



Christian Service Activities Assembly Minutes Monday, October 22, 2007 Meeting held at Christ the Redeemer

Welcome

Vicariate Pastoral Council Chair Lew Elbert welcomed everyone to the Assembly at 7:00 PM. He gave an overview of the program for the evening and explained that the PAV holds two assemblies each year to bring schools, parishes, agencies, institutions and others in the Vicariate together to focus on an important and timely issue.

Christ the Redeemer pastor Fr. Joe Dailey and others from the parish led the audience in song and prayers.

Fr. Jerry Brzezinski, PAV Vicar, introduced Bishop Daniel Flores and new PAV deacon, Alex Jablonski. Bishop Flores has oversight responsibility for the Pontiac Area Vicariate as well as the Southwest and Thumb Vicariates. Deacon Jablonski has just been assigned to the PAV and will deal primarily with Pastoral Care in the PAV and the implementation of our Pastoral Care plan.

Service Providers Overview

Steve Lawless, VPC Vice-Chair, gave a brief overview of the service providers in attendance. They are: Catholic Social Services of Oakland County, Catholic Community Response Team, Love In The Name of Christ (Love INC), Lighthouse of Oakland County, Baldwin Center, Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency, and the Criminal Justice Ministry. More information on each provider, including services they provide, areas they serve, funding sources and what our Area Church can do to support them is available in Steve's presentation file, available on the PAV website at www.pontiacarevicariate.org/vpc/vpcmeetings.htm.

Catholic Services of Oakland County

Marge Huggard, Executive Director of CSSOC, gave a presentation on her organization. CSSOC offers a wide range of programs and services and is funded primarily through government programs (68%) and the United Way (14%). They have never been funded by the Archdiocese, Catholic Services Appeal, or Catholic Charities. Fees and donations make up a small portion of their operating income. Marge told the group that Cardinal Dearden was instrumental in starting CSSOC after Vatican II. Employed at CSSOC since 1984, she uses Catholic Social Teaching to guide the work and focus of the agency.

Marge outlined the Teen Pregnancy and Teen Parenting programs at CSSOC. The agency tries to direct clients into other programs whenever possible to provide cross-discipline education and support. Their goal is to be a strong, effective, capable provider of services to the poor. CSSOC does not charge fees for any of their urban programs and offers a sliding scale on other services.

Marge shared her concerns that expected decreases in United Way funding will force CSSOC to sharply curtail or eliminate programs for family counseling and older adults. She asked everyone to discuss at their tables how they think the agency should prioritize their services if some need to be eliminated.

More information on Catholic Social Services of Oakland County is available on their website at <http://www.cssoc.org/>.

Catholic Community Response Team

After a short break for attendees to visit the displays of the service providers, Barb Williams, Director of CCRT, gave a presentation on her agency. CCRT was started in 2004 to respond to otherwise unmet needs in the Pontiac Area Vicariate, primarily the Pontiac area where 23% of residents live at or below the poverty level. In the last three and a half years they have responded to 1200 clients, usually providing help with food, clothing and shelter. Common grants are for rent, ID cards, bus fares, utility bills, etc.

Barb explained that as well as being a bridge to other state and local relief agencies, she sees part of CCRT's mission as listening to people who otherwise have no voice. She thanked all the parishes in the PAV who support CCRT through their Vicariate dues and additional tithing or grants. CCRT also receives help from other parishes

in the metro Detroit area. They have also gotten grants from the Archdiocese of Detroit. She is always in need of volunteers to help at the office and donations for direct client aid.

Panel Q & A

Lew facilitated a question and answer session with the audience and the service provider representatives. Each of these individuals thanked the audience for the opportunity to attend the Assembly and showcase their organization. They each gave a very brief overview of who they serve and what their most pressing needs are. Contact information for those in attendance is on the PAV website at <http://www.pontiacareaviciariate.org/vpc/vpcmeetings.htm> under the October 22 Assembly section.

Conclusion

Bishop Flores thanked everyone for their participation in the Assembly and in the life of the Area Church. He emphasized that outreach to others, especially those most in need, is essential to the mission of the Church. Coming from Corpus Christi, TX, he stressed that to be the Body of Christ we must care for all members.

Christ the Redeemer parishioners led the audience in closing song and prayers. The assembly ended at 9:15 PM.

Next VPC Meeting: Monday, November 26, 2007 at 7:00 PM at St. John Fisher.

Attendance

Bishop Daniel Flores	AOD
Cathy Wagner	AOD
Cara Rayner	Baldwin Center
Suzanne Kimmerly	CCRT
Barbara Williams	CCRT
Rene Bryce	Christ the Redeemer
Dave Budnick	Christ the Redeemer
Fr. Joe Dailey	Christ the Redeemer
Julie Gillette	Christ the Redeemer
Pam Hill	Christ the Redeemer
Steve Keltsch	Christ the Redeemer
Jan Lumetta	Christ the Redeemer
Henry Mucha	Christ the Redeemer
Michele Pinelli	Christ the Redeemer
Ann Poploskie	Christ the Redeemer
Lisa Pratt	Christ the Redeemer
Thomas Sanna	Christ the Redeemer
Karen Swietlik	Christ the Redeemer
Peggy Devaney	Criminal Justice Ministry
Marge Huggard	CSSOC
Susan Masiak	CSSOC
Lisa Sowa	CSSOC
Luz Telleria	CSSOC
Fr. Jon Rivask	Everest Academy
Rakhi Roy	Genesis Ministries
Charlotte Jones	Lighthouse of Oakland Cty
Colleen Burke	Lourdes Campus
Kim Spilko	love inc
Sandy Weaver	love inc
Sr. Barbara Ann Borkowski	Marist Academy
Mary Davignon	Marist Academy
Mark McGreevy	Marist Academy
Tom Donahoo	OCC/Ltu
Carolyn English	OLHSA
Judy Gordon	Pontiac Area Vicariate

Therese Flanigan	Pontiac Catholic Community
Maria Jimenez	Pontiac Catholic Community
Colleen Mascorro	Pontiac Catholic Community
Fr. Sean Sylvester	Pontiac Catholic Community
Janet Dinsmoore	Sacred Heart
Mary Alice Merlo	Sacred Heart
Marguerite Rouleau	Sacred Heart
Kay Sendegas	Sacred Heart
Ann Thomas	Sacred Heart
Dianne Bubnar	St. Andrew
Kay Dodson	St. Andrew
J Dodson	St. Andrew
Joe Soncrant	St. Andrew
Rae Stumpf	St. Andrew
Kit Wojcik	St. Andrew
Bonnie Banaszek	St. Benedict
Sue Camilleri	St. Benedict
Rochelle Flanigan	St. Benedict
Maria Geryk	St. Benedict
Grace Imbrunone	St. Benedict
Fr. Tom Kuehnemund	St. Benedict
Greg Peterson	St. Benedict
Joseph Salvador	St. Benedict
Cathy Settle	St. Benedict
Theresa Wetherbee	St. Benedict
Tom Govern	St. Irenaeus
Art Seidler	St. Irenaeus
Ron Valade	St. Irenaeus
Louise Borucki	St. John Fisher
Paul Borucki	St. John Fisher
Lisa Brown	St. John Fisher
Jerry Brzezinski	St. John Fisher
Sue Buratto	St. John Fisher
Kim Dodd	St. John Fisher
Jan Elbert	St. John Fisher
Lew Elbert	St. John Fisher
Alex Jablonski	St. John Fisher
Terri Nelson	St. John Fisher
Jacques Pasquier	St. John Fisher
Joe Pauwels	St. John Fisher
Renee Smith	St. John Fisher
Sheran Tioran	St. John Fisher
St. Mary VanGilder	St. John Fisher
Dot Wolff	St. John Fisher
Sue Audette	St. Joseph
Bill Boyd	St. Joseph
Steve Lawless	St. Joseph
Mary Martin	St. Joseph
Kim Myers	St. Joseph
Fr. Mike Verschaeve	St. Joseph
Sherry Brandon	St. Joseph School
Connie Cumbay	St. Joseph Shrine

Sr. Pat Malone	St. Joseph Shrine
Sr. Mary Martinez	St. Joseph Shrine
Jack Cashman	St. Mary of the Hills
Jan Hall	St. Mary of the Hills
Terry Mike	St. Mary of the Hills
Dee Valade	St. Mary of the Hills
Dila Dusovic	St. Paul Albanian
Frank Ivezaj	St. Paul Albanian
Sr. Lufana Kanaj	St. Paul Albanian
Fr. Anton Kcira	St. Paul Albanian
Kola Kolcaj	St. Paul Albanian
Anton Micakaj	St. Paul Albanian
Toni Micakaj	St. Paul Albanian
Shaqe Nicaj	St. Paul Albanian