The Office of Pro-Life Activities kicks off first year of service to families through Jerome’s Hope

I WANT TO THANK ALL THE DONORS TO DSF LAST YEAR. Your contributions helped to launch our new program called JEROME’S HOPE designed to support families who have received a difficult diagnosis during pregnancy, are raising a child with significant health issues or have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss.

We now have a team of volunteers including parents with personal experience of these issues, medical professionals and members of the clergy. We also have a number of community partners and resources that we can call upon for support and healing. This network has even helped parents calling from the hospital with a crisis situation involving their newborn.

Parents are often presented with options that require immediate and difficult decisions and do not know where to turn for advice and counsel. Jerome’s Hope exists to support these families in a faith-filled and life-affirming way. In addition, we provide retreats for parents who have suffered miscarriage or infant loss and have given comfort and support.

What is clear from the numerous families who have shared their stories and experiences and sought counsel is the real need in our Archdiocese for the ministry of Jerome’s Hope.

Many families have experienced silent suffering while facing these situations; it is our hope that this ministry will constitute for them a community of support and comfort.

I am grateful for your continued support of these families and ministers through your contributions and prayers.

DSF is a concrete way of expressing solidarity – solidarity with our youth, the incarcerated, the poor and marginalized, those discerning their vocation – that is, the members of the Body of Christ.

I didn’t know much about DSF until I was a seminarian, when I not only benefited from the Fund directly, but also realized the tremendous impact it makes all throughout the Archdiocese in a way that I could never do by myself.

I give to DSF today because it reminds me of my responsibility to my brothers and sisters, with whom I am gratefully united in the bond of charity.

Rev. Eurel Manzano
Pastor
St. Theresa Catholic Church
Sugar Land

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Director
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We created the annual Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) Newsletter to share with you highlights and stories about the more than 60 ministries that receive contributions from DSF.

Through a multitude of social services, faith formation programs, and aids to vocational discernment, the work supported by DSF seeks to serve others and build up the Body of Christ.

These ministries are at the heart of the mission of the Archdiocese and bind us together as Catholics.

It is therefore my hope that all parishioners will consider supporting DSF.

I thank you for keeping this work in your prayers.

DANIEL CARDINAL DINARDO
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

Catholic Charities

Angela House

Faith, Love, and Hope

Catholic Schools Office

The many FACES of DSF supported programs

Angela House

Our Students Transform the World

HURRICANE HARVEY

Relief, Recovery and Rebuild

Relief, Recovery and Rebuild

Proactive the 3 R’s of Disaster Assistance through DSF

Catholic Charities continues to offer relief, recovery and rebuilding for people affected by Hurricane Harvey. The organization, which is supported annually by DSF, is the Archdiocese’s leader in long-term disaster case management. Rebuilding lives is a long, often-painful, slow process that requires one-on-one intensive work with individuals and families.

Because of support from DSF and other contributions, Catholic Charities was able to supply financial assistance, basic needs counseling, food assistance and compassion to those devastated by Hurricane Harvey. Catholic Charities opened disaster relief locations in three counties within the Archdiocese—Harris, Fort Bend and Galveston.

In the first nine months after the storm, Catholic Charities, utilizing over 2,000 volunteers, served the following in 346 area zip codes:

- 16,912 individuals
- 6,575 children
- 5,980 households
- 2,840 elderly individuals

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

(CSO) serves the largest private school system in Texas, which consists of 60 schools. The CSO provides support to pastors and principals in the areas of administration, finance, personnel, curriculum development, assessment, religious instruction, technology, and serving the needs of all students.

This office exists to support school pastors, principals, teachers, and communities as they work together to form students as they grow in holiness and become disciples of Jesus Christ that will transform the world.

ANGELA HOUSE

Founded in 2001, this ministry is celebrating 17 years of services to women exiting incarceration. Funds provided through DSF have allowed Angela House to serve this often marginalized population. The House have 16 beds for these women at-risk for homelessness and includes meals, clothing, and transportation.

Re-entry is never easy, but Angela House is a transitional program for these women where they can receive a full continuum of services. The services help them obtain employment, self-sufficiency and independent living. Angela House also offers a safe place to live while they regain their self-worth and confidence.

At the house they have access to counseling, therapy, health care, life skills, and access to AA, NA, Bible studies, parenting, support groups and recovery programs.

The women served at Angela House are of all faiths and worship is part of their lives.

They realize that they need the Lord in their lives. The success stories are many and the need for this program and facility is great. All of us are grateful for the parishioners who give to DSF.

Quotes from Angela House residents:

“Through this program we are learning how to grow spiritually.” -Melissa

“This is a program of faith, love, and hope that helps us grow spiritually and guides us to success.” -Sharon

“God has opened so many doors for me.” -Melanie

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How Your DSF Gifts Were Distributed*

Sharing with others from our heart demonstrates the love and compassion that Christ gave to us through his life’s work when he was here on earth.

DANIEL CARDINAL DINARDO
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

This is an abbreviated list of the DSF-funded ministries, for the full list please visit archgh.org/DSF.