



Catholic Community of Pleasanton Social Justice Newsletter

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Project Homeless Connect 20 on February 27

Project Homeless Connect is an event held every two months whereby 1500 volunteers come together to offer a variety of services to over 2,000 of San Francisco's homeless population.

The next project will be at Bill Graham Auditorium on Wednesday February 27.



The mission is to end homelessness by connecting folks from the street with services at the event which will result in their greater self-sufficiency and participation in the rest of society. Many volunteers are needed and many services available at these well-run events. No prior experience is necessary, only a commitment to help. One hour training is available, but not mandatory. Members of CCOP's Social Justice Committee will be volunteering at the next Project Homeless Connect in San Francisco on February 27. To join the group, call Anne Zadra at 925/426-5654. Or those interested can sign up through the website (www.sfconnect.org) or just come down to the auditorium.

State Bill Prohibits Local Government From Requiring Landlords to Disclose Immigration Status

Jericho, the Catholic advocacy group in California's state capitol of Sacramento, spotlights bills that make structural change in public policies that affect those living in poverty. Currently Jericho is supporting AB 976 (Calderon, Charles) which would prohibit local government from requiring a landlord to report or take any other action regarding a tenant based on immigration or citizenship status of that tenant.

MillenniumProject

Parishioners Can Work To End World Poverty Through Millennium Project

The Millennium Project was developed in 2002 by the United Nations to develop a concrete action plan to reverse the grinding poverty, hunger, and disease affecting billions of people in the world. The plan proposes meeting all these goals by 2015:

1. Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/Aids, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

CCOP parishioners can help by:

- Writing your political representatives in Congress to support the Millennium goals
- Sponsoring a "house party" or awareness event to inform your friends and neighbors about world poverty and the Millennium goals
- Support existing organizations like **Save The Children** and **Oxfam** which are already working on world poverty issues
- Take on an important, concrete action or "quick win" to support the Millennium goals, like paying school tuition or supplying anti-malarial bed nets through an international agency such as the ones listed above

For further information on **the Millennium Project**, call **Matt La Francesca** at 925/462-1082.

**East Bay Habitat Builds
Homes in Oakland And Alameda**



East Bay Habitat is an interfaith Christian organization that builds decent, affordable homes in secure neighborhoods for selected low income families. In the past twenty years, East Bay Habitat has completed 200 homes, and it hopes to build 200 more in the next five years. Currently, the program is building 58 houses on Edes Avenue near the Coliseum in Oakland and 8 houses in Alameda. CCOP is one of Habitat's partner churches, and will be sending a team of volunteers to the Oakland site in February. Any skill level is welcome, and car pools will be organized. To volunteer for the February project, parishioners may call Patricia Belding at 925/462-2152.

**St. Vincent De Paul
Members Use Fifth Sunday
Collection to Help Needy**



A very busy but quiet organization among many in the Catholic Community of Pleasanton is the St. Vincent de Paul conference or parish chapter, which the parishioners support with any fifth Sunday collections throughout the year. Everyone knows about SVDP's efforts to collect food from parishioners for holiday baskets for the poor three times a year. But where do the funds from the fifth Sunday collections go, and what else does SVDP do? There are a number of other services which St. Vincent de Paul chapter members undertake throughout the year. Calls which come in to the church office from those in need are routed to SVDP, which works in teams of two to make home visits to assess the life situation and needs of the caller. Usually these visits result in some kind of help to meet the need, whether it be assistance with food, rent, or P.G.E. bills. There are usually at least 15 calls a month of this kind, and when the home visit is made SVDP members offer advice on using other community resources to meet the person's needs, for example Open Heart Kitchen, P.G. & E programs, or Section 8 options. SVDP is definite about discouraging dependence on SVDP. The idea is to help the person back to self-sufficiency. SVDP members also help out with Mass at the Veterans Hospital once a year, and man the June Bundle Sunday, in which good used clothing is collected for sale in the SVDP thrift stores in Livermore and Oakland. And Christmas Giving Tree gifts for about 50 Pleasanton needy families are delivered in December by SVDP members.

Anyone interested in joining the CCOP St. Vincent De Paul conference should sign up on Signup Sunday in September and attend orientation, or speak to a St. Vincent de Paul member. Meetings are on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 PM.

Catholic Community of Pleasanton 2008 Social Justice & Outreach Grants

TriValley

Hope Hospice	End of life support and grieving services	1,000
<i>Interfaith Sharing</i>	<i>Surplus food distribution to low income families</i>	1,500
Social Justice Advocate	Chuck Haupt of Catholic Community of Pleasanton	500
<i>Soc. Just. Advocate Lifetime Award</i>	<i>Ed Hjerpe of Catholic Community of Pleasanton</i>	500
Kaleidoscope	Activity center for disabled children	1,000
<i>Keystone</i>	<i>Living skills training for developmentally disabled adults</i>	2,000
TriValley Haven	Shelter for women escaping domestic violence	4,000
<i>Valley Pregnancy Center</i>	<i>Ministry serving those involved in unplanned pregnancies</i>	1,000
VASS	Day services for adults with psychiatric disabilities	1,500
<i>Open Heart Kitchen</i>	<i>Meals for low income people</i>	1,500
Birthright	Pregnancy counseling, clothing/diapers for babies	2,000

Bay Area

Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy	Ministry to homeless, food, shelter, social services	1,000
<i>Berkeley Emergency Food Project</i>	<i>Transitional home for homeless, food, social services</i>	1,000
A Friendly Place	Daytime rest shelter for homeless women; services	2,000
<i>East Bay Habitat for Humanity</i>	<i>Affordable housing for low income people in East Bay</i>	2,000
GRIP	Winter shelter and soup center in Richmond	2,000
<i>FACE</i>	<i>Tuition support for low income students</i>	1,500
Jubilee West	Neighborhood outreach and services in West Oakland	2,000
<i>Oakland Catholic Worker</i>	<i>Immigrant family shelter/ support services, East Oakland</i>	2,000
Oakland Elizabeth House	Transitional home for abused/homeless women/children	2,000
<i>Solidarity</i>	<i>Education and support for recovering prisoners</i>	1,500
St. Mary's Community Center	Service center for low income elderly/downtown Oakland	1,500
<i>Mercy Retirement</i>	<i>Services to low income elderly in retirement center</i>	1,000
PICES	Food bank for needy families in Pittsburgh, California	1,500
<i>St. Mary's Interfaith Dining Room</i>	<i>Meals, clothing, health care to poor in Stockton</i>	3,000
Monument Crisis Center	Emergency food, referral, advocacy for poor	1,000
<i>Respect Life Ministry</i>	<i>Outreach in diocese on life issues</i>	1,500
St. Joseph School for The Deaf	Training, clinical, and family support for the deaf	1,000
<i>Mary's House</i>	<i>Transitional housing for pregnant women in crisis</i>	1,000

California

Jericho	Advocacy for economic justice for the poor	500
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United States		
Catholic Bishop of Northern Alaska	Supplies for ministry in Northern Alaska	500
<i>Tutwiler</i>	<i>Development center for poor in South</i>	1,500
Nat. Assoc. of Catholic Diocesan Lesbian & Gay Ministries	Aid to diocesan programs for outreach to gay and lesbian Catholics	500
<i>Pax Christi</i>	<i>Catholic peace and social justice movement</i>	500
Native American		
Futures For Children	Assistance services in Arizona and Mexico	1,000
<i>St. Bonaventure</i>	<i>School and mission</i>	1,500
Oglala Lakota College	Higher education support and assistance	500
Central America		
CRECE	Center for education and job training in Oakland	3,000
<i>Project Salvador</i>	<i>Health and education for the poor in El Salvador</i>	2,000
San Carlos Foundation	Health, Education, and employment services	2,000
<i>Los Ninos</i>	<i>Nutrition and agrarian services for 17,000 poor In Mexico, U.S., and Canada</i>	1,500
Healing Waters	Water purification projects	1,000
<i>Concern America</i>	<i>Co-op for Central American handcrafts</i>	2,000
Asia		
Archbishop of Honeria	Water purification for poor in Solomon Islands	1,500
<i>Tambalan</i>	<i>Health care services for underserved in the Philippines</i>	2,000
Galilee House	Training center for disabled children in Korea	1,500
Africa		
Archbishop of Durban	Services for poor/AIDS sufferers in South Africa	1,000
<i>Kinango</i>	<i>Educational and social services program in Kenya</i>	1,000
Miritini	Food co-op, education services in Kenya	500
<i>Our Lady of Fatima, Kenya</i>	<i>Education and social services program</i>	1,000
St. Paul's, Kenya	Tap water supplies and building assistance	500
<i>Voi, Kenya</i>	<i>Food co-op, water tank and supplies</i>	1,000
Grail Montessori, Diocese of Moshi	Educational support for low income school children	1,000
Holy Names Sisters, Lesotho	Medical supplies for AIDS patient care	500
Other International		
Center For Religious Freedom	Advocacy for those suffering religious persecution	500
		75,000