

Vermont non-profits awarded grants through the Bishop deGoesbriand Appeal for Human Advancement

Thanks to the generosity of parishes throughout Vermont, Vermont Catholic Charities has awarded Bishop deGoesbriand grants to twenty-eight non-profit organizations that make meaningful differences in the daily lives of individual and families.

Funding for these grants was made possible through a second collection held in November. This year, \$48,746 was raised and 100% of the funds were allocated to the grant recipients. "Vermont Catholic Charities appreciates the tremendous support from parishioners throughout Vermont. Because of this financial aid, thousands of Vermonters will benefit through the programs and services offered by local nonprofits," said Mary Beth Pinard, Executive Director of Vermont Catholic Charities, Inc.

The following organizations received grants:

ANew Place (formerly Burlington Emergency Shelter) - (Grant amount \$3,000) Funding will support the agency's 4-phase continuum of care, which focuses on long-term solutions for the most vulnerable members of our community.

Bennington Free Clinic (Grant amount \$1,200) Funding will help provide laboratory, X-ray and dental services to Spanish-speaking farm worker populations in Bennington and the surrounding area.

Bites-In-A-Bag – St. Ambrose Church – Bristol (Grant Amount \$1800) This program provides weekend bags of healthy snacks to children who do not have sufficient food. Funding will help efforts to expand their program to another elementary school in the district.

Burlington Dismas House (Grant Amount \$800) Funding will support the mentoring program between former prisoners and college students.

Camp Exclamation Point (Grant Amount \$1,000) A non-profit organization that gives children from rural Vermont a week-long residential summer camp experience. The funding will help with transportation costs for campers

Care Net Pregnancy Center – Burlington and St. Albans (Grant Amount \$2,000) Funding will support the Center's Cultivating Healthy Relationship Program, which provides marriage and family life skills to couples.

Care Net Pregnancy Center – Windham (Grant Amount \$1,000) Funding will support staff training of the Learn To Earn Program. This program encourages women to keep their baby by providing instruction, emotional support and material aid.

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish Food Shelf – Burlington (Grant Amount \$2,100) Funding will be used to purchase non-perishable food items for individuals/families in need in the Burlington area.

Committee in Temporary Shelter – Burlington (Grant Amount \$1,250) Funding will support the Waystation, an emergency shelter which serves some of the most vulnerable members of our community, homeless men and women.

Community Emergency Relief Volunteers - Northfield (Grant Amount \$3,100) Funding will be used to purchase food items to accommodate the increased number of clients visiting the Food Shelf, along with providing emergency aid for families with critical needs.

Ecumenical Lunch Bunch Program – Essex Junction (Grant Amount \$750) Funding will support the Program's objective of providing nutritious lunches to needy children during the summer months.

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont – Montpelier (Grant Amount \$2,300) Funding will be used to develop the "In Loving Arms Initiative," a parenting education series.

Grateful Hearts – East Dorset (Grant Amount \$750) Funding will help provide healthy prepared meals to families in need by utilizing surplus food resources made available by local farms.

Greater Bennington Interfaith Community – Kitchen Cupboard (Grant Amount \$3,000) Funding will help support a Coordinator position who will involve families in educational cooking and nutrition programs.

Greater Falls Warming Shelter – Rockingham (Grant Amount \$2,600) Funding will help provide safe, warm overnight accommodations during the winter months for those in need.

Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity – St. Albans (Grant Amount \$1,000) This program constructs simple, energy efficient rated, affordable housing for families who qualify and meet the guidelines. Funding will help purchase new tools and equipment to replace the old, worn out donated ones.

John Graham Shelter – Vergennes (Grant Amount \$3,000) Funding will help the Shelter continue to provide housing and services to chronically homeless people with psychiatric disabilities and addictions.

Joseph's House – Burlington (Grant Amount \$3,000) Funding will help support this Parish outreach center's objective to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families.

Martha's Kitchen – St. Albans (Grant Amount \$2,800) Founded in 1984, Martha's Kitchen provides meals to more than 1500 people per month. Funding will help the Kitchen serve more people in need.

Mercy Connections – Burlington (Grant Amount \$1,000) Funding will help support Mercy Connections' Nourishment Project – a key engagement tool with the clients the agency serves.

Neighborhood Connections – Londonderry (Grant Amount \$1,500). Funding will help offer support, services and case management to homeless individuals and families seeking housing in south central Vermont.

Rutland Dismas House (Grant Amount \$1,000) Funding will be used to support summer activities that will reacquaint former prisoners with their families.

Samaritan House – St. Albans (Grant Amount \$3,000) This transitional/supportive housing program in St. Albans is the only emergency shelter and transitional housing program for homeless individuals in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. Funds will be used to support this program.

St. Brigid's Kitchen and St. Brigid's Pantry – Brattleboro (Combined Grant Amount \$3,000) Funding will be used to continue to offer meals to those in need in the Brattleboro community through the soup kitchen and the "Take-a-Bag" program.

St. Peter's & Boys and Girls Club – Vergennes (Grant Amount \$2,000) Funding will help provide needed afternoon snacks to children of the Boys and Girls Club of the greater Vergennes area.

The Catholic Center at UVM – Burlington (Grant Amount \$1,800) Students at the University of Vermont will use funding to prepare and serve dinners at the Salvation Army and ANEW Place. This funding provides an opportunity to engage students at UVM and Champlain College in service work.

Vermont Right To Life Educational Trust Fund – Montpelier (Grant Amount \$3,000) Vermont Right to Life is the largest pro-life organization Vermont. Funding will be used to help air a public service announcement promoting adoption.