



Catholic Sentinel photo by Clarice Keating

Representatives from various organizations accept Catholic Campaign for Human Development awards. They are: Paul Riek, VOZ; Beth Poteet, Oregon New Sanctuary Movement; Maria Sandoval, Isabel Alvarez, Lupe Alvarez and Christian Juanillo, San Martin de Porres Church; Megan Cogswell and Javier Quiro, Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality; Courtney Polk and Haley Boell, Madonna's Center; Michelle Lasley, Community Alliance of Tenants; Jon Ostar, OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon; and Matt Cato, director of the Archdiocese of Portland's Office of Life, Justice and Peace.

Grants given to programs to fight poverty

The Archdiocese of Portland's Catholic Campaign for Human Development has announced local grants for seven programs that aim to fight the root causes of poverty. The CCHD, founded in 1970 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States, aims to empower poor and low income people through self-help projects that are based within local communities.

"We don't just see the poor and help the poor, we stand with the poor," said Matt Cato, director of the archdiocese's Office of Life, Justice and Peace, during an award ceremony June 1.

Recipients are:

- Madonna's Center, serving teens who are with child

and without essential support in Clackamas County, receives \$4,500. The grant will fund a teen-parent led resource fair.

- The Community Alliance of Tenants' Housing Justice Program, Oregon's only membership-controlled, tenants-rights community organization in Oregon, receives \$4,500. The grant partially funds a program in which low-income renters organize to challenge unsafe housing conditions in members' buildings.

- The Oregon New Sanctuary Movement: Love Has No Borders Campaign, an ecumenical faith-based coalition, receives \$4,000 to organize immigrants and immigrant

allies to educate the community and work for just and humane immigration reform.

- VOZ's worker rights education project will receive \$4,000 to fund rights and responsibilities training and booklets to prevent wage theft and use education and training as a vehicle for leadership development.

- OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon's East Portland Bus Riders Unite! The program receives \$4,000 for campaign work around transit justice and health equity, focused predominantly in low-income communities of color in East Portland neighborhoods.

- The Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality's Training

of Trainers Project receives \$4,000 to recruit, train and provide professional development of a team of parent facilitators who help develop parental involvement to increase the graduation rate for, and educational outcomes of, low income and minority students in Salem-Keizer. • San Martin de Porres Church's (Dayton) social justice ministry/community outreach receives \$4,000 to develop a unique ministry led by Latino immigrants and non-immigrants in Oregon. The group plans to take action on issues that affect San Martin's parishioners, the majority of whom are low-income Latinos who live in rural Oregon.