



DICASTERIUM
AD INTEGRAM HUMANAM
PROGRESSIONEM
FOVENDAM

Il Prefetto

21 November, 2017.

Dear Mr. Cavnar,

It is the privilege of the *Pontifical Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development* to represent the Holy Father in offering signs of His compassion for those who suffer throughout the world. As such, the Dicastery has and continues, through its conferences and seminars which offer and promote *good practices* and successful initiatives, to strengthen the arms of local Churches to express the solicitude of the Holy father and the Holy See to hundreds and thousands of sick, suffering and needy brothers and sisters in far-reaching parts of the world; and very many more still remain to be brought to the healing and comforting embrace of the Church, as *family of God*. Whether in Haiti, the drought stricken Sahel countries of sub-Saharan Africa or the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Syria and the Middle East, the Church has personally witnessed the growing number of our sisters and brothers who are deprived of the basic necessities of life through no fault of their own, often with no foreseeable end to their misery.

In the face of such pressing needs, many look to the Holy Father for both spiritual and material help. As the Vatican Dicastery responsible for the concrete expressions of the Pope's charitable love, it (this Dicastery) knows that there can be no love without concern about the good of others. Accordingly, charged with the *promotion of integral development of each person, and each group of persons, including the whole of humanity*, the Dicastery gratefully recognizes the long-standing collaborative commitment of **Cross Catholic Outreach** to its endeavors. *"Discovering that they are loved by God, people come to understand their own transcendent dignity; they learn not to be satisfied with only themselves but to encounter their neighbor in a network of relationships that are ever more authentically human. Men and women who are made 'new' by the love of God are able to change the rules and the quality of relationships, transforming even social structures"* (*Compendium*, §4).

This means that through this ongoing and long-term collaboration with the **Cross Catholic Outreach**, the Dicastery achieves the goal of making the charity of Christ available to those most in need in ways that impact directly the lives of the suffering in many parts of the world – for example, feeding the hungry, providing medicines to the sick, responding to the needs of refugees, being a support in times of natural disasters, and beginning to change structures that afflict them with poverty.

It is the prayer of the *Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development* that even more good may be accomplished in the years ahead. Accordingly, all of us at the Dicastery encourage **Cross Catholic Outreach** to remain a resolute witness of God's love and an advocate for the poor through parish visits, educational programs, and other activities in parishes in the United States. This is an effective way in which American Catholics come to know about the serious needs of the human family worldwide, and a canonical channel, guided by its Episcopal Board, for mediating their prayers and financial support to the needy.

May God bless all at **Cross Catholic Outreach** and its benefactor partners as together we continue to bring the charity and mercy of God to concrete realization throughout the world.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Segundo Tejado (Under-Secretary)

Cardinal Peter Kodwo Turkson (Prefect)

Mr. JAMES J. CAVNAR

President

Cross Catholic Outreach

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