

Catholic Diocese of Saginaw
Operation Rice Bowl Grant
2010

Each year during Lent, the Diocese of Saginaw participates in Operation Rice Bowl, - a program of prayer, fasting, education, and almsgiving. Alms collected through Operation Rice Bowl fund Catholic Relief Services' development projects overseas. These projects help families produce more food, increase their income and escape abject poverty.

Twenty-five percent of Operation Rice Bowl contributions are used locally to address hunger and poverty related needs within our own communities. By recognizing and responding to the immediate needs of those around us, we express our solidarity with all of God's people, especially the poor and vulnerable.

The Diocese of Saginaw is making available small grants to be used for the purpose of:

1. General Funding Assistance: This grant is to assist organizations that support the poor with food, shelter or other programs that promote the dignity of the person and promote Catholic Social Teaching.
2. Project Assistance: This category provides funds for projects that directly relate to the poor. Schools, churches or private groups may apply for assistance based on the project they are working on.

Allocation of funds will be determined based on the following criteria:

- The project or organization must be inclusive of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (See attached: *Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching*).
- The grant must be used to support the poor with food, shelter or other programs that assist the individual in their own development.
- Those receiving grants will be required to report actual use of funds. Failure to do so may jeopardize future eligibility.

Please complete the following page as your grant request. You may attach a one-page narrative if you need additional space.

Send your request to: Terri Grierson
Catholic Diocese of Saginaw
5800 Weiss St.
Saginaw, MI 48603-2762

- * All grants depend on the availability of funds
- * **Application deadline is August 13, 2010**

Catholic Diocese of Saginaw
Operation Rice Bowl 2010
Grant Request Form

Name of Organization or Project:

Address:

_____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

_____ (Contact person submitting request)

Amount of Request: _____ (Grants range between \$500 and \$2,000; dollar amount is determined by numerous factors including organizational goals and mission, number of clients served; current funding sources and availability of funds)

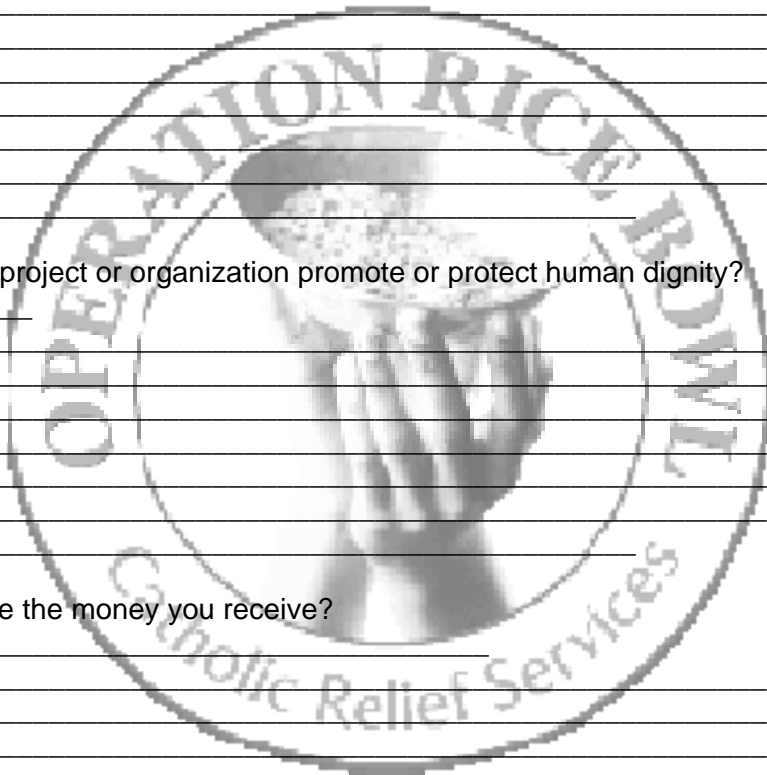
Have you received a grant in the past? ___ Yes ___ No Amount of grant: _____

Please briefly complete the following. A one-page narrative may be added if more space is needed.

1. What are the basic goals and mission of your project or organization?

2. How does your project or organization promote or protect human dignity?

3. How will you use the money you receive?



4. How will this grant directly benefit the poor and vulnerable?

5. How is your project or organization currently funded?

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Application must be received or postmarked by August 13, 2010*

THEMES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society in economics and politics, in law and policy directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Rights and Responsibilities

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities--to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

Solidarity

We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that "if you want peace, work for justice."¹ The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

Care for God's Creation

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.