



Partnership Newsletter



November/December 2014

Volume 12 Issue 6

U.S. Operations Division

What You Will Find in this Issue

Please click on the story you wish to read below

- *CRS Farmer to Farmer Program*-Bruce White
- *You Did it for Me*-Stevie Coppola
- *Resources for Leaders in Hispanic Ministry*
- *CRS and Villanova Collaborate on a Different Way to Reach Classrooms*-Rochelle Johnson

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

- [CRS Rice Bowl Newsletter](#) for November/December-Caitlin Finnerty
- *Fair Trade and New Faith Formation Resources for Advent*-Courtney Lare
- *CRS 2015 Lenten Speaker Tours*-Mary Peirce

News from the Regions

- *Congratulations to Michael Johnson who rappels building to benefit CRS*- Michael Trujillo, CRS Southeast Region
- *CRS Highlights the Plight of Unaccompanied Minors at Raíces y Alas*—Carla Aguilar, CRS Southwest Region

Partnership, Training and Engagement Unit

- *How to Identify and Form Leaders for Global Justice Mission*-Vicki Compton & Kathleen O'Toole
- *Catholic Relief Services Dream of Servicing Catholic High Schools is about to come true*-Kristen Witte
- *CRS/ACCU Global Solidarity Grant Program*—CRS University Team-Danielle Roberts
- *CRS Student Ambassador Program Trainings*-Danielle Roberts
- *Why So Many go Hungry if there is Enough Food for All*-Ted Miles
- *2015 Called To Witness Go to El Salvador*-Ted Miles
- *NCCYM Celebrates CRS Rice Bowl at Upcoming National Conference*-Ted Miles
- *Young Neighbors in Solidarity*-Ted Miles
- *Participate in the 2015 Multimedia Youth Contest* -Genevieve Mougey, CCHD

New Haiti Resources

- *Strengthening Catholic Education in Haiti*
- *CRS in Haiti 5 Years After the Earthquake*

How to Identify and Form Leaders for Global Justice Mission

"How to Identify and Form Leaders for Global Justice Mission" is an excerpt from Vicki Compton's presentation at the U.S. Catholic Mission Association Annual Conference in October, 2014. Vicki Compton is the Director of the Office for the Missions, Diocese of Springfield, Ill and she serves as the CRS Diocesan Director for the diocese.



Vicki Compton

In forming leaders for social justice mission it is important to focus on encounter, which is a major theme of Pope Francis, encounter with Christ, encounter with others, and this is central to the current conversation about discipleships and evangelization. In order to be effective evangelizers, spreading the Good News in any capacity, we must first have an encounter with Jesus Christ, who is the embodiment of the Good News. This encounter compels us to share the Good News in our encounter with others.

For each of us leading the work of missions in our dioceses, religious orders and parishes, some seed or maybe many seeds were planted that initiated our engagement in social action, global mission and solidarity with our vulnerable brothers and sisters around the world. Our invitation to others – leaders, potential leaders, and partners in mission and ministry needs to begin by sharing our own story of encounter, and inviting others to share their own story, so that we may water those seeds of discipleship together.



CRS and Villanova Collaborate on a Different Way to Reach Classrooms

Catholic Relief Services, in collaboration with Villanova is piloting a different way to reach the classroom. During this fall semester twelve Villanova graduate students, who registered for the course *"Church Agencies Building the Capacity to Transform and Be Transformed,"* will receive part of their lecture via webinar.

The webinar allows two way live communication which lets the students hear and see the lecture from the classroom located in Pennsylvania while CRS lecturers join from our headquarters office in Baltimore. This joint effort is led by Dr. Suzanne Toton, of Villanova and Christine Tucker from CRS.

Through a webinar, CRS staff, David Leege provided in-depth information on the Integral Human Development Program; Jean Claude Kazadi spoke on the ever growing issue of HIV/AIDS.

During the next webinar lecture Sarah Ford will speak about Partnership and Capacity Strengthening. Tom Bamat will present on Peacebuilding. Upcoming lecturers will include Kim Lamberty, Annemarie Reilly and Maureen McCullough.

As this is a pilot program, we hope to make this available to other schools in the future.

CRS Southwest Regional Office News

CRS Highlights the Plight of Unaccompanied Minors at Raíces y Alas

Juan Sheenan presented CRS' work on how the agency addresses migration push factors to Hispanic leaders at the Raíces y Alas conference. The National Congress on Hispanic Ministry "Raíces y Alas" provided an opportunity for over 400 participants representing national Catholic organizations, associations, and individuals serving Hispanics/Latinos in the Church to dialogue on the realities of the Catholic Hispanic/Latino community in the United States. This year, participants at the conference had an opportunity to hear from Juan Sheenan, CRS Honduras Country Representative. He spoke about the realities of tens of thousands of unaccompanied children and families from Central America arriving in the United States fleeing violence in their homeland. Juan urged participants to advocate for the protection of these vulnerable children and encouraged participants to join Catholics Confront Global Poverty (CCGP). In addition, with the support of CRS Southwest Regional Office, Juan advocated with two members of congress: Joaquin Castro and Lloyd Doggett to ensure that congressional leaders hear about this critical issue.



Photo: Jesus Huerta/CRS West

Over 14 bishops attending the conference meet with Juan and CRS Southwest regional staff to learn about CRS' work in Latin America and advocacy efforts in the US. The meeting included influential Hispanic bishops and other bishops active in advocating on behalf migrant children like: Most Rev. Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller (Archdiocese of San Antonio), Most Rev. José H. Gomez (Archdiocese of Los Angeles), and Most Reverend Mark J. Seitz (Diocese of El Paso). CRS' presence at Raíces y Alas was complimented with opportunities for participants to meditate and reflect about our brothers and sisters overseas via the CRS Solidarity Prayer Walk, which was translated into Spanish for the audience. As a result, several partners have requested to utilize the Prayer Walk at various national and diocesan conferences/functions. CRS staff from the MW, West, and SE also helped staff a CRS exhibit where a multitude of resources were shared.

Participate in the 2015 Multimedia Youth Contest Sponsored by CCHD

Calling all parishes and schools! Materials are now available for the [2015 Multimedia Youth Contest](#), sponsored by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) with support from RCL Benziger. This year's theme is "Do Justice, Love Goodness, Walk Humbly with God."(Micah 6:8) Educators lead participants through easy steps to learn about U.S. poverty, CCHD's response, and the Two Feet of Love in Action. Youth then create multimedia work of any type (e.g. painting, video, poetry, dance, etc.) and work to educate their peers before submitting their work to the contest. The contest can be facilitated by any diocesan office – for example, the Social Concerns, Youth Ministry, Religious Education, Catholic Schools, or Hispanic Ministry office. The annual national contest deadline is March 31, 2015. Visit the contest materials now in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)!

You Did it for Me!

[You Did It for Me](#) is an exciting joint venture between Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services. YDIFM is a series of brief stories for parish, diocesan, or organization websites and parish bulletins - any place you would like to share good news of the Church helping those in need across America and around the world. CRS Diocesan Directors should ask their archbishop or bishop if their parish bulletin editors may receive these weekly stories of our faith in action. Please return the completed sign up form to bulletinstories@crs.org.

Contact Us

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

News from CRS Southeast Regional Office

Congratulations to Michael Johnson who rappels a building to benefit CRS

The Southeast Office would like to congratulate Michael Johnson, Editor of The Southern Cross in the Diocese of Savannah. Johnson rappelled down the Historic Manger Building in Savannah, GA on October 31. The event benefitted The Boy Scouts of Coastal Georgia and a charity of the person's choice. Michael chose Catholic Relief Services.



Michael Johnson is in the middle of the photo

Johnson has overcome many challenges in his life as an amputee and was excited to be back to an extremely active lifestyle.

Johnson and his team at the Diocese of Savannah have been great in spreading the word about CRS. The Southern Cross has run articles about fair trade, created a unique CRS Rice Bowl origami and interviewed Carolyn Woo and local CRS Global Fellow Fr. Jason Adams. Johnson is also a Just Faith graduate.

Thank you Michael Johnson!



CRS 2015 Lenten Speaker Tours

The 2015 Lenten Speaker Tour will feature Thomas Awiapo, as well as speakers from three of the CRS Rice Bowl countries to be featured in 2015. For more information about speakers and tour dates in your region, please contact your CRS regional representative.



Thomas Awiapo of CRS Ghana



Soha Menassa of
CRS Lebanon



Jorge Brenes-Abdalah of
CRS Nicaragua



Philemon Chiputa of
CRS Tanzania

CRS Farmer to Farmer Program

Learn about CRS' relatively new Farmer to Farmer Program in East Africa. This five-year U.S. Government funded initiative program is a great opportunity for Catholics across America to put their faith into action and work directly with CRS in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda! Please visit our Website for more information and use our online application: <http://farmertofarmer.crs.org/>





New Bilingual Faith Formation Resources for Advent

CRS Fair Trade invites you to reflect on the journey that brought Mary and Joseph to the stable—and to call to mind all those communities around the world that continue to encounter poverty in their own daily journeys.

This Advent, journey with us through:

Short [weekly reflections](#)

Prayers for the [Advent wreath](#) and [nativity scene](#)

Gift of Hope Tree [alternative giving activity](#)

[Fair trade prayer](#) for Advent

Visit crsfairtrade.org/advent for more prayers and reflections, as well as resources in Spanish.



CRS Rice Bowl



Order CRS Rice Bowls for Lent 2015

Order FREE faith formation resources for Lent, available in English and Spanish. Orders may be placed at crsricebowl.org/order or by calling 1-800-222-0025.

Gifts That Give Twice

Page 49

1 Advent Calendar = 1 School Notebook for a Child in Ghana

The farmers of the Kuapa Kokoo cooperative in Ghana supply the cocoa in Divine Chocolate.

For every Advent Calendar purchased this fall, the village schools of Kuapa will receive one notebook.

Stand in solidarity with children like Elias and Jennifer, and help them attend their classes ready to learn!

Elias photo (left) by Tom Allen/Divine Chocolate and Jennifer photo (inset left, orange shirt) by Kim Naylor/Divine Chocolate

Partnership Training and Engagement Unit

Catholic Relief Services Dreams of Serving Catholic High Schools are about to come True

CRS recognizes the vital role Catholic secondary schools play in the Church's mission of evangelization and catechesis in the United States. Motivated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the **CRS Global High School Program** provides opportunities for Catholic secondary schools to join with CRS to educate about Catholic social teaching and advocate for solidarity with the global poor.

For the last four years, Catholic Relief Services' outreach program to Catholic High Schools in the US has been in the pilot and assessment phases. **It gives us great pleasure to announce that the official launch of the CRS Global High School program will occur at the NCEA Conference in Orlando in April 2015.** At that time, we will begin registration of Catholic high schools interested in building a formal relationship with CRS through this new three-tiered program.

CRS would like to thank the following schools for their dedication to Global Solidarity. Their collaboration with CRS as a participant in the pilot program "iNeighbor" has been critical to the growth and development of the CRS: Global High School program:

Academy of Our Lady - Marrero LA	Lauralton Hall - Milford CT
Archbishop Rummel High School-Metarie LA	Lourdes Catholic School-Nogales AZ
Bishop Dwenger High School-Fort Wayne IN	Mercy High School-Baltimore MD
Bishop Shanahan High School-Dowington PA	Merion Mercy Academy-Merion Station PA
Cabrini High School -New Orleans LA	Morris Catholic High School-Denville NJ
Cornelia Connelly School-Anaheim CA	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School-Baltimore MD
Iona Preparatory-New Rochelle NY	Rice Memorial High School-South Burlington VT

The new CRS Global High School Program's outline and detailed description will be forthcoming in this newsletter in the next few months. Stay Tuned!

How to Identify and Form Leaders for Global Justice Mission (continued from page 1)

I have discovered that I am unable to do ministry with anyone with whom I do not have a relationship. It is critical for me to identify key people to engage in relationships, and then rely on the Holy Spirit to work through those relationships to bear fruit.

Among the relationships that have become key to my work in the Diocese of Springfield, IL are:

- Vocation directors whom I take on immersion experiences, securing a promise that immersion will be part of seminary formation;
- Seminarians. I offer them week-long trips overseas up to a 6 week "mission of accompaniment". Global solidarity / Fair Trade gifts for ordination, and check in phone calls help to keep this aspect of ministry in their consciousness.
- Deacons and Deacon Aspirants. I meet with aspirants to talk about evangelizations, and maintain the relationship afterwards with the help of partners like Maryknoll and CRS.

Finally, you can't do this work without partners. Catholic Relief Services offers lots of great resources with which to prepare and process immersion experiences, and engage people afterwards. Within the diocese the Catholic newspaper staff, Catholic Education leaders and the Youth ministry office are always open to telling the story of global missions engagement and inviting the faithful into solidarity with the church, and with our brothers and sisters, around the world.

ACCU/CRS 2014 Global Solidarity Grant Program

CRS and the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) are jointly offering small grants of up to \$2500 to ACCU member institutions to facilitate creative projects that advance Catholic mission through global solidarity. Requirements include being innovative, high-impact, integrating values/spirituality with educational objectives, promoting collaboration across campus, reaching a significant portion of campus community, and involving students and a faculty/staff sponsor. Application information and more details are available on the above link, which can also be found on the [university.crs.org](http://accupj.wordpress.com/2014/10/17/2014-global-solidarity-grant-program/) homepage or go to <http://accupj.wordpress.com/2014/10/17/2014-global-solidarity-grant-program/>. The application deadline is December 1, 2014.

Partnership Training and Engagement Unit (cont.)

CRS Student Ambassador Program—Fall 2014 Trainings *(Summary and Photos)*

CRS University is thrilled to have kicked off the 2014-2015 academic year with our first National Conference and 10 Regional Trainings for CRS Student Ambassadors and their accompanying advisors. Check out our [photo slideshow](#). Overall, **270 participants from 70 colleges and universities in all 5 CRS regions** of the U.S. were trained during this season. These trainings were facilitated by a combination of CRS Staff and experienced Student Ambassadors and Advisors and were structured so as to give participants a chance to get to know CRS and build community with each other, to be inspired to live their faith in solidarity, to build skills for bringing CRS back to campus, and to know the tools and resources available to them in their role as Ambassadors. Here is a regional breakdown:

Region	Total Universities	Total Participants	Regional Trainings
Midwest	25	96	3
NEMA	30	134	5
Southeast	2	13	1
Southwest	1	2	0
West	12	25	1

CRS Youth and Education

Why do so many go hungry if there is ENOUGH food for all?

Explore the answer to this question through the 2014-15 [CRS FoodFast](#) program! Designed for Catholic youth, CRS FoodFast invites young people to spend time walking in the shoes of people who go hungry, deepen their faith and strengthen their yearning to bring change to our world! CRS FoodFast offers a variety of NEW resources and components this year that were developed in collaboration with the [Center for Ministry Development](#):

A variety of learning formats:

- *The traditional 24-hour retreat experience
- *A one-day/10-hour retreat
- *A 3-hour youth group night
- *A family night
- *A Confirmation Component
- *A theme song written by Catholic musician, Pasquale Talarico - [One Family](#)
- *Integration of the Caritas Internationalis the Pope Francis-inspired campaign, [One Human Family, Food for All](#)
- *A special message by Fr. James Martin, SJ
- *A [Food & Faith Jeopardy ... and more!](#)

Visit <http://foodfast.org> or email foodfast@crs.org for more information. Our partner, the Center for Ministry Development, promotes the development of ministry and catechesis with youth and families through leadership formation, service learning, and resources rooted in Catholic tradition and Scripture. For more information, go to cmdnet.org.



2015 Called to Witness Goes to El Salvador

Catholic Relief Services, in partnership with the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and the National Association for Catholic Youth Ministry Leaders, announces the 2015 Called to Witness trip to [El Salvador](#) in May 2015. Through Called to Witness, CRS provides parish, diocesan and national youth ministers with a global experience to help them call and empower young people to an active commitment to working for solidarity, peace and justice. Among the many situations and realities to be explored, this delegation will highlight CRS' work in the areas of migration, peacebuilding, youth violence prevention programming, and integral human development.

[Applications](#) are now available. For more information, visit the [CRS Education website](#) or contact Ted Miles at 410-951-7475 or ted.miles@crs.org.

CELEBRATE THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF CRS RICE BOWL AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY!

Catholic Relief Services is a sapphire sponsor of the upcoming [National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry](#) in San Antonio, TX, December 3-6, 2014. If you plan to attend this conference, CRS sponsors a keynote featuring Fr. Greg Boyle of Homeboy Industries and the workshop, *A Call to "a Church that is Poor": Re-imagining Youth Ministry through Pope Francis*, by Ted Miles. You can also stop by our interactive exhibit and join in celebrating the 40th anniversary of CRS Rice Bowl with the CRS Rice Bowl *Twitter Scavenger Hunt*. Take a moment to meditate with our brothers and sisters around the world through the *Solidarity Prayer Walk* in the Sacred Space. And if you live in the area, you can still register for the CRS-sponsored pre-conference, [An Encounter with Youth on the Margins](#).

Coming this January: a re-imagining of *CRS Education: Going Global with Youth!*
Check <http://education.crs.org>

Young Neighbors in Solidarity

Do you know of a youth group that is looking for a dynamic and transformative summer service experience? Spread the word about the Center for Ministry Development's program, [Young Neighbors in Action](#), a solid, Catholic approach to service and justice that balances Scripture and Catholic social teaching, direct service, and a justice consciousness. CRS joins CMD in sponsoring a thematic week in Baltimore. Called *Young Neighbors in Solidarity*, this experience explores the poverty through the global lens and provides an advocacy training with a visit on Capitol Hill. For more information, visit <https://cmdnet.org/ynia-home> or contact Jane Angha at jane@cmdnet.org.

Your Voice Makes a Difference!

Check out the latest Catholics Confront Global Poverty action alerts on our [website](#) and raise your voice on behalf of our brothers and sisters today. It only takes a few minutes to send an email or make a phone call to your Members of Congress and let them know you care. You can also share the alerts with your family and friends.



CRS Gift Catalog: change the world, one [gift](#) at a time

Make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters overseas. Visit the [CRS Gift of Hope Catalog](#) to find unique ways to warm the hearts of your loved ones and bring hope to the world.

New CRS Resources Now Available

CRS Resources Commemorating the Haiti Earthquake

- [Strengthening Catholic Education in Haiti](#)
- [CRS in Haiti 5 Years After the Earthquake](#)

CRS Hispanic Resource

- [Resources for Leaders in Hispanic Ministry](#)

For additional information please contact the [CRS regional office for your state](#) or the CRS U.S. Operations Call Center at 1-888-608-5978.