

## LEARN

### **Catholic Relief Services: Responding to COVID-19 Worldwide**

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic Church, is an international leader among NGOs with experience fighting fast-moving disease outbreaks. CRS and our partners played a critical role in addressing the impact of Ebola in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone in 2015. We have been fighting the Coronavirus overseas by ensuring safe access to water, providing hygiene and sanitation materials, and carrying out education and awareness activities in communities where misinformation has increased fear. Learn more about our response to the Coronavirus by visiting [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)

### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Catholic Immigration Summit**

#### **Hope in Solidarity: The Catholic Response to Immigration Practices and Policies in the U.S.**

The Summit has moved online! Visit Seattle U's Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture's website (<https://www.seattleu.edu/ictc/>) for resources to help our community learn more about the challenges facing immigrant communities. Explore topics such as advocacy, DACA, spiritual practice & resilience, mental health, legal assistance and more. Co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Seattle and St. James Immigrant Assistance.

### **COVID-19 Assistance: Ways to Give and Get Help**

With the ongoing pandemic, many of us find ourselves in difficult situations. Homeschooling, stress, isolation, financial strain, and health concerns are some of new challenges we face. Know that you are not alone. We are here to support you in any way we can. We are continually adding to our COVID-19 Assistance page: <https://olgseattle.org/covid-19-assistance>. Whether you need assistance, want to lend a hand, or both, we've got resources for you. We also have prayer resources to strengthen you on the journey. Please send additional resource to Jennifer ([jibach@olgseattle.org](mailto:jibach@olgseattle.org)).

## GIVE

### **Breakfast Foods Needed**

Catholic Community Services (CCS) has been working hard to keep their shelter guests safe during this time of pandemic. Many guests have temporarily been moved into motels where there is no food service for them. Seattle Prep has been providing lunches and other groups, like the Knights of Columbus, have covered dinner but CCS still needs help with breakfast. In collaboration with our local Scouts, we are running a breakfast food drive. Please consider donating instant oatmeal, dried fruit, fruit cups, individually wrapped pastries, peanut butter, jelly, jerky, and durable fruit (oranges, apples, etc.) by June 21. Contact Jennifer for drop-off information ([jibach@olgseattle.org](mailto:jibach@olgseattle.org)).

### **OLG is Collecting Masks for Farm Workers**

Catholic Community Services is in urgent need of thousands of masks to equip farmworkers as the harvesting seasons begin. Help the essential workers who labor to provide food for our community. We will be collecting homemade and store-bought masks. Visit <https://ccsww.org/sewing-bee/> for sewing instructions and tutorials. You can drop your donations in the collection bin outside the Pastoral Center on weekdays.

## ACT

### **Religious Freedom: Respect for Houses of Worship**

Later this month, the U.S. Catholic Church will mark Religious Freedom Week. Houses of worship provide spaces for people to step back with fellow believers and pray. There has been a disturbing rise in attacks on these places in recent years. Gunmen in churches, synagogues, and mosques have terrorized faith communities here and around the world. Please take time this month to pray for those who have been harmed by these attacks and then consider supporting increased funding for the FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which provides grants to nonprofits to improve security. Join the U.S. Catholic Bishops in asking Congress to increase funding for this valuable program using an editable action alert at <https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/campaigns/72404/respond>.

### **2020 Census: Be Counted!**

In Washington State, \$16.7 billion in tax dollars for our communities are at stake, along with our democratic representation in Congress. We cannot afford to miss counting anyone in this census, especially traditionally

undercounted people of color, immigrants, tribes, rural communities, and young children. It is said that budgets are moral documents. In this case, the data that informs budgets and allocations of resources has moral implications too! It's not too late to be counted. Go to <https://census2020.gov> to be counted and encourage others to do the same!

### **Urge Congress to Strengthen SNAP in the next Relief Bill**

Families are struggling to put food on the table during this time of economic crisis. Churches and charities are working overtime to meet this rising need, but more must be done. The Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) effectively addresses hunger by delivering resources directly to low-income households. It's also a proven tool to boost the economy – every dollar spent on SNAP generates up to \$1.80 in economic activity. Join the Washington State Catholic Bishops in telling Congress to prioritize SNAP in the next COVID-19 relief bill by increasing benefits and suspending rule changes. Visit [wacatholics.org/be-an-advocate/action-center](https://wacatholics.org/be-an-advocate/action-center) for an editable action alert today!