

**CHD**

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sonally and around them in their communities."

As CHD celebrates its 25th year, the type of grants it gives has shifted, the report said. In the beginning, many grants went to projects to guarantee legal rights for poor people and minorities. In the 1980s, the emphasis was on helping family farmers and fighting plant closings.

More recently, grants have gone to groups trying to organize to help people with disabilities or for environmental campaigns such as removing toxic waste from neighborhoods.

In their broad look at 325 organizations and a detailed analysis of 16 groups funded by CHD from 1991 to 1993, McCarthy and Castelli found a range of projects overwhelmingly run by and benefiting women. Housing problems were the single most prevalent issue, followed by jobs, education and health issues.

CHD funding typically finances grassroots efforts among the poor, helping people develop the organizational and persuasive techniques needed to bring about change in neighborhoods and workplaces.

"The CHD is an unusual combination of religious commitment, street-smart politics, commitment to structural change and commitment to the development of the poor," the report said.

CHD is the nation's largest private funding source for programs to empower the poor, having contributed more than \$200 million to more than 3,000 community-based organizations since it was founded in 1970. CHD raises about \$13 million a year with an annual fund drive in Catholic parishes. One-quarter of that money remains in the dioceses and the balance is distributed through about 225 national grants a year.

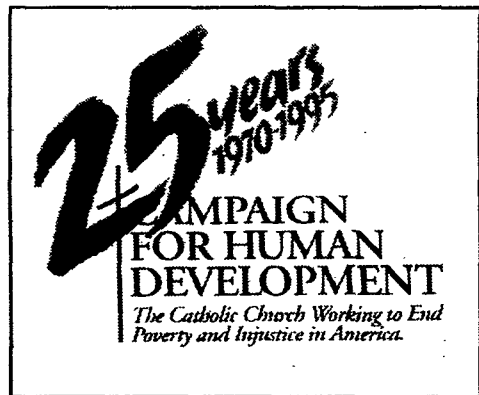
Pope John Paul II recently commended the CHD for its 25-year effort to overcome poverty and injustice in America.

Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state, said the pope "joins the church in the United States in giving thanks for the fruits of justice and solidarity which have taken root in communities throughout the United States ... as a result of the Campaign for Human Development."

The cardinal relayed the pope's greetings in a letter to Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore, president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and U.S. Catholic Conference.

Former California Gov. Jerry Brown, in a challenge to a Bay Area CHD gathering held earlier this summer, took a tougher stance by saying the Campaign for Human Development's second quarter century should concentrate on completely ending poverty.

"You don't 'address' (poverty)," Brown said. "You fight it, repudiate it, attack it, undermine it. You keep moving forward in solidarity with the poor."



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Father Charles F. Mulligan, co-pastor of Penn Yan's St. Michael's Church, was involved with the Campaign for Human Development cause from its earliest days in the diocese. The priest today assists the migrant-worker community around the southern Finger Lakes area.

**Front-runner**

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Father Hempel noted that this massive effort was not limited to Catholic groups. Many Protestant organizations, he said, toiled side-by-side with diocesan workers.

"When I preached in the Protestant churches, I would use the theme of the good Samaritan. The Catholics and the Protestants may disagree on a lot of things, but that was one example we could always agree on," Father Hempel remarked.

Father Hempel, now retired and living in Florida, will serve as keynote speaker for a CHD 25th-anniversary celebration Wednesday, Aug. 30, at Powder Mill Park in Perinton, a suburb located east of Rochester. Bishop Matthew H. Clark is also scheduled to attend the event.

The Office of Human Development eventually became known as the diocesan Office of Social Ministry. Today this department is known as Catholic Charities and includes central offices at the diocesan Pastoral Center in Rochester, as well as several regional agencies throughout the diocese.

Judy Taylor, diocesan Catholic Charities communications manager, pointed out that despite the different titles, these social-ministry offices have always operated in conjunction with Catholic Charities USA.

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"The mission has not changed — service, advocacy and empowerment," Taylor said.

The diocese's annual parish Campaign for Human Development collection will be taken up the weekend of Sept. 16-17. Seventy-five percent of funds collected will go to the national CHD office and the remainder will stay in this diocese, although Taylor stressed that funds returned by the national office often reflect a large percentage of what was originally collected.

Looking back upon their efforts in the Rochester diocese at the time the national Campaign for Human Development was launched, the voices of Fathers Wiant, Mulligan and Hempel crackle with enthusiasm.

"Oh, it was fantastic!" Father Wiant exclaimed. "It was almost like a movement. It went 24 hours a day and I loved it."

"That was exciting, groups of people coming together," Father Mulligan added. "You could see God's grace working in the community and flowing through it."

"I was constantly on the run. It was just a whole new approach. It was an incredible time — just unbelievable," Father Hempel recalled.

"This is what Christ was talking about; this is social justice."

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