**ST. MARY’S R.C. CHURCH – SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO CARRY OUT CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY IN OUR COMMUNITY Update September 27, 2023**

Members: Fr. M Cambi, A. Curtis, T. D’Amico, G. Lappin, J. McCaffrey, M. Mooney, D. Sanna, J. Dalton, W. Heinrich, Rev B. Jay, O. Kennedy, S. Oberriter, M. Schwartzmann, J. Woeppel

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| **Overall goal with clarifying statement that makes goal very clear** | **Objectives**  **Long term (next 2-3 years ‘24/’25)**  **Short term (next 18 months)** | **Impact on budget**  **Negligible**  **Modest - < $5000**  **Significant - > $5000** | **Measures**  **(how do we know when we are there?)** | **Timeline**  **(when?)** | **Who responsible** |
| 1. Establish Social Justice Committee | Determine chair, recruit members  Short term | Zero | Committee formed and functioning  Status: Complete | September 15 | Fr. Michael  Sharon, Jeff |
| 2. Create a Fund for Assisting Financially Distressed Individuals and Families | Name: Benefit Fund  Funded by quarterly second collections  and general revenues | Newly raised funds and existing checking acct to support i | Status: Number of individuals supported thus far in 2023 is three. Funds raised: 2nd collection yielded $1,000+; essentially word of mouth program; referral to Fr Michael  Status: Completed | March 31 | Fr Michael |
| 3. Engagement in Refugee Resettlement Program | Communication plan for parishioners – bulletin, announcement at Mass, master e-mail distribution list. | Zero | Significant dollars raised. Large number of donated items; 15 -20 volunteers have worked with the program. Some have offered low cost housing to support refugees.  Status: ongoing | October 1 | Jeff W |
| 4. Engagement by Parishioners in Making Suggestions on How to Enable This Ministry | Communication plan includes three town halls in June.  Ministry Fair to be scheduled. Other methods to be determined. | Zero | Number of suggestions, recommendations received; new members recruited  Status: Five new members recruited; total now 14. Would appreciate additional recommendations, ideas from parishioners. | March 1  Ongoing | Fr. Michael, Jeff |
| **5.** Network With Other Faith  Communities and social service agencies | Continually assess area for partnership opportunities | Zero | Number of relationships established.    Status; Link to Angel Network established. Contact being made with other denominations in Cooperstown area.. | March 1  Ongoing | J Dalton |
| 6. Stewardship of the Earth | Incorporate in parish procedures and actions where applicable an environmentally friendly approach. Reference Laudato Si. | Possibly > $5,000 | Number of actions implemented  Status: LED lighting where feasible; Reviewing opportunity for procuring community solar source for electricity. | Ongoing | Fr Michael  Kitty  Jeff |
| 7. Support Relevant Legislative Opportunities and Candidates Congruent With Catholic Social Teaching | Establish mechanisms to assess the electoral and legislative environments to identify opportunities | <$5,000 | Instances of successful identification and actions adopted in response  Status: All members of SJ committee to regularly canvass for opportunities | Ongoing | SJ  Committee |