

**DIOCESAN CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE AND HOPE**

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COLLECTION WEEKEND • NOVEMBER 18-19, 2023

## How to give to the annual Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope

Please continue your generous giving to help our brothers and sisters within the diocese by donating in your second collection envelope on the weekend of **Nov. 18-19**. You can also mail a check to the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, ATTN: DCJH, 1615 W. Washington St., Springfield, IL 62702, or give on-line at [www.dio.org/dcjh](http://www.dio.org/dcjh).

## Our neighbors need our help; our donations make it possible

Once a year, our diocese has a collection to help the poor and needy. One hundred percent of the money stays in our community. We have an opportunity to help those around us in need.

The Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope (DCJH) grants funds to organizations that enable them to fulfill their goals of helping the poor and vulnerable — helping those that choose life.

So, on behalf of the 10 grant recipients this past year, thank you! Your donations and support of the Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope made it possible.

Some of the projects funded with the \$67,607 raised last year included: feeding the hungry, help-

ing the homeless, pregnancy help centers, hygiene programs, warming centers, and missions throughout our 129 parishes.

Please pray about your gift. Remember, Jesus said, “Whatever you do for the least of your brothers.” ✚



Tom Purcell is an intern in the Office for Pro-Life, Special Ministries, and Missions. The Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope is one of those special ministries.

## Community Mission Center provides important everyday items

**PANA** — The Community Mission Center at 133 S. Locust in Pana provides clothing, household items, linens, furniture, school supplies, and coats for the less fortunate in Pana and surrounding communities.

“We have been in business since 2010 and serve over 4,000 individuals each year,” said Linda Dunseth, board member and grant

administrator. “In the past, the DCJH funds have helped us with many of our building improvement projects.

“This year, however, the DCJH funds are being used to purchase personal hygiene items for our hygiene program. They are helping to provide bath soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, and dish soap for families. A family may receive these items once a month.

“We are appreciative of the support from Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope,” said Dunseth. ✚





## DCJH grants helps with safe and effective communication

“At First Step Women’s Center (Springfield), we prioritize safe and effective communication with our patients which means we communicate with them via a HIPAA compliant texting platform. Texting is the preferred communication method of most of our patients,” said Executive Director Elmi Patton.

“With this grant, we were able to accomplish two goals,” she said. “Firstly, pay for the subscription for the use of the texting platform for the entire year. Secondly, have new patient education materials designed, that are now electronically available to our patients via this platform. This allows them to have the information available at their fingertips.

“We really appreciate this grant has really made this so much better for us,” Patton said. ✚

## DCJH grant assists with rent, house payments, utilities, food

**JERSEYVILLE** — “The Jersey County St. Vincent de Paul Society has been blessed to receive grants from the Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope,” said Thomas Woelfel, a board member and volunteer of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Jerseyville.

The funds from DCJH have been used to directly impact the lives of needy citizens of the community, Woelfel said. “Even in these times where businesses are hiring some citizens, some who would like to work cannot,” he said. “Disabilities

or lack of transportation are just two reasons that prevent employment. “The grant monies have allowed us to assist with payment of back rent or house payments. We have insured uninterrupted utility service and provided food for needy citizens with the DCJH grants,” Woelfel said. “The Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope provides just what its name claims, justice and hope. We are truly grateful for their assistance.” ✚

## CARE, with the Love of Christ is funded by DCJH

**PANA** — “We are so very grateful for the funds received from the Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope,” said Cathy Coker, director of Loving Arms Pregnancy Center in Pana.

“The funds help us with operating expenses such as rent and utilities for our beautiful Center in Pana,” Coker said. “Our clients are blessed with a place that is warm and inviting, where they can receive life-affirming CARE (compassion, assistance, respect, and education) with the love of Christ.” ✚



## Grant from DCJH helps with mechanical issues

**MT. OLIVE** — “First of all, I would like to thank you all for the wonderful grants and for the opportunity to apply for them and receive them,” said Nancy Hubert, the director of the Mt. Olive Care Center in Mt. Olive. “The DCJH grant is going to be used to help us further repair and possibly replace the boiler system that we have in the old building that we are in.

“Last year, we had to do well over \$1,000 worth of repairs on it

to keep it going,” she said. “We also had to replace a sump pump that had stopped working, so we were very grateful to receive the grant for these two projects. Even though the boiler system is fixed for a while, we feel it’s not going to last long. This grant helped us with some seed money that we can use, and if we have some fundraisers and other activities and get some donations, we might be able to afford a new heating system. The building we are in is almost 100 years old, but we are grateful for it. Once again, thank you!” ✚

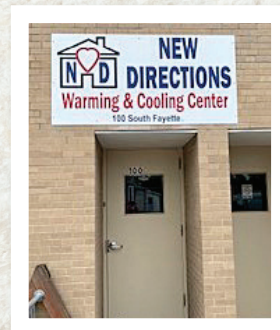


## New Directions of Jacksonville serves homeless, offers special Sunday, holiday program

**JACKSONVILLE** — New Directions of Jacksonville is a shelter that serves men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, said Program Manager Sarah Robinson.

“This year, we started a program with the funding we received from the Diocese of Springfield’s Campaign for Justice and Hope grant,” she said. “We named the program R.E.S.T. (Renew, Energize, Share, Thrive) and its purpose is to allow

the shelter guests to stay inside on Sundays and major holidays. These are the days that most area resources are



not available to them.

“We view this as an opportunity for our guests to relax, unwind, and regroup for the week ahead. They are encouraged to attend church services, to spend time with their family, to enjoy some sort of hobby, and simply to rest. It is stressful being homeless and having one day to themselves has made a measurable difference in their lives,” Robinson said. ✠



## Homeless ministry growing in Springfield

“Our St. Aloysius (Springfield) Homeless Ministry started around six years ago in our church rectory,” said Greg Stumpf, Homeless Ministry chairman. “Since then, our expanded operations have moved into our sister parish in the old St. Cabrini Parish Convent Center. We now are ecumenical in nature under the Catholic Diocese and work with individuals from Christ the King, St. Cabrini, St. Aloysius, Cherry Hills Church, Salvation Army, Blessed Sacrament, and several other churches around Sangamon County. Many donations of items also come from these churches and organizations.”

The homeless ministry operates under the Springfield Catho-

lic Diocese through St. Aloysius Church under pastor Father George Nellikunnel, SAC, and parochial vicar Father Sajimon Aarakkattu Kuriakose. “We started with passing out food bags and prayers to the homeless and underserved in our community, to having a full array of sleeping bags, socks, boots, shoes, shirts, sweaters, tarps, hygiene items of all kinds, including body wipes, shaving kits, shampoos, underwear, deodorants, gloves, backpacks, rain coats and ponchos, and hand warmers,” Stumpf said.

“We serve the homeless by guiding them to other services, praying with them on the street where they live in old buildings, alleys, trees, dumpsters, bridges and many other places,” he said. “We give them dignity. Jesus said to help the sick, needy, and poor. This year to date we have spent well over \$2,100 and growing on all of the items above and also including a refrigerator to store foods and drinks.” ✠

## DCJH grant pays part of mobile unit nurse’s salary

**GODFREY** — “ThriVe® Metro East is grateful for the Campaign for Justice and Hope funding we received toward the salary of one of our Mobile Unit nurses,” said Executive Director Cara Paschal.

“The Mobile Unit strategy is critical following the reverse of *Roe vs. Wade* as Illinois now attracts women from 41-plus states seeking abor-



tion,” she said. “This funding aids in providing trained licensed nurses on the sidewalks of the Granite City abortion clinic to rescue women and children at the last moment.

“These Medical Missionaries provide no-cost Pregnancy Tests, STD screening, life-saving ultrasound, education, and resources for life-affirming options to abortion, as well as prayer and the Gospel,” Paschal said. ✠

## How to apply for a DCJH grant

If you have questions about the DCJH Campaign, please call (217) 321-1161 or email [DCJH@dio.org](mailto:DCJH@dio.org).

The DCJH guidelines and application can be found at [www.dio.org/dcjh](http://www.dio.org/dcjh).

The 2024-2025 DCJH grant applications must be postmarked or emailed by Jan. 31, 2024.

Decisions on funding and notification will be made in May 2024. Grants will be awarded in June 2024.

## 2023 DCJH Grant Recipients

A Beacon of Light, **Maryville**  
 Community Mission Center, **Pana**  
 First Step Women’s Center, **Springfield**  
 Loving Arms Pregnancy Center, **Taylorville**  
 Mt. Olive Care Center, **Mt. Olive**  
 New Directions Warming and Cooling Center,  
**Jacksonville**

St. Aloysius Ecumenical Homeless Street Ministry,  
**Springfield**  
 St. Francis Solanus Community Assistance,  
**Quincy**  
 St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, **Jerseyville**  
 ThriVe® Metro East, **Godfrey**