Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our lord Jesus Christ be with us always!

Our Archdiocese will take up the national collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) during the weekend of November 20th and 21st. Your support for this collection brings change to communities within our Archdiocese and those across the country. It empowers those living in poverty to transform the places they live into reflections of the Kingdom of God. In addition to receiving national grants, communities within our own Archdiocese are empowered through the 25% share of our collection that stays local.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) was founded in 1969 by the bishops of the United States as a Catholic antipoverty initiative. For more than 50 years, CCHD has addressed the problem of poverty by attacking its root causes. CCHD funds projects that promote self-reliance as a means to end poverty and makes real, lasting changes in the lives and communities of the poor.

Through both CCHD local and national grants, The Sitka Food Coop, the National Alliance on Mental Illness in Anchorage and Juneau, Valley Interfaith Action (VIA) in the Mat-Su Valley, and Anchorage Faith and Action Congregations Together (AFACT) are four organizations within the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau which have received CCHD funding through your generous support.

The works of these organizations include improving, existing food, financial, and health insecurities; access to mental health services; advocacy for those living with mental illness; leadership development and organizing communities to address the needs of residents. Throughout the pandemic, these four organizations continued to work in difficult circumstances.

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, please visit www.aoaj.org and www.usccb.org/cchd.

Thank you for joining us in working with people living on the margins.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ [Signature]

Most Reverend Andrew Bellisario, C.M.
Archbishop of Anchorage-Juneau

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