

**Name of Grant:** Local Catholic Campaign for Human Development – Joy of the Gospel Anniversary Grant (Local CCHD-STL)

**Send Application to:** Marie Kenyon

Diocesan Director, Catholic Campaign for Human Development

p) 314.792.7062

[Mariekenyon@archstl.org](mailto:Mariekenyon@archstl.org)

**Review:** These grants will be administered by the local CCHD Advisory Committee.

**Purpose:** As we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel)*, these funds are to be used for projects that highlight the messages and themes from Pope Francis's *Joy of the Gospel* with a specific emphasis on reaching out to those on the margins at the parish level. Funds are to be used for general operating support for applications that may include bringing a speaker to your parish, trainings, events, webinars, community activities, or other proposals.

Examples of themes and messages from *Joy of the Gospel* include:

- The importance of spreading the message of the Gospel with joy and enthusiasm with a positive and hopeful approach to evangelization.
- A renewed focus on pastoral care and a shift away from a self-referential Church with a call to be more inclusive and welcoming to all, including the marginalized and those on the peripheries.
- "Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society."
- "The option for the poor shows the primacy of the will of God, who has a preferential love for the poor, and invites us to imitate this love."
- Addressing the issues of social injustice, economic inequality, and poverty with a commitment to social justice and a preferential option for the poor, advocating for structural changes in society.
- The importance of the laity in the mission of the Church with laypeople being active participants in evangelization and in addressing the challenges of the modern world.
- A focus on interfaith dialogue and cooperation, especially with other Abrahamic religions, as a means of promoting peace and understanding.
- "An authentic faith... always involves a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave this earth somehow better than we found it."

Applications will be evaluated on a project-by-project basis with specific emphasis on:

- Initiatives aimed at addressing social injustice, poverty alleviation, and economic equality by funding applications that work with vulnerable populations, promote fair economic practices, or advance social justice causes.
- Applications that center interfaith dialogue, cooperation, and peace-building efforts that foster understanding and collaboration among different religious communities.

- Initiatives to engage communities in faith-based outreach and inclusion such as programs that promote community development, support marginalized groups, or encourage active participation of the laity in Church activities.
- Applications that focus on educating and empowering young people in matters of faith, social justice, and evangelization.

**Restrictions:** This is a one-time grant award to be used during the calendar year of 2024.

**Brief History:** The CCHD is the church's domestic anti-poverty program established by the U.S. Catholic Bishops in 1970. The belief is that those living in poverty are best able to seek solutions to their problems. For more information on CCHD, please see <https://www.usccb.org/committees/catholic-campaign-human-development>.

**Grant Range:** up to \$2,000

**Contact Persons:** Marie Kenyon, 314.792.7062, [Mariekenyon@archstl.org](mailto:Mariekenyon@archstl.org) and Maddie Thompson, [madeleine.r.thompson@wustl.edu](mailto:madeleine.r.thompson@wustl.edu)

**Application Guidelines:**

- Applications are available December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Deadline for application is January 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.
- Grantee is responsible to obtain the endorsement of their local Pastor of the Catholic Church in their community.
- Grants are awarded in March 2024.

*Direct all questions or inquiries regarding grant eligibility to the contact persons listed above.*