

Catholic Charities of Idaho
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In appreciation of our DONORS and SUPPORTERS who put their FAITH into ACTION through their support of CCI's programs and services.

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Myfanwy DeVoe at mdevoe@ccidaho.org or 208-350-7484 or 800-796-4131.

TRANSFORMING HEARTS, LIVING THE GOSPEL

*Catholic Charities of Idaho teams up with Catholic Charities USA
and Catholic Charities Spokane to host a transformative Parish Social Ministry Conference*

Over one hundred people from Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Spokane and as far as Canada participated in a Parish Social Ministry Regional Conference titled "Transforming Hearts, Living the Gospel" in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho this past March.

Parish Social Ministry provides a vision of how each parishioner and every ministry in the church can serve the needs of all people through acts of social justice and charity.

The conference included keynote presentations from nationally recognized speakers: Fr. Daniel Groody, Director of the Center for Latino Spirituality and Culture at Notre Dame, author of *A Promised Land, Perilous Journey: Theological Perspectives on Migration* and Mary Wright of Just Faith Ministries co-author of *The Moral Measure of the Economy*. A pre-conference training session on becoming effective advocates for the poor was held at St. Thomas Church. One impressed conference participant said, "I would encourage anyone to attend a conference like this. It was full of moments of profound emotion and insight, and for me, created a deeper relationship with God by my responding to God's call to work with and for the most poor."

For more information on Parish Social Ministry and upcoming trainings, contact Christine Smith at: csmith@ccidaho.org or 208-350-7486.

CCI's VISION:

An Idaho where hope prevails, justice reigns, and people are transformed

"I understood for the first time how parish social ministry brings the word of God to life through our interactions with people, as children of God, made in the image of God."

- Conference participant

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Powerful Families, Stronger Communities

Powerful Families Program Provides Skills for Long-term Stability



After raising their own children, Jose and Lupe Rodriguez found themselves caring for their three youngest grandchildren. Faced with the challenges of parenting anew, Jose and Lupe took part in Catholic Charities of Idaho's Powerful Families program.

"I can't imagine how lost I would be without Catholic Charities and Powerful Families. Together we laugh, cry, and even get angry. We realize that we are not alone and that we do have choices in our community. Powerful Families has made me not only a smarter person, but a stronger person!" - Jose Rodriguez, program participant



With so many families struggling to find and keep housing and put food on the table, the long and short term impact on our children and our communities is sobering. Provided by Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI) in partnership with Casey Family Programs and Idaho Children's Trust Fund, Powerful Families is a six-week course based on the premise that economic hardship and family instability are linked to family stress.

Powerful Families focuses on building parent leadership, financial literacy, and advocacy by improving parenting skills, through increased education, coping skills and development of community connections.



Powerful Families strengthens and supports parents' ability to care for young children and positively influence their older children's life choices. Participants are better equipped to respond to stressful situations and make healthier choices for their families, which then reduces the likelihood of negative issues like domestic violence and child abuse.

PRAYER FOR THE CHILDREN OF GOD

May we know that You want us to care for one another as those who know that they are sisters and brothers, members of the same family, Your family, the human family.



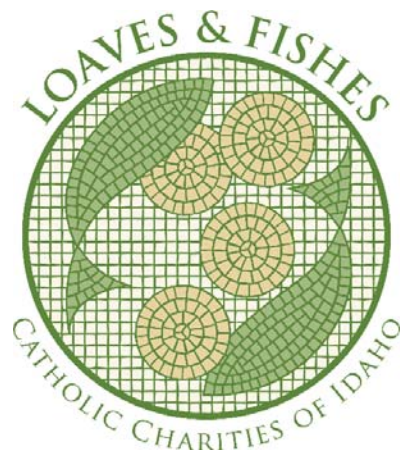
A Message from CCI's Executive Director

As Jesus was about to begin his public ministry, he outlined what his mission would be: to seek out and save those who were shunned by society. It is to the poor and marginalized that Jesus would announce the coming fullness of God's reign – a time when the blind would see and the lame would walk – when all of God's people would be restored to life and its possibilities. And then, Jesus put these words into action by serving those who were discarded by society and by challenging those individuals and social institutions responsible for their oppression.

This year, Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI) is celebrating our 10th anniversary of offering services to the people of Idaho. It is amazing to look back at what has been accomplished since Bishop Mike came to Idaho and made the establishment of a Catholic Charities agency in Idaho one of his goals. At CCI, our mission is clear and simple: to provide help, create hope and promote justice in order to strengthen our families and communities. Our services are designed to eliminate the root causes of poverty and to strengthen the entire family. We are on track to serve over 9,000 men, women and children in Idaho this year alone, helping them see a brighter future that is filled with hope and prosperity.

Landis Rossi
Executive Director

In these challenging times, more than ever, CCI strives to be the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world."



A BISHOP'S DREAM COMES TRUE

Catholic Charities of Idaho's Annual Loaves & Fishes Gala Celebrates 10 Years of Providing Help and Creating Hope

Thank you to all who made Catholic Charities of Idaho's (CCI) 2011 Loaves & Fishes Gala & Roast a huge success! More than 270 guests joined Catholic Charities and our founder, Bishop Michael Driscoll, to celebrate CCI's 10 years of service to the people of Idaho. Guests heard stories of CCI's successes and "Paddled Up" their financial support for the programs and services CCI provides to those in need in Idaho.

The highlight of the evening of was a humorous and appreciative roast of Bishop Mike. Included on the panel of roasters were Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter, Fr. Ray Hopp, a life-long friend of Bishop Mike, and Msgr. Andrew Schumacher, retired priest of the Diocese of Boise and Chair of CCI's Board of Directors. Boise Mayor, Dave Bieter, was on hand to give the opening welcome, while Coeur d'Alene City Councilman and former CCI Board Member, Mike Kennedy, served as Master of Ceremonies.



CCI's Executive Directors Past and Present
(Left to Right) Dr. Marie Hoff (2000-2005), Landis Rossi (2010-present), and Rosio Gonzalez (2005-2010)



(Left to Right) Allan and Landis Rossi, Fr. Ray Hopp, Bishop Mike, Idaho Governor "Butch" Otter, First Lady Lori Otter, Boise Mayor Dave Bieter, Coeur d'Alene City Councilman Mike Kennedy

SAVE THE DATE:
2012 Loaves & Fishes
Saturday, February 4, 2012
BSU Stueckle Sky Center



PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GOOD WORKS

Catholic Charities of Idaho, Bishop Kelly High School and the Idaho Office of Refugees Team Up to Build a Community Garden for Refugee Families

Idaho's refugee community has a new community garden, thanks to a partnership between Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI), Bishop Kelly High School (BK) and the Idaho Office for Refugees (IOR). On March 11th, Bishop Kelly students and staff gathered with representatives of CCI and IOR, along with members of the area's refugee community, to break ground on a 26 plot community garden on the east side of the BK campus. The new garden will expand the IOR's Global Gardens program, which currently sponsors community agriculture at nine sites in Boise, Eagle and Star.

According to the Idaho Office of Refugees, there are over 7,000 refugees and special immigrants from 35 countries, speaking 68 different languages, residing in Idaho, primarily in the Treasure Valley and Twin Falls area. A large number of refugees come from countries where farming and raising their own food is an integral part of their lives. Here in the United States, many of them live in apartments or housing units with little, if any, access to gardens or open-space to grow their own food, a practice that connects them to their culture and reduces their food costs.

Landis Rossi, Executive Director for CCI, stated, "Two years ago, one of our Jesuit volunteers established a very small community garden for our refugee clients at our Boise Family Strengthening Center. It was a great start, but the need for this kind of resource was so much greater. This garden will be a place of abundance which will create a sense of community between refugee families and Bishop Kelly students for years to come."



This garden will create a sense of community between refugee families and Bishop Kelly students for years to come.



Our ability to integrate the mission of Jesus, as well as the social teachings of our Church, into our programs and services is what sets Catholic Charities apart from other non-profit social service agencies.

- Landis Rossi, CCI Executive Director

**YOU'RE INVITED TO
DINNER WITH
BISHOP MIKE &
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
IN IDAHO FALLS**

CCI and CCI Board Member, Fred Sica, chair of the event Host Committee, invite CCI supporters, friends and those wishing to learn more about our work to a special evening with Bishop Mike.

**Saturday, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011
6:00 p.m.
Idaho Falls Country Club**

For more information, contact Myfanwy DeVoe at mdevoe@ccidaho.org or 208-350-7484 or 800-796-4131.