**CRS RICE BOWL GRANT – Granting Criteria**

1. 2019 grants will be a maximum of $1,000.
2. The following guidelines will be followed:
   * a)  Projects must serve low-income clients in the Catholic Diocese of Duluth, comprised of several  cities and the following counties: St. Louis, Koochiching, Aitkin, Lake, Cook, Carlton, Pine, Cass, Crow Wing and Itasca.
   * b)  Priority will be given to programs that provide food and medical assistance. Housing and other emergency assistance will be considered in very limited circumstances.
   * c)  Projects must provide direct services to serve the poor and hungry in the Diocese of Duluth.
   * d)  Projects may address local socio-economic issues that are analogous to the poverty and hunger alleviation efforts that CRS does internationally. Their mission statement is listed below.
3. The timetable for the grant process is as follows:
   * a)  Applications must be postmarked, or received by email, fax or courier to the address on the application by 5pm Thursday, May 24, 2019.
   * b)  The diocesan committee will review applications promptly and make funding recommendations to Bishop Sirba,who will make final approval of all grants.
   * c)  Applicants should be notified of a final decision by June 15, with grant money distributed by June 30.
   * d)  An end of year report by organizations that received grants will be due by January 31, 2020.

**Catholic Relief Services Mission Statement**

Catholic Relief Services carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas. We are motivated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ to cherish, preserve and uphold the sacredness and dignity of all human life, foster charity and justice, and embody Catholic social and moral teaching as we act to:

***Promote human development*** by responding to major emergencies, fighting disease and poverty, and nurturing peaceful and just societies; and,

***Serve Catholics in the United States*** as they live their faith in solidarity with their brothers and sisters around the world.

As part of the universal mission of the Catholic Church, we work with local, national and international Catholic institutions and structures, as well as other organizations, to assist people on the basis of need, not creed, race or nationality.

*Approved by the Catholic Relief Services Board of Directors on September 11, 2008.*