarity with the poor. Let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That we, the people of God, will open our hearts and souls to justice so that we will speak and act in ways that will eliminate poverty and injustice in this country and throughout the world. Let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

For the nearly 40 million poor and low-income people in our country who experience the pain and suffering of poverty every day, that we may join with them to break the cycle of poverty and create peaceful and just communities. Let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

R/. Señor, escucha nuestra oración.

Por nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa, N., nuestro obispo, Mons. N., y todos los líderes de la Iglesia, para que sigan proclamando el amor y compasión de Cristo por los pobres y guiando a la Iglesia en su trabajo de promover la justicia en nuestro mundo. Oremos al Señor. **R/.**

Por la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano, por todos los que trabajan para hacer frente a la pobreza en este país, y por la comunidad de nuestra parroquia, para que sigan el ejemplo de amor y solidaridad de Cristo con los pobres. Oremos al Señor. **R/.**

Para que nosotros, el pueblo de Dios, abramos nuestro corazón a la justicia y hablemos y actuemos de formas que eliminen la pobreza y la injusticia en este país y en todo el mundo. Oremos al Señor. **R/.**

Por los casi 40 millones de personas pobres y de bajos ingresos que en nuestro país experimentan el dolor y sufrimiento de la pobreza cotidianamente, para que nos unamos con ellos y así romper el ciclo de la pobreza y crear comunidades pacíficas y justas. Oremos al Señor. **R/.**

