

Catholic Relief Services

433 Jefferson Street
Oakland, CA 94607-3592



July 19, 2019

Re: 2019 CRS Rice Bowl Grants Request for Proposals

Dear Friends,

This letter is to announce that the diocesan office of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is now accepting proposals for local 2019 CRS Rice Bowl grants. The application process is now open through **Monday, September 16th, 2019.**

The CRS Rice Bowl grant program is sponsored by Catholic Relief Services in the Diocese of Oakland and administered by the diocesan CRS Rice Bowl Committee. CRS is the official international disaster relief and development agency of the U.S. Catholic community. Funds for the grants come from the Lenten Rice Bowl program of prayer, fasting, learning and giving which is conducted in Catholic parishes and schools throughout the diocese each year. Seventy-five percent of the money raised by this program is used by CRS for humanitarian projects in developing countries, and twenty-five percent is kept locally, part of which is distributed within the diocese in the form of grants for hunger and poverty abatement programs. (For more information about CRS and CRS Rice Bowl, please go to www.crsricebowl.org.)

Grants will be given to parishes, organizations and projects within the Diocese of Oakland (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties) that are working to alleviate hunger and food insecurity, and/or are addressing the root causes of hunger. Grant recipients can be food pantries and soup kitchens, for example, and/or groups that do economic development or anti-hunger organizing and advocacy.

Non-Catholic as well as Catholic churches and organizations are eligible to apply. Our allocations committee will be considering proposals for up to \$1,000. Please be sure to review the application criteria and guidelines, which are attached here, for more information about the application process. We have changed the guidelines since last year, including the need to submit proof of nonprofit status with your proposal.

If you know of any agency/organization or parish program that might be interested in applying for a Rice Bowl grant, the application packet can be obtained by contacting me via e-mail at CRSRiceBowlEastBay@cceb.org, or by telephone at (510) 768-3176. Your organization may receive an application as an e-mail attachment or by U.S. Mail. Again this year, we have a fillable PDF version of the application that can be completed on your computer.

The application form and guidelines will also be available to download from the local Catholic Relief Services webpage on the Catholic Charities of the East Bay's website at www.cceb.org/crseb/. Unfortunately, because we made some changes to the grant application, it has taken longer than expected to post it on our website. Consequently, it will not be up on our site until the week of July 29th.

I will be available to answer your questions and/or to meet with your agency/organization or parish staff or leaders regarding the grant process and completing the grant application.

Decisions on the 2019 Rice Bowl Grant applications will be made by the end of October and communications of the awards' determinations will be sent out to the applicants soon afterwards.

Sincerely,

Marc McKimmey
Catholic Relief Services Coordinator
Diocese of Oakland