

Webinar

SERIES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA
Innovation
CHALLENGE 

Intersection of Housing & Parish Social Ministry: Lessons in Parish Partnerships

Wednesday, July 29, 2020

*Timothy Crawl-Bey, Moderator
CCUSA Senior Director, Housing Strategy*



A Proud Heritage of Innovation & Caring



Nearly 400 people gathered at the Catholic University of America to found the National Conference of Catholic Charities, later renamed Catholic Charities USA, 110 years ago on September 25, 1910, “to bring about a sense of solidarity” among those working in charitable ministries, and “to be an attorney for the poor.”

Source: Catholic Charities USA website



Webinar Logistics

- ✓ The webinar is being recorded and will be forwarded to registrants. The webinar will also be available on the website in the 'members only' portal.
- ✓ Your phone line or computer speakers are muted.
- ✓ You may use the 'Chat' feature for comments or questions during the presentation.
- ✓ We will have time for Q & A at the end and will open the lines at that time.
- ✓ All questions not addressed during the webinar will receive an email response.



Today's Panelists



Julia Metz is an affordable housing professional with experience in urban planning, design, and engagement. In her role as the Community Development and Housing Manager at Catholic Charities of Oregon she is focused on new construction affordable housing developments that support the organization's Healthy Housing Initiative. She holds Bachelors of Architecture from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University.



Travis Phillips is Director of Community Development and Housing at Catholic Charities of Oregon, working with a small but passionate team focused on helping the organization realize the goals of the Healthy Housing Initiative, expand its affordable housing portfolio across the State of Oregon and oversee the organization's current portfolio of more than 800 units of affordable rental housing. Travis has worked in the nonprofit affordable housing field for more than a decade, managing new construction and rehabilitation projects of single-family homes, mixed-use multifamily developments, rental homes and homes for first-time buyers.

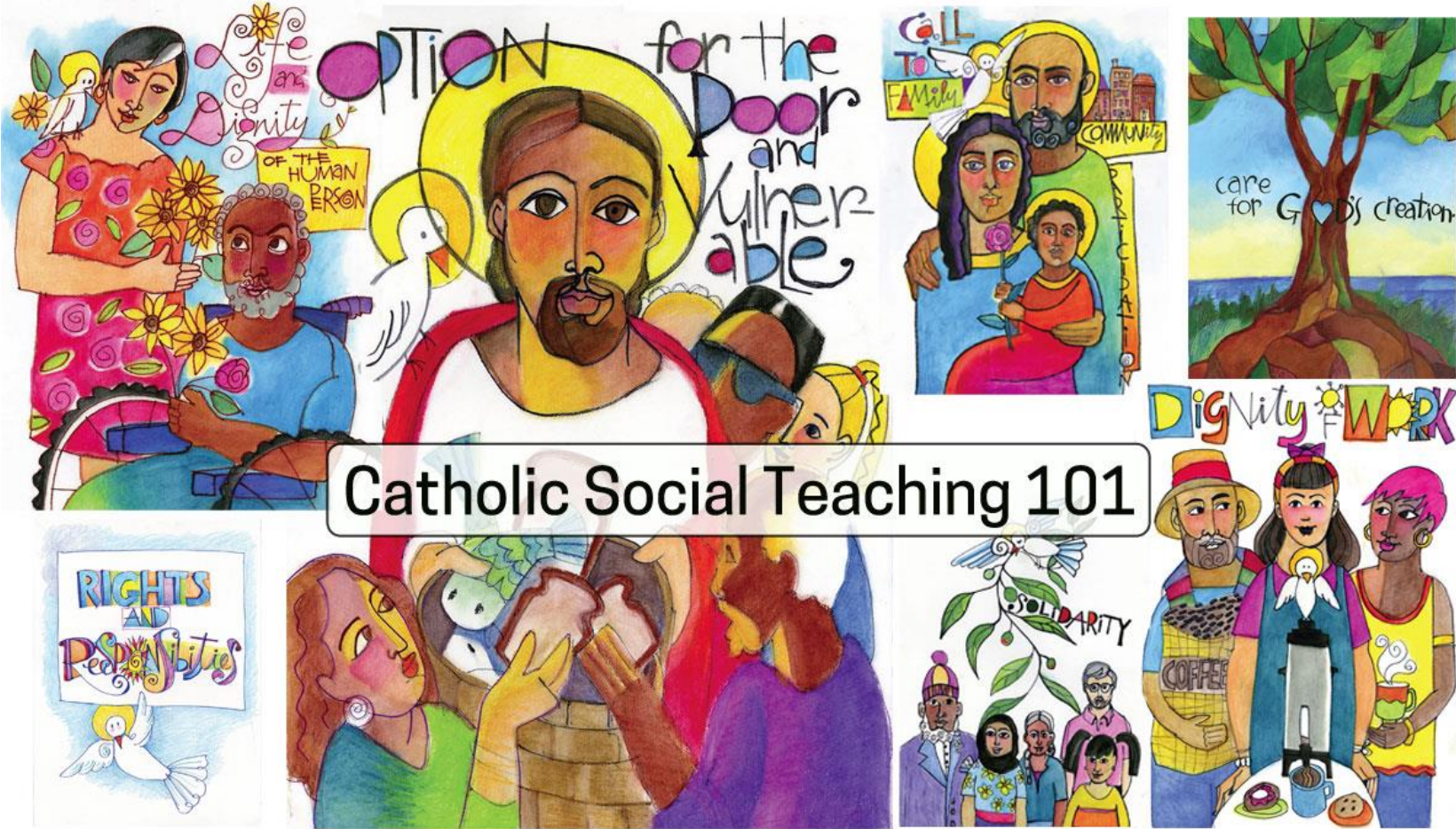


Today's Panelists



Sheila Herlihy works as the Coordinator of Justice and Charity at her bilingual parish, Church of the Incarnation in Charlottesville, Virginia. She has participated in CCUSA's Parish Social Ministry Leadership Team for six years, and has been a professed Secular Franciscan for three. She serves as the chair of the affordable housing committee for IMPACT (a local interfaith community organizing group), and through their work involves parishioners in advocacy around rethinking zoning and increasing local funding for affordable housing efforts. Sheila also oversees the parish's hosting the local homeless, support of Habitat for Humanity, and direct financial assistance to people struggling to pay for housing.

CST: living
Catholic faith
outside of
Sunday



Catholic Social Teaching 101

“And she brought forth her firstborn son; and she wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” Luke 2:7

A lack of housing was one of Jesus' first earthly problems



Biblical Roots

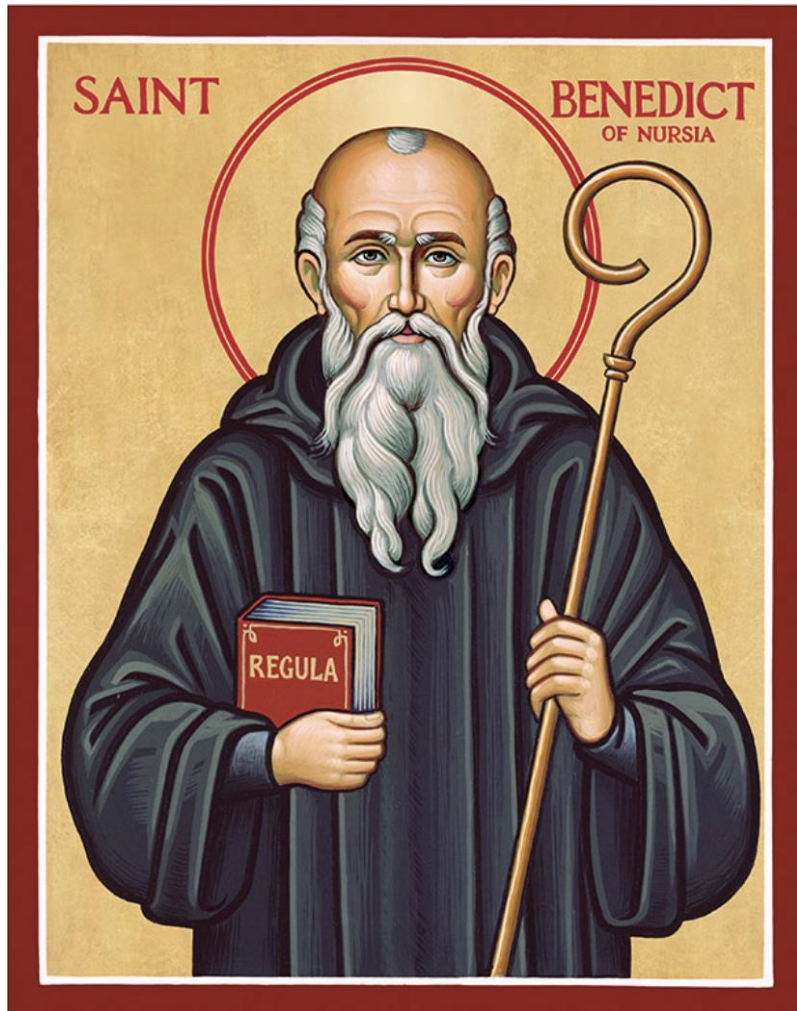
Writings of the Popes



St. John XXIII
Pacem in Terris (1963)



Bl. Paul VI
Gaudium et Spes



Lived practice



Lived Practice

Senior housing sponsored by Franciscans in Philadelphia

Habitat for Humanity sponsoring low-income home ownership

Financial assistance to help families in need pay rent





The Two Feet of Love *in Action*

“The conscience is called by this social teaching to recognize and fulfill the obligations of **justice** and **charity** in society.”

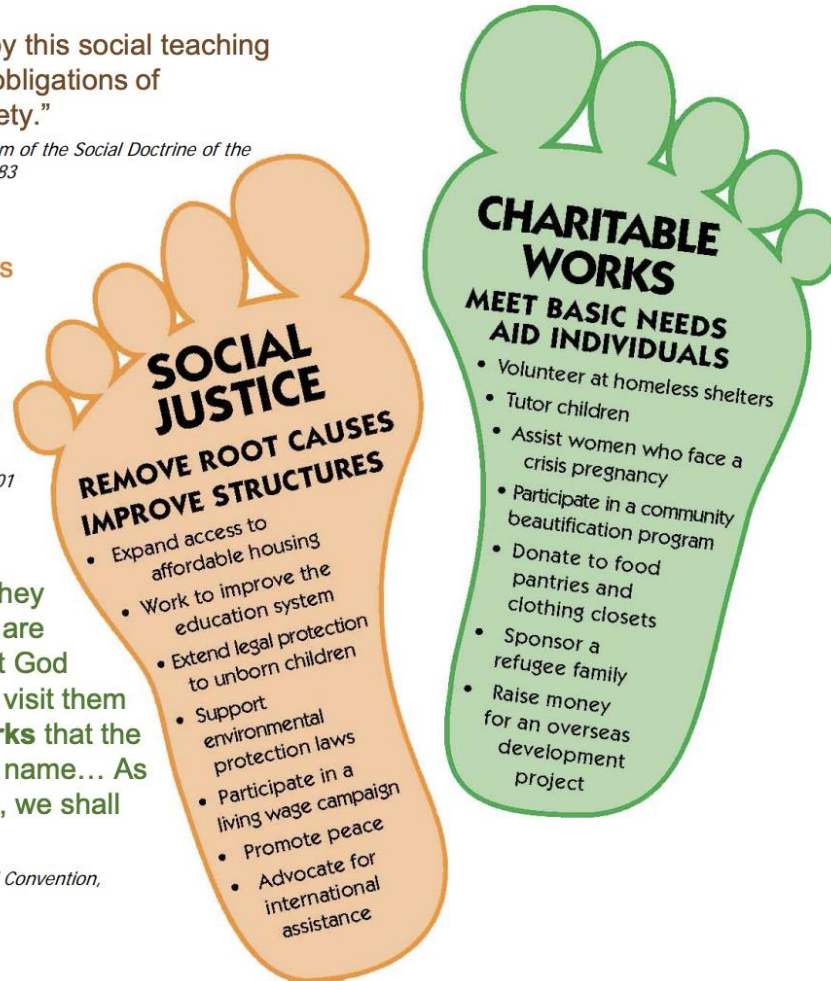
—*Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 83*

“**Social justice**. . . concerns the social, political, and economic aspects and, above all, the structural dimension of problems and their respective solutions.”

—*Compendium, no. 201*

“To [those who lack what they need to live a dignified life] are proclaimed glad tidings that God loves them...and comes to visit them through the **charitable works** that the disciples of Christ do in his name... As we can read in Matthew 25, we shall all be judged on this.”

—*Pope Francis, Address to Pastoral Convention, 6/17/13*



Considering Justice

Lived practice



Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible, and a right to access those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing, freedom of religion and family life.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

USCCB, updated 2015

The Catholic Charities Oregon Housing Team

- Travis Phillips
- Julia Metz



Types of Partnerships

- Parish property as low-barrier, low-rent housing
 - Supportive services can be offered by Catholic Charities programs and/or Parish Social Ministries
- Parish-provided supportive programming and volunteerism at nearby housing
 - Proceed with caution: be sure to avoid “rescuer” activities and focus on assertive engagement
- Leverage Parish community to support project outreach and larger community engagement



Development Partnerships

- Small scale development
 - May be more desirable for some Parishes or neighborhoods
 - Not a good candidate for most types of public affordable housing funding, may rely on fundraising
- Multifamily Affordable Housing
 - Generally 50+ housing units
 - Long-term affordability (and other) regulations



Housing Development + Parish Partnerships

- **Set the stage:** define core Parish values.
- **Build the team:** develop a representative group.
- **Money and land decisions:** Whose land is it anyway? What's in it for me?
- **Communication and feedback:** managing expectations and ensuring transparency.

Set The Stage

- Encourage the parish to identify their guiding values for a prospective project
 - What's "must have" versus "want to have"
 - Important to get buy-in from the congregation
 - Valuable for larger community conversations, especially to frame the "why" in case of opposition



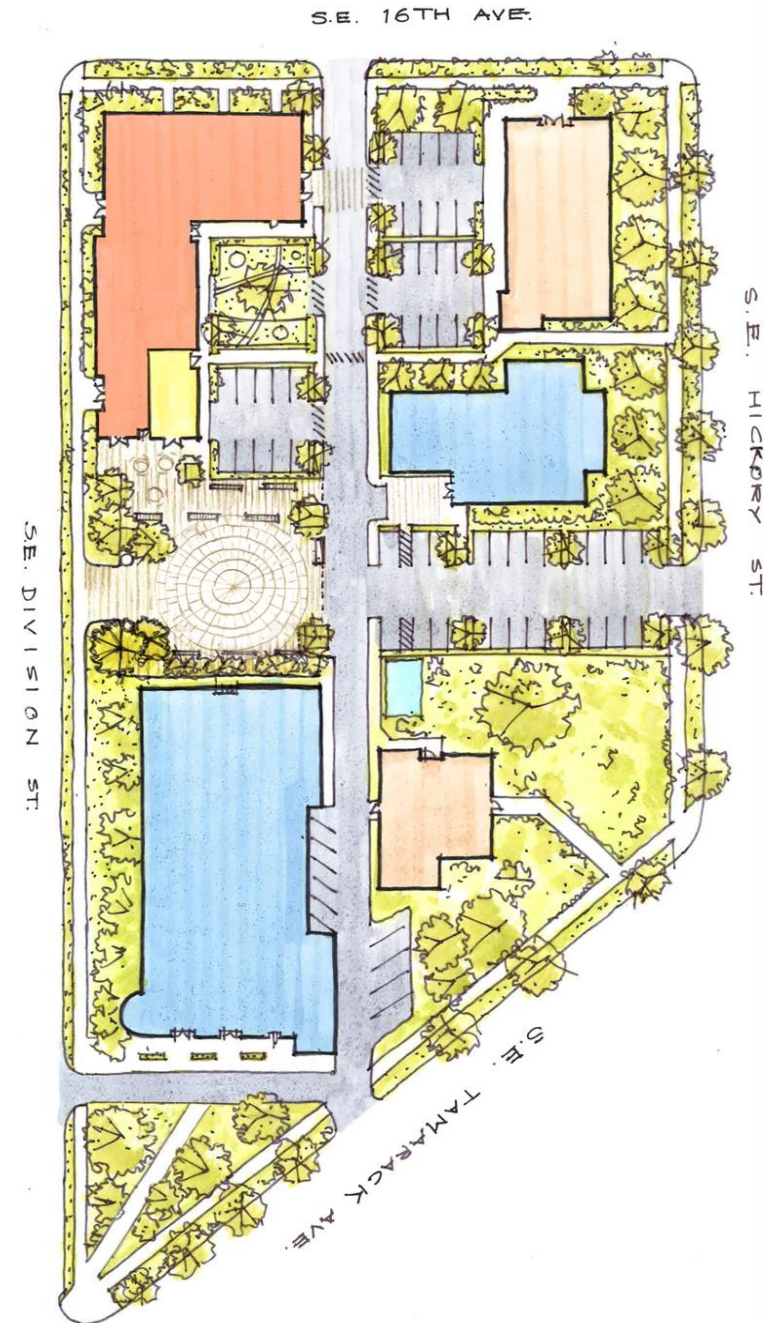
Build The Team

- Understand Parish decision-making processes and establish an advisory committee
 - Ideally 4-8 representatives; may vary based on how engaged the overall congregation is
 - Ensure the group includes people who can represent and speak to the varied perspectives and interests within the congregation
 - Keeping the larger congregation (and community) informed is also important, but this recognizes that large-group decision making is not productive
 - May include members of Parish staff, Parish Councils, and others



Money and Land Decisions

- Refer back to Parish Values as guiding principles
 - Selling land = money up front, but loss of control for Parish
 - Leasing land = money over time, but potentially greater control (and legal expense) for Parish
- Consider whether development would be viewed as an “adjacent neighbor” or a co-occupant on a shared campus
- Who gets/does what?
 - Shared spaces
 - Landscaping and utilities



Communication and Feedback

- Identify up front (as much as possible) where Parish can have input and where it can't
 - Decisions about design, scale, etc. are governed by local codes or other rules and may have minimal flexibility
 - Priorities or requirements for project funding may also limit where Parish can have input
 - Impacts and opportunities of land disposition (sale vs. lease has impacts on Parish input)
 - Amenities or spaces that may be shared may be influenced by financing rules



additional considerations

- Communicate timelines and expectations early and often
 - Email lists are good, but keep in mind that not everyone will communicate this way
- Be clear about expectations for engagement
- Identify the key point people for communication
- Define terminology and make sure everyone is communicating the same messages
 - Will help in managing myths and misconceptions
 - *Affordable Housing 101* background may help build a shared understanding of opportunities and hurdles
- Find your allies, but don't ignore your haters (*aka: keep your friends close, but keep your enemies closer*)





thank you!

Travis Phillips / Julia Metz

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Intersection of Housing & Parish Social Ministry: Lessons in Parish Partnerships Part 2

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 2PM EDT

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THANK YOU!



Questions can be directed to: tcrawl-bey@catholiccharitiesusa.org