LEADERSHIP CORNER

A Note from Angelo J. Valletta and Sarah O. Hanley
Community Outreach

Over the last few months, CFGP has grown through one positive change after another. We've been working to further our mission to not only grow philanthropy in the Greater Philadelphia area, but to reach more communities and individuals than we ever have before. We want to make an impact, but we can't do so unless our supporters and friends know that we're here to serve them. We're here to stay to a part of this process and to help meet the needs of the Philadelphia community.

With deepest gratitude, we thank you for your support of CFGP and encourage you to read more about what we're working on.

Angel J. Valletta

Sarah O. Hanley

NEWS AND EVENTS

Catholic Social Services Montgomery County Family Service Center

St. Veronica's School $4,700
St. Veronica, an Independence Mission School, was awarded a grant to support their Remedial Reading Learning Support Center. The Center will address the needs of three groups of students. The first group will consist of students who are more than one year behind in reading grade level. They will receive a full year of supportive services. The second group will consist of students who need help with a specific reading skill. They will receive 6-8 weeks of support based on their needs. CFGP's grant will help to purchase research-based literacy materials that address these students needs and will track their improvements over time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARDS

CFGP has continued to provide Community Impact Awards throughout the Greater Philadelphia region to organizations needing immediate financial assistance. Our most recent additions are:

Mother of Mercy House $500
Mother of Mercy House is located in the Allendale/Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia, where many residents are homeless or living in poverty. To help support this neighborhood, Mother of Mercy House offers daily Mass in their chapel, a food pantry, and weekly AA and NA meetings. All meetings and Hayes are open to the public and have high attendance, with many individuals attending regularly and inviting their friends to join them.

Our Lady of Confidence Day School $500
Our Lady of Confidence Day School, located in Willow Grove, serves 85 special needs students ages 3 to 21. The School provides education on three different curriculums including their onsite Day School. In Willow Grove, Queen of Angels Catholic School in Willow Grove, and Bishop McDevitt High School in Wynnewood, Our Lady of Confidence provides quality education that is tailored to the individual needs of its students while ensuring they are cared for in a loving environment.

Dawn's Place $500
Dawn’s Place supports local women who have suffered from the very real epidemics of commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). The organization provides services to women who are Trafficked, raises awareness through education, and generates policy and public policy reform and community collaborations.

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IHM Center for Literacy $5,000
The IHM Center for Literacy was awarded a grant to purchase white boards for their Enrichment Street site. These white boards replaced aging blackboards that the Center had to use for years. The boards had become illegible and difficult to write on. With the new white boards in place, the instructors at the Center can teach ESL and citizenship classes effectively and efficiently.

GRANTS AND COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARDS SHOWCASE
NEW FOR 2018 - CFGP’S COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES

CFGP Launches Quarterly Charitable Initiatives
Benefitting Community Interests

For 2018 and beyond, CFGP is looking to impact our area more than we ever have before. Starting with the first quarter of 2018, CFGP has launched a year-long charitable effort to raise funds for four unique organizations in the Philadelphia region. Each organization will address a different community interest. The organizations selected throughout the year will have their own fundraising effort lasting throughout their respective quarters, culminating in a Day of Giving. The grand totals will be announced at the close of each quarter.

For the first quarter, CFGP has selected Catholic Housing and Community Services (CHCS) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia as our official partner and beneficiary. CHCS (formerly Catholic Health Care Services) addresses the needs of the aging population in our area who are so often overlooked. Their services include senior housing options, senior centers, elder adult care management, in-home support programs, adult day care, an elder care hotline, and senior clubs. CHCS commits itself to providing the best quality support for seniors and the right resources for their aging family members.

At the heart of charity is love. For the new year, show love to those who loved us first. The seniors supported by CHCS are mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers, and it’s our turn to support them.

If you would like to make a gift to CFGP’s inaugural Community Outreach Initiative for CHCS, please visit www.CatholicFoundationPhila.org/donate/CHCS

To learn more about CFGP’s quarter one initiative, visit www.CatholicFoundationPhila.org/community-outreach-initiative

If you are interested in learning more, or to donate, visit CatholicFoundationPhila.org

#GivingTuesday: Mother of Mercy House

Held on the first Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the popular shopping days, Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season by joining individuals, communities, and organizations around the world together for one common purpose: to celebrate and encourage giving.

Walking down East Allegheny Avenue, you might hear gunshots nearby, or notice needles littered across the sidewalk. But you’ll also find Mother of Mercy House. The organization, led by Fr. Liam Murphy, Fr. Joseph Devlin and Sr. Ann Raymond Welte, provides hope to the Kensington and Allegheny (K&A) community. Mother of Mercy House was selected as CFGP’s 2017 #GivingTuesday beneficiary, and our staff was so grateful for the opportunity to support them and the unique work they do.

Mother of Mercy House is a relatively new nonprofit organization in Philadelphia that was created to bring the Church to an area of the city where it had not been present in years. Acting as a multi-purpose facility, Mother of Mercy House celebrates daily Mass and collects and distributes food items, and provides supportive services to those affected by addiction. The organization serves a neighborhood that is deeply impoverished and plagued by prostitution, addiction, unemployment and hunger.

CFGP’s #GivingTuesday efforts to support Mother of Mercy House raised more than $12,000 for their mission. On behalf of CFGP and Mother of Mercy House, we’d like to say a big THANK YOU! Because of you, our friends and supporters, we exceeded our 2017 #GivingTuesday goal and were able to support a very powerful and worthy organization in our community.