

*"Your heart, when you meet with those in greatest need, becomes bigger, and bigger, and bigger! Because these encounters multiply the capacity to love. Go on!" Pope Francis*

"Thank you for your compassionate hearts and for all you do to "go on" with this mission."

Joan Rosenhauer, Executive Vice President  
U.S. Operations-Catholic Relief Services

### What You Will Find in this Issue

*Please click on the story you wish to read below*

- [Crisis in Syria](#)
- [2012 CRS Annual Report is Now Available](#)

#### What's Happening with Programs in the U.S.

- [CRS Rice Bowl Newsletter](#) - Caitlin Finnerty

#### News from the Regions

##### CRS Southeast Region

- [CRS Southeast Regional Gathering highlights](#)—Michael Trujillo

##### CRS West Region

- [CRS West New Campus Ambassadors Orientation highlights](#)—Victoria Hoang
- [CRS West invited to create a Water Prayer Walk by All God Ministries](#)—CRS West

##### CRS NE/Mid-Atlantic Region

- [CRS NE/Mid-Atlantic welcomes 2 new team members](#) - Genevieve Laskey

#### Partnership, Training and Engagement

- [CRS Diocesan Directors' Orientation](#)—Jacklyn Ireland
- [CRS Diocesan Director's Corner](#)—Jacklyn Ireland

#### Advocacy

- [Catholics Confront Global Poverty](#) -Candice Harris

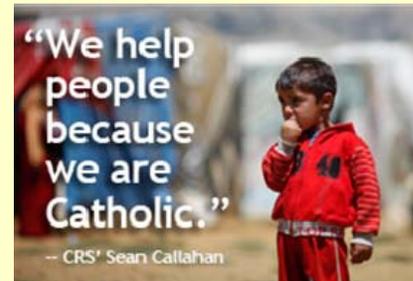


#### Contact Us

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

### Crisis in Syria

Catholic Relief Services and our Caritas partners are helping more than 140,000 Syrian refugees with life-saving support. Catholic Relief Services has created a special page on our



website dedicated to the [Crisis in Syria](#). It offers stories from the field and reflections from staff who have visited the refugee camps in neighboring countries where more than 75% are women, children and the elderly.

### CRS Advocacy Unit News

Learn more about the root causes of migration at our next *Catholics Confront Global Poverty* webcast on Thursday, September 26 from 1:00-1:30 P.M. EDT.

[Reserve](#) your spot now

### CRS Rice Bowl September/October Newsletter

See this month's [CRS Rice Bowl Newsletter](#) to learn how your diocese can WIN a chance to be featured on the CRS Rice Bowl website, get a sneak preview of the 2014 poster and see what else is new with the CRS Rice Bowl materials in 2014.



### CRS Diocesan Directors' Corner

#### CRS Calendars

- View the [new calendar for CRS programs and events](#) for the upcoming year.
- View the [CRS Webcast calendar](#).

#### You Did It for Me

- Good news is coming your way about *You Did It For Me* - A joint venture between CRS and Catholic Charities. On September 24th keep an eye out for an email from CRS Diocesan Directors Communications to learn more.

### CRS Southeast Regional Office



Photo courtesy of CRS Staff

The Catholic Relief Services' Southeast Regional Gathering took place at Ignatius House on August 13-15, 2013 in Atlanta, GA. The theme of the gathering was "You are the Good News!" These regional gatherings are held every 2 years and the purpose of this gathering was to affirm the work of the CRS Diocesan Directors and to support their work with CRS. Staff from CRS also listened carefully to the needs of our Catholic diocesan partners, so that CRS can best support their efforts to help the Catholics within their dioceses and parishes live out our shared Baptismal call to live in solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas who are poor and vulnerable

Representatives from the following dioceses attended: Atlanta (GA), Charlotte (NC), Jackson (MS), Lafayette (LA), Lake Charles (LA), Lexington (KY), Louisville (KY), Memphis (TN), New Orleans (LA), Orlando (FL), Owensboro (KY), Raleigh (NC), St. Augustine (FL) and St. Petersburg (FL).

Besides the CRS Southeast regional staff of Cullen Larson, Martha Gaynoe, Senait Tedla, Bill Farrand, Matt Burkhart and Michael Trujillo, representatives from across the agency helped with the gathering—Sean Callahan, Dorothy Grillo, Jim Stipe, Roberto Navarro, Chris Arthen and Barbara Roth as well as Mary Wright from Just Faith Ministries, a CRS partner.

### CRS West Regional Office

CRS West Regional office held a CRS Campus Ambassador Orientation for 20 new Campus Ambassadors from 16 universities from September 6-8th with the assistance of our colleagues from CRS headquarters - Chris West, Eric Clayton and Christina Radossi. The Orientation was planned to connect university students to the wider encompassing movement of CRS. This event marked the first of many Campus Ambassador trainings that will take place across the United States in the upcoming months, to educate students about CRS' mission and programs, equip them with CRS resources, and cultivate relationships between students from various universities.



CRS Staff photo

Victoria Hoang, CRS Intern and former Campus Ambassador at Villanova University, helped Jeanine Boucher-Colbert from CRS West to strategically plan each program to prepare students to take ownership of the CRS Campus Ambassador role. They shared stories which ranged from their journey to solidarity, discussing best practices on campus, fair trade chocolate tasting, to learning the most effective approaches for advocacy. Students gathered ideas and

gained tangible skills to help them implement CRS events on their university campuses as well as explore their spirituality, an essential aspect in sustaining their efforts back at school.

CRS Rice Bowl staff also held a focus group with the Campus Ambassadors to explore avenues that would attract college students to engage in the formative aspects of the Lenten program. In addition, in accordance with Pope Francis' prayer vigil in Vatican City, students stood in solidarity with the Catholic Church and people of Syria throughout Saturday, September 7, to pray for peace.

CRS Rice Bowl staff also held a focus group with the Campus Ambassadors to explore avenues that would attract college students to engage in the formative aspects of the Lenten program. In addition, in accordance with Pope Francis' prayer vigil in Vatican City, students stood in solidarity with the Catholic Church and people of Syria throughout Saturday, September 7, to pray for peace.

### CRS West Regional News (cont.)

All for God Ministries, who runs the Steubenville conferences in San Diego, invited the CRS West team and our two interns, Alyssa Patterson and Victoria Hoang to adapt and create a water carrying prayer walk, prayer stations, and an invitation to drink water only and raise money for a CRS Ethiopian water project. A mailing including a prayer, flyer and invitation was sent out to 150 Youth Ministers.

Heather Moline, a CRS former intern, spoke to 400 young adults on service and the CRS mission and invited them to donate and attend the water simulation game at the Steubenville event created and run by our staff. A collection was done at the young adult liturgy for the water project and 150 people observed and participated in the water carrying simulation game.

A video with water images and music was created by Jeanine Boucher-Colbert and vetted by HQ for the 5000 youth and young adult participants to introduce them to CRS' water and sanitation work overseas and to support the water project and game. This water video will be adapted for future use for *Water Works* by Sara Robinson at HQ.



Students participating in the water carrying game

We could not have engaged the participants in such an activity without the help of Jeanine Boucher-Colbert and Crystal Meister in the CRS West regional office. Click the link <http://www.sandiego.edu/insideusd/?p=32374> to read more.

### CRS Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Regional News

The CRS Northeast/Mid-Atlantic regional team would like to share some recent program staff transitions. Sister Arlene Flaherty, who led our work with colleges and universities in the region, accepted a position with the School Sisters of Notre Dame as their Director of Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation Office for the Atlantic-Midwest region. Dennis Fisher, who worked with a number of dioceses and led our youth, clergy and Lenten programs outreach, retired in February just in time to welcome the arrival of his first grandson. These dear colleagues will be missed, and we are most grateful for their wonderful contributions to CRS and to our work in the region.

We also recently welcomed two new team members - Genevieve Jordan Laskey and Peggy Jean Craig. Genevieve was most recently the Executive Director of the Romero Center Ministries in Camden, New Jersey. Before that, Gen was the Director of Young Adult Ministry at the Romero Center, and an Associate for Education and Formation in the Echo Faith Formation Leadership Program, a service and study program through the University of Notre Dame. Gen received a BA and a MA in Theology at the University of Notre Dame. In her new role with CRS as a relationship manager, Gen will work with several dioceses and will also be our region's lead staffer on our outreach to youth and young adults and diocesan partnership outreach. Gen can be reached at [Genevieve.laskey@crs.org](mailto:Genevieve.laskey@crs.org).

Before coming to CRS, Peggy Jean (PJ) worked at the Community Leadership Center at Rutgers University-Camden, where she is currently working on her doctorate in Public Affairs-Community Development. She has worked in a variety of different secular and faith-based contexts. As a missionary and youth director, she worked in local parishes in Laos, Alabama, and Atlanta. In Washington, she worked for the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee and at the denominational level for the United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society. Along with her faith-based involvement, she also has international development experience working in Laos as an IRD fellow and in Kenya, where she filmed a documentary on women and education in rural Kenya. PJ received her M.Div. from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University with a concentration in church and community leadership. Her undergraduate degree is from Fordham University in communications and media studies with a concentration in journalism. PJ will be our lead staff on college and university outreach and can be reached at [peggy.craig@crs.org](mailto:peggy.craig@crs.org).

We are thrilled to have Gen and Peggy Jean join CRS NE/MA and know that our work and ministry will be made stronger by having them as part of our team.

Other important news is that our office has moved, the new address is 150 N. Radnor Chester Rd., Suite 120F Radnor, PA 19087



The Helping Hands program, founded on Matthew 25:35-40 and the Catholic call to social justice, is a unique hands-on event where volunteers package nutritious meals for people in developing countries who are suffering from food shortages and famine. Our partner, Stop Hunger Now, provides the food and packaging materials, sets up, and teaches volunteers how to package the meals. CRS educates volunteers about the people they are helping, and ships the meals to our partners overseas, who then distribute them to centers for young girls, orphanages, and others in need. Event hosts only need to provide a large room, tables, a minimum of 40 volunteers, and the event fee, a portion of which will be used to fund CRS' life-changing development programs and job training for the meal recipients.

Visit [helpinghands.crs.org](http://helpinghands.crs.org) to learn more about the program.

### Host an Event!

To bring a meal-packaging event to your community, contact the Helping Hands team at 1-877-435-7277, or e-mail us at [communitygiving@global.crs.org](mailto:communitygiving@global.crs.org).



Boston College students and alumni packaging meals for Burkina Faso

## Annual CRS Diocesan Directors Orientation

The Annual CRS Diocesan Directors' Orientation was held at CRS' World Headquarters in Baltimore MD from July 29th–31st. Catholic Relief Services hosts a new Diocesan Director orientation annually. During the orientations, CRS Diocesan Directors learn more about CRS' mission, work overseas, programs and the resources available to do the work of CRS in their dioceses. Participants create a CRS action plan for their diocese and learn about the different challenges, strategies and successes of other Diocesan Directors. While experienced Diocesan Directors are welcome, the orientation's primary focus is on Diocesan Directors that have been in the position for less than two years.

For information about future Diocesan Director Orientations, please contact Kim Mazyck at [kimberly.mazyck@crs.org](mailto:kimberly.mazyck@crs.org) or Chris West at [chris.west@crs.org](mailto:chris.west@crs.org).

Below are some of the participants who traveled to the orientation from dioceses throughout the U.S.



**Joshua Clemmons**

Mission and Social Awareness Officer  
Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.



**Carolina Parrales**

Office of Public Policy & Social Concerns  
Archdiocese of San Francisco



**Kelly Hickman**

Missions Office  
Archdiocese of Seattle



**Elena Muller Garcia**

Diocese of Palm Beach

### View the 2012 CRS Annual Report Online

You may view the **interactive online version of the 2012 CRS Annual Report** [here](#) or you can navigate: [crs.org](http://crs.org) >> **About Us** >> **Interactive Annual Report and Financials**. The online version is best viewed in the latest versions of web browsers.

You may request a printed version of the annual report by calling the US Operations call center at 1-866-608-5978 or sending an email to [resources@crs.org](mailto:resources@crs.org)

