



Strategic Development for KoC Capital Spend

**COUNCIL UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR
ENDORSEMENT OF NOMINATED ORGANIZATIONS**

JANUARY 4, 2022 BUSINESS MEETING

Subcommittee for Capital Spend

• **Subcommittee Chair:** Mike Rock

• **Members/Contributors:**

- Mark Baumgartner (Lead for - Right to Human Dignity Category; Treasurer)
- Shawn Bayle (Former Grand Knight)
- Tommy Dalton (Co-Lead for Veterans)
- Tom DuPree (Co-Lead for Veterans)
- Sean Flanagan (Financial Secretary)
- David Payne (Deputy Grand Knight)
- Tony Rivezzo (Lead for Community Category)
- Kent Siefkes (Lead for Culture of Life Category)
- Mike Wrzesien (Lead for Education Category)

Proposal for Charitable Funds Distribution

(\$18,000 Total Allocation)

Presented for council endorsement (Jan 4, 2022) are nominated organizations for:

- Health Services - \$2000
- Community - \$4000
- Right to Human Dignity - \$4000

Details on the nominated organizations circulated prior to the meeting via email

Council members asked for approval (agree or disagree vote)

Final distribution plans still under consideration and soon to be presented for:

- Veterans - \$2000
 - Education - \$2000
- * Survey resulted in a tie for prioritization; allocation split between these two categories

Completed:

- Culture of Life - \$4000 (Birth choice Ultrasound Machine; match from Supreme)

Overview of Planning the Capital Spend

- **\$18,000 possible because of Durham Bulls fund raising greatly exceeded budget**
- **Goal of Capital Spend: Support areas of greatest contemporary need**
- **Nominated organizations will expand beyond areas of Council's historical focus**
- Progress updates have occurred at Business Meetings
- Input from all brother Knights has been invited and an online survey was completed to ensure engagement opportunity by council members
- Subcommittee has carefully considered all input received from the Council

Criteria for Selection and Priority

- Prioritize local organizations
- Prioritize organizations that resonate with younger Catholic men to facilitate membership
- Organizations aligned with the principles of the Knights of Columbus
- Organizations aligned with the themes of Catholic Social teaching
- Organizations that achieve a sustainable impact for those most in need
- Considered ministries of solidarity identified by parish Tithe/Stewardship Committee

**Slides 7 to 25 Present Details of Nominated
Organizations
Circulated to Council Member prior to the
Council Meeting of January 4, 2022
(back up slides for meeting discussion)**

Health Services

Decisions were made on the basis of groups that affect our community, as well as others. The four organization address slightly different areas while all are striving to provide healthier outcomes.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

\$600

-Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a progressive genetic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system as well as many other organ systems. It causes thick, sticky mucus to build up in the lungs, which leads to life-threatening lung infections. There are approximately 30,000 people with CF in the United States and 70,000 worldwide.

St Joseph's Primary Care \$600

-To provide comprehensive, affordable, personal care to all of our patients; without regard to income, employment, insurance, faith, or documentation status.

ALS (NC Chapter) \$500

-ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. Motor neurons reach from the brain to the spinal cord and from the spinal cord to the muscles throughout the body. Common age for getting the disease is 40 - 70 years old

Healing Transitions

\$300

-Our mission is to offer innovative peer-based, recovery-oriented services to homeless, uninsured and underserved individuals with alcoholism and other drug addictions. Our program is specifically designed to rekindle a person's desire and ability to return to a meaningful and productive life.

Community

After careful research, goal was to apply the Council's funds of \$4,000 with diversity which resulted in a broad selection of charities providing help within our **community**.

Purposely focused on fewer charities which will have a greater impact.

The decisions include the following: homes built for people with a financial need, helping victims of violence, helping people affected by the pandemic, buying coats for children and finally supporting efforts to protect the environment.

Habitat for Humanity \$1,000

-Houses built mostly by volunteers from the community for families who cannot qualify for a loan primarily due to a low credit rating and marginal income. Because the houses are constructed at a lower cost and by arranging special mortgage rates, these families now have the opportunity to own a home. This is just one example of the many services performed by Habitat.

InterAct of Wake County \$1,000

-InterAct provides urgent help for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Its protective services include a 24-hour crisis hotline, emergency shelter, counseling and therapy for the victims. InterAct's stated aggressive goal is to eliminate this type of violence in our county.

St. Vincent DePaul \$1,000

-SVDP ministry at St. Francis has been helping families who have been affected by the pandemic. Our neighbors, mostly within the local 3 zip codes, who may have been infected with the virus, or who lost a job, or may have been dealing with higher childcare costs are receiving some financial aid from SVDP. One example, a newly widowed mother with 3 children received help with her rent avoiding possible eviction while she recovered from Covid. She is now back to work. Funds are urgently needed so SVDP is able to help our neighbors before their situation becomes dire.

Coats for Kids

\$500

-Coats for Kids is a community program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and supported by St. Francis of Assisi. Recently, our council purchased 24 coats which were donated to Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Louisburg and Note in the Pocket. Unfortunately, there is still a need to provide additional coats for children, especially for the Our Lady of the Rosary parish where the unemployment rate is 24%.

Sierra Club of NC/The Umstead Coalition

\$500

-The local Chapter of the Sierra Club, The Umstead Coalition, is committed to preserving and protecting Umstead Park's green spaces, hiking trails and its wildlife. While our city is experiencing major growth, it is important that parks are preserved in order to keep a proper balance between nature and the populace.

Right to Human Dignity

This category addresses several themes of Catholic social teaching to address the principal that every person has a fundamental right to things required for human decency. The primary goal of the category is to address the fundamental needs of the poor and vulnerable and mitigate the impact of poverty in our broader community.

CASA - King's Ridge Project

\$1,000

- CASA dedicated to need for affordable housing in Wake County.
- CASA purchased six acres of land in Raleigh near Wake Medical Center as the future site of the King's Ridge Apartments; sufficient funds have been collected to commence construction.
- King's Ridge project modeled on successful projects in other large communities; endorsed by advocacy leader for parish affordable housing efforts
- When completed, projected to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness in Raleigh/Wake County by 10% (single adults and families)
- Residents will pay one-third of their income for rent and can renew their lease year after year.

Note in the Pocket \$1,000

-The organization provides clothing to impoverished and homeless children in Wake County with dignity and love. Note in the Pocket believes that it is unacceptable that children are limited in their educational and social development because they do not have appropriate clothes for school.

Catholic Parish Outreach \$500

- The purpose of Catholic Parish Outreach Food Pantry is to serve those in need in our community by feeding the hungry and clothing the naked.
- Services are provided in a manner that treats all clients with the dignity and respect that each person deserves.
- Survey results included requests for contribution to a worthy food pantry

Hispanic Family Center of Raleigh

\$500

-The Hispanic Family Center is dedicated to empowering Hispanic families to become more integrated in the community and to improve their quality of life by implementing education programs, health, job training, and referrals to facilitate access to existing community resources.

A Place at the Table \$250

-A pay-what-you-can restaurant. A Place at the Table provides community and good food for all regardless of means. The restaurant serves everyone. The core belief of the organization is that all people deserve dignity to eat in a restaurant and deserve dignity towards a healthy, affordable meal. Wherever a patron may come from, they are welcome to dine at *A Place at the Table*. Families with children, are always welcome to order a meal free of charge. Short-term, non-degree culinary and baking classes are offered; courses lead to industry certifications. Note: This organization is very different from a soup kitchen.

Step-Up Ministry \$500

-Transforming the lives of adults and children through employment and life skills training. A well-established resource in Wake County for people seeking to improve their lives and develop stable careers.

Friends of Kindness \$250

- Provide warm meals, coats, blankets, for Children, Senior Citizens, and Military Veterans in Raleigh, Wilson, & Butner, North Carolina.
- For 16 years as private individuals the organizers have been seeking donations from family, friends, and businesses to complete the mission of providing for others.
- In April 2021, Friends of Kindness Inc. became a nonprofit organization with the goal of extend assistance to additional individuals in our local communities.
- Consideration for this charity motivated by personal endorsement of organizers by Council member(s)

Catholic Education (Organizations Under Discussion)

This category focuses on sponsoring Catholic educational opportunities that drives a deeper understanding of the teachings of the Catholic church. By deepening our understanding of our Catholic faith, we can share the good news of Jesus Christ with others to help them in their faith journey, while also recruiting men to join the Knights of Columbus to lead a life of service to others.

Financial Assistance – The Franciscan Preschool -- \$750

- The Franciscan Preschool was established to help meet the needs of our families, we offer a variety of classes for children from early 2 through 5 years, as well as before and after care options. We provide a strong, structured program that is validated by The Diocese of Raleigh and accredited by AdvancED. We follow the Diocese of Raleigh Early Childhood Curriculum which outlines a continuum of developmental skills in all areas including social-emotional, spiritual, intellectual, creative, and physical. We know the importance of addressing all of these areas early in childhood to help ensure future educational success.

RCIA Program – Educational Materials / Reflection Experience / Bibles \$500

- The Knights of Columbus, All Saints Council, will provide \$500 to the RCIA Program at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church to purchase educational materials, pay for a day of reflection, or secure Bibles for the RCIA candidates. This program will also serve to recruit men, newly Baptized into the Catholic faith, to join the Knights of Columbus.

Rosary Prayer Service – \$500

- *The Knights of Columbus, All Saints Council, will allocate \$500 to purchase rosaries, and prayer cards, for the Crosswalk program at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church to educate children in how to pray the rosary. The education sessions will be held twice per calendar year.*

Men's Bible Study Program – \$250

- *The Knights of Columbus, All Saints Council, will allocate \$250 to fund a Men's Bible Study Program for parishioners of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church to grow our knowledge of God's Word, allowing men to grow in their faith journey. The funds will be used to cover the cost of materials for the program.*

Veterans (Organizations Under Discussion)

HUDVAsh - \$500

= Durham VA Health Care System supports homeless veterans with getting established in transitional housing. They work with HUD to locate and obtain housing opportunities for the veterans and families and connect them to other services of the VA. In 2021, the VA placed 50 of 453 Veterans and families and those receiving transitional housing assistance were supplied new basic housing items, such as mattresses, cleaning supplies, and dish ware starter kits. This group is presented through the VAVS Program by Brother Tom Dupree.

Rescue Ruck Food Pantry - \$500

= The Rescue Ruck Food Pantry is one of many missions provided by the United States Veterans Corps. Located in Raleigh, the USVC provides locale and state-wide support to Veterans and Families. The Food Pantry collects and donates food specifically to Active Duty military families who are suffering hardships and newly disabled veterans who have just entered into treatment. They routinely distribute all the items donated, almost monthly or immediately after donations as the need is so great. USVC is an established 501.c.3 Charitable Organization who has many volunteers and programs support Veterans throughout NC and United States when called. They are verified with the VA as a preferred volunteer and support provider.

NAMI - Wake County - \$500

= The National Alliance on Mental Illness - Wake County Chapter - provides specific peer-to-peer treatment groups for Veterans who are suffering from PTSD, Depression or TBI (traumatic brain injury). The Wake County NAMI Chapter is part of the larger National Alliance, however they can ensure the funds are applied to groups and therapy sessions here locally in Wake County. They also work with VA Support Groups and local VA Clinics for counseling Veterans and helping to identify treatments. NAMI Wake County is a 501.c.3 Charitable Organization with a A+ rating from several charity watchdog groups and AAA rating with Better Business Bureau.

Capital Area Veterans Stand Down - \$500

= Each year The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans coordinates Stand Downs across the country. The Stand Down for Raleigh is scheduled for March 2022 and is held at the VA South Wilmington Street Center, Raleigh. The Stand Down provides homeless veterans with breakfast and lunch while also assisting with essential services such as health care, education assistance, mental health screening, substance abuse counseling, spiritual guidance, laundry services, showers, to name a few. The event is free and open to all veterans. Stand Down works with Wake County Veteran Services to host the event and many local veterans service organizations. A Stand Down is combat term whereby you are moved out of the front line and back to a safe location to recover and rest. This event has grown steadily since 1988 and now hosts about 190 events each year nationwide. Hand Up - Not a Handout is the main philosophy of the Stand Down organization.