

The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson Archdiocese of Indianapolis 1400 N. Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367 317-236-1403

22 October 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis will soon take up the national collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Your support for this collection brings change to communities across the country and empowers those living in poverty to transform their communities into reflections of the Kingdom of God. In addition to making an impact nationally, those living in poverty in our own diocese are empowered through the 50% share of our collection that stays here.

The CCHD second collection is scheduled for the weekend of November 21-22, 2020, the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. In the gospel reading that weekend, we hear Jesus, the King, say, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." By your contribution to the CCHD collection, you will support local organizations who are doing just those activities.

Teen Mother Choices in the Batesville deanery serves teen mothers who are taught life skills to enable them to break the cycle of poverty and are provided with a mentor to walk with them as they learn parenting skills. Teen Mother Choices "welcomes the stranger" in welcoming these mothers as they would welcome Christ.

Craine House in Indianapolis provides an alternative to traditional incarceration for women who have non-violent convictions and whose preschool children may reside with them while they serve their sentences. Craine House "visits those in prison" by enabling these families to remain together.

The Men's Warming Center in Bedford provides shelter, sleeping accommodations, food, clothing, showering facilities, and access to laundry equipment for homeless men. The Center was established in 2014 after a homeless man froze to death on a street in Bedford. They see men "hungry and give them food, thirsty and give them drink, strangers and welcome them, naked and clothe them, ill and care for them."

Jesus says in this same scripture, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." Your support for this collection shows how the Church cares for families living in poverty across the United States, and in doing so, cares for Christ himself. Please prayerfully consider how you are able to help CCHD this year. If you would like more information about the collection and the people it supports, visit www.usccb.org/cchd/collection or www.usccb.org/cchd/c

Thank you for joining us to work with people on the margins.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson

+ Charles C. Thompson

Archbishop of Indianapolis