

# CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT WORKING ON THE MARGINS

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

Peace and all good things!

Our archdiocese will take up the national collection for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)** the weekend of **November 18-19, 2023**. Your support for this collection brings change to communities across the country and empowers those living in poverty to transform their communities into reflections of the Kingdom of God. In addition to making a national impact, you empower those living in poverty in our own archdiocese, because 25 percent of our collection stays here.

New Bedford, Massachusetts, has a centuries-old history in the maritime industry—from the 18th-century whaling industry to today. Commercial fishing and fish processing are still significant parts of the local economy. Today's fish-packing industry employs many Hispanic immigrant workers from Central America, who, due to language barriers and a lack of familiarity with their labor rights, are often subject to unsafe working conditions, wage theft, and sexual harassment and assault. Centro Comunitario de Los Trabajadores (CCT) started in 2010 to help these workers learn their rights and advocate for improved worker safety conditions, to provide case management for workers unjustly deprived of wages and to help workers expand CCT's reach to other workers at risk. With funding from CCHD, CCT has also led the way in providing emergency cash and food assistance to workers and their families impacted by the pandemic, developing educational materials to raise awareness about COVID-19 and promoting vaccines to workers and their families.

Your support for CCHD helps CCT make a direct, positive impact in the lives of frontline workers who face risks of injury and wage theft and their families. When you contribute to CCHD in your parish, not only do you help CCT and other workers' rights organizations nationwide, but 25% of your donation stays in our archdiocese to support organizations making a difference in the lives of your neighbors.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help CCHD this year. If you would like more information about the collection and the people it supports, visit [www.usccb.org/cchd](http://www.usccb.org/cchd).

Thank you for joining us to work on the margins.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+  Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.

The Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.