

Families are struggling. Faith is calling.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Dear Diocesan Director,

The failing economy has created a bleak landscape for Americans. We all have been affected, either personally or through association, by layoffs, pay freezes, dwindling retirement accounts, falling home values, and lost assets. The total net worth of all American families fell \$11 trillion in 2008, according to the Federal Reserve.

However desolate the financial climate is from Wall Street to Main Street, those affected most are the nearly 40 million Americans who were living in poverty even before the current crisis. To quote Bishop William F. Murphy, Chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Low-income families and individuals are experiencing the greatest hardship and have the least capacity to cope in this time of economic crisis."

As you know, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has been lifting low-income communities out of poverty for 40 years. CCHD funds community groups who work to create their own solutions to poverty through finding fair wages and affordable housing, creating access to health care, and providing vocational training.

Please help us promote the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Encourage your parishes to use the resources available to them and to educate parishioners about the need for the Collection and its important role in the United States. If you have any questions or need more promotional materials, please contact Mary Mencarini Campbell at 202-541-3365 or mcampbell@usccb.org.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Roger P. Morin
Bishop of Biloxi
Chairman, Subcommittee on the
Catholic Campaign for Human Development
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

