



OFFICE OF BISHOP

## DIOCESE OF RAPID CITY

February 23, 2012

Rev. Msgr. Ted Bertagni  
Cross Catholic Outreach  
PO Box 273908  
Boca Raton, Florida 33427-3908

Dear Monsignor Bertagni,

I recall our meeting a few years ago when I was working at the North American College and the presentation you made to the seminarians. During your visit at that time, it was great to hear of the important ministry that Cross Catholic Outreach does in response to the Gospel message. I was impressed with the principles that guide this organization and the strategies which it employs: caring for the poorest of the poor, supporting existing programs where they are available and viable, practicing accountable stewardship, and focusing on breaking the cycle of poverty through education and community development.

Cross Catholic Outreach clearly embodies the Gospel call to love our neighbor and I offer my wholehearted endorsement of your ministry. Many people have benefitted and continue to benefit from the dedicated service of your employees and volunteers.

Know of my continued prayers for all of those who serve the poor through the work of Cross Catholic Outreach. May God bless your efforts abundantly that they may bear much fruit in the lives of the People of God throughout the world.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss  
Bishop of Rapid City