

# PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

## You Matter to CRS

U.S. Operations Division



May/June 2017

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### Global Emergency Update for May/June

This [global emergency update](#) provides the latest snapshot of the most pressing humanitarian emergency responses. Currently millions of families are faced with famine and displacement caused by conflict and natural disaster.



Displaced by drought, this woman and her children are among 18,000 families in Somalia and Kenya that CRS is helping with food and water. *Photo by Nancy McNally/CRS*

Catholic Relief Services teams and partners are carrying out vital emergency relief and recovery efforts throughout Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, Africa, Latin America and Haiti. Learn how CRS is responding to our sisters and brothers in need.

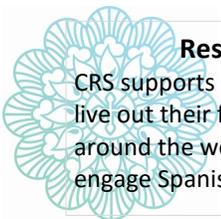
### RCIA Session: Living Like Jesus

Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services have teamed up to offer [RCIA Session: Living Like Jesus](#), a lectionary-based catechetical session for the period of the Catechumenate and Mystagogia. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults prepares people for full initiation into the Catholic Church through a process of catechetical formation, Christian living in the midst of the community, integration into a life of prayer and worship and living the apostolic life. This session will help initiation leaders form candidates, catechumens and sponsors to understand how living the apostolic life includes reaching out to people on the peripheries of society, as Christ did.



### Resources for Leaders of Hispanic Ministry

CRS supports Catholic communities in the United States as they live out their faith in solidarity with the poor and vulnerable around the world. [Click here](#) and learn about resources available to engage Spanish-speaking Catholics in CRS's work.



### ! Emergency Response Fact Sheet

#### SOUTH SUDAN: HUNGER EMERGENCY

[Click here for more information](#)

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#### ANNUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE – ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

The Archdiocese of Hartford Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry will host its 8th Annual Social Justice Conference, “Rooted in Faith: One Family Under God” on Saturday, June 10 from 9 am to 3:00 pm at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield (Check-in begins at 8 am.).

The conference theme is “Rooted in Faith, One Family under God”, and will feature two keynote addresses. Sister Ruth Rosenbaum, TC, PhD, Founder and Executive Director, CREA: Center for Reflection, Education and Action will open the program with her keynote address. Participants will then have the opportunity to choose from a selection of 12 workshops, ranging from migration and immigration to human trafficking and homelessness. The day concludes with a closing keynote “*What’s a Believer to do?*” by Fr. Joseph Donnelly.

The conference is an opportunity to meet and learn from others across the archdiocese and beyond. Join us for prayer, music, exhibits and workshops. For information, call (860) 242-5573 Ext 2688 or visit <http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/social-justice-conference.html>



## Advocacy News

### #SavetheAid

**CATHOLICS**  
**CONFRONT**  
**GLOBAL**  
**POVERTY**

In the middle of March the Administration put forth its initial suggestions for the federal budget for fiscal year 2018. Most alarmingly, as it would greatly impact the people we serve, draconian cuts – as much as 31% – were proposed to the poverty-focused international humanitarian and development assistance accounts of the federal budget. These accounts directly support many of CRS' programs and these proposed reductions would have dire effects on the poor and vulnerable all around the world.

As a response to the Administration's proposal and in an effort to ensure that the needs of the poor around the world are addressed, we have launched the "Save the Aid" Campaign. This campaign is a concerted advocacy and media outreach effort to try and influence the Administration and Congress to protect these poverty-focused international humanitarian and development assistance accounts when making budgetary decisions for FY18.

Through the Catholics Confront Global Poverty platform, we are working to encourage our constituents to get involved by providing five ways of engaging their legislators on this important issue and you can get involved too!

1. [Send a message](#) to your legislators and urge them to Save the Aid.
2. Give your Representative a call at 1-888-562-8232.
3. Submit a [Letter to the Editor](#) in your local media outlets.
4. Engage your legislators on social media using #SavetheAid and #CCGPoverty.
5. Pray that the leaders of our nation will consider the needs of the poor as they balance the budget. Join us and submit your prayer [here](#).

**1% Does a World of Good**

“There is no worse material poverty ... than the poverty which prevents people from earning their bread and deprives them of the dignity of work.” —Pope Francis

When you purchase fair trade products, you stand in solidarity with the poor and respect their right to dignified work.



ETHICAL TRADE

## My Fair Wedding

Wedding season is upon us and whether you are getting married or attending a ceremony this summer, CRS Ethical Trade is your guide for fair trade jewelry, ethically produced gifts and more! For additional information about ethical wedding ideas read: Marriage: A Vocation of Service Together.



## Attending the USCCB Convocation for Catholic Leaders? Join CRS Helping Hands to package 10,000 meals for the hungry in West Africa!

### Register now

CRS Helping Hands will be hosting a meal-packaging event at the Convocation. Families are welcome (all ages) to this high-energy, fun activity! You will package nutritious meals, hear about the country of Burkina Faso and the people who will benefit from the meals.



- **Date:** July 1, 2017
- **Time:** 11:00am-12:30pm
- **Location:** Orange County Convention Center, Room W206
- **Cost:** \$25 per person
- **Contact:** Rachael Holmes [rachael.holmes@crs.org](mailto:rachael.holmes@crs.org) or 410-951-7485

### Register Now

CRS Helping Hands serves the vulnerable in two ways. We send food for immediate hunger relief and fund income-generating projects to prevent hunger in the long-term. We do this by hosting meal-packaging events across the U.S. with parishes and schools to provide the food and the funds to help the most vulnerable in Burkina Faso. Learn more

## Thank You!!



As we celebrate Easter joy, we wanted to take a moment to say, thank you! We are grateful for your coordination, outreach and support before, during and after this Lenten season.

In the May/June CRS Rice Bowl Newsletter learn about some ways to thank participants in your community; check out the new reporting forms and much more.





The **CRS Resource Center** (<http://www.crs.org/get-involved/resource-center>) offers an array of resources suitable for all ages to form disciples to live out Christ's call to care for the poor and vulnerable everywhere.

As you plan for the pastoral year, be sure to check out our **calendar of resources** for ministry!



**The Eucharist and Global Hunger**  
A reflection for those receiving their First Communion, and their families, too



**National V Encuentro: Resources for Forming Missionary Disciples**  
A list of concrete ways ministry leaders can help form missionary disciples who reach out to the peripheries



**Pentecost Reflection and Activity**  
An activity and reflection for use in religious education or at home about how the Pentecost story reminds us that we are a part of one human family



**Refugee Resources**  
Prayers, videos and activities related to the refugee crisis

**Activities and Reflections for Immersion and Mission Trips**

Rooted in Catholic teaching and based on our extensive experience working with partners overseas, these resources are designed to be used by a facilitator with groups as they prepare for, take and return from trips.



resources for short-term, international mission and immersion trips  
faith, action, results.

**YOU DID IT FOR ME**

You Did It for Me is an exciting joint venture between Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services that are brief good news stories of the Church in action across America and around the world. **A new feature is available!** A "how to" e-brochure answers questions and offers suggestions on how to use the stories is available on [CRS.org/you-did-it-for-me](http://CRS.org/you-did-it-for-me). It easily explains the download features with step-by-step directions for church bulletins, websites, newsletters, even for Facebook and Twitter. Please visit [CRS.org/you-did-it-for-me](http://CRS.org/you-did-it-for-me) for the e-brochure and a sign-up form if you're not already receiving these wonderful stories. Share with all!! If you have questions, send them to

**CONTACT US**

- [CRS Regional Offices](#)
- Email: [resources@crs.org](mailto:resources@crs.org)
- U.S. Operations Call Center at 1-866-608-5978

**CRS U.S. Operations**

Jacklyn Ireland, Communications Specialist for the U.S. Operations Partnership, Training and Engagement Unit, prepares the bi-monthly *Partnership Newsletter*. The U.S. Operations Partnership, Training and Engagement Unit is responsible for managing national partnerships in the United States for CRS. If you would like others in your organization to receive this newsletter or if you have questions please contact the U.S. Operations Call Center at 1-866-608-5978 or email: [resources@crs.org](mailto:resources@crs.org).