



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office of the Cardinal
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

July 2, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In his most recent encyclical *Caritas in veritate* (Charity in Truth), Pope Benedict XVI reiterated what he calls an important truth set forth by his predecessor Pope Paul VI in his encyclical *Populorum Progressio* (On the Development of Peoples): "...the whole Church, in all her being and acting – when she proclaims, when she celebrates, when she performs works of charity – is engaged in promoting human development." Our Holy Father goes on to say that "...integral human development is primarily a vocation, and therefore it involves a free assumption of responsibility in solidarity on the part of everyone."

For nearly 40 years, the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development** has concretely demonstrated the Catholic Church's solidarity with the poor in our country by funding local community organizations that promote integral human development. These groups actively engage the poor to participate in organized efforts that address the root causes of poverty. Access to affordable housing and health care, quality education for children, and vocational training for the unemployed are among the goals of funded organizations.

Each year the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops sponsors a nationwide collection in support of the Catholic Church's longstanding efforts to reduce poverty by addressing its root causes. In the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the annual collection will take place on the weekend of **July 10-11, 2010**. Funds collected support anti-poverty projects across the country and in the communities and neighborhoods of our own region, providing the means for our less fortunate brothers and sisters to become agents of their own progress and human development. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia exercises due diligence in carefully reviewing all applications for grants from community organizations in our region, ensuring that the mission and goals of prospective grant recipients are consistent with the Catholic Church's social and moral teaching. The activities of funded organizations are closely monitored for ongoing compliance.

Nearly 40 million Americans are now living in poverty, and in these challenging economic times that have adversely impacted so many people, the effect on the poor is even more dramatic. Through your contribution to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, you assist your neighbors near and far in breaking the cycle of poverty and achieving the dignity of self-reliance in their pursuit of a better future. On their behalf, I express my appreciation and ask God's blessing upon you for your generous response to this appeal.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Justin Card. Rigali

Cardinal Justin Rigali
Archbishop of Philadelphia

(For more information, visit the Catholic Campaign for Human Development section on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website at: www.usccb.org/cchd)

(Please communicate the contents of this letter to your parishioners in the most appropriate manner on the weekend of July 3 and 4: the collection is taken up the following weekend of July 10 and 11. Collection remittance should be made payable to ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA and sent to: Office for Accounting Services, 222 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103)