



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## Archdiocese of Edmonton

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, PRAY FOR US

### COMMUNITY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT 2010

43 Councils Reporting

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To: All Community Life Council Chairs

Several Councils reported undertaking studies for women's rights as well as Handicapped rights, native issues, and Elder abuse. All reported writing letters to their Member of Parliament and MLA also getting the Parish involved doing same. Petitions were signed for Bill C22 Child Protection, C510 Roxanne's law, Bill C384 Euthanasia, C268 Human Trafficking. Also to stop Gov. Funding of International Planned Parenthood. Some wrote to the Premier of B.C. before the 2010 Olympics regarding Human Trafficking. Groups have taken memberships with the Magdalene House Society a Safe house in Red Deer, as well as the white ribbon campaign. Guest speakers were invited to inform Councils on Human Trafficking. Members teach English to minority men and women in the community. Financial support given to Julietta House for abused women in transition.

Councils are involved in visiting the sick and dying, shut-ins, socially caring for the aged, playing cards, letter writing, driving them to functions, weekly masses, Doctors appointments, grocery shopping. Some volunteer at the hospital, auxiliary, nursing homes and lodges, taking extra care to visit Alzheimer patients. Some mention installing life lines and volunteering at annual senior suppers. Many help feed the homeless deliver Meals on Wheels and serve on Pastoral care. A group has started Prayer Shawl Ministry, sing in the choir, and play the organ at church. Support the food Bank, give gifts and money to single mom's program. Councils make meals for "Habitat for Humanity". Others Donate to ESK – OMI Missions, St Albert Kinette Club Basket, and Sign of Hope Campaign. They also donate to CWL immigration kits and Catholic Missions of Canada; supply warm clothing and blankets to the Marian Centre and street people. Christmas Bags are given to the Spady Center for downtown homeless. One group has organized a "Toast Program" at school to ensure children have something to eat at the start of a school day. Monetary contributions given to schools for their breakfast program. One member received Mayor's award for years of work with disabled and handicapped.

Councils organize parties for Senior's Birthdays at lodges and senior condos. Host Soup and Share during lent with monies going to Peace & Development, the Haitian Crisis. Some honor Pennies for the Poor ministry. St Vincent D' Paul Society, Marion Centre, St John's Food Bank, Win House, Cross roads Family

Services, Mustard Seed, Christmas Bureau, Christmas Shoe Boxes for Mexican Parish, Christmas Dinner basket for the poor, are also supported by some members. One council support Wings, Ladies Auxiliary and St Joseph's Auxiliary as well as the Hospital Ladies Auxiliary.

Refugees: Several Councils support the CWL Diocesan Refugee Welcoming Kits, one Edmonton Council organizes these kits. This year there were 262 new arrivals with only 112 welcome bags. One Zone donated their Mass collection to Refugees in Ethiopia, also collected toiletries to send there. Refugee kits are also organized in Red Deer for their own refugee committee. Household items were also donated to Red Deer Refugee group.

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace: Most Councils are involved with CCODP through their Parishes. Monies is being contributed for projects for Haiti, Guatemala, Canadian Missions, Chile, First Nation Missions, Chalice, OMI missions, Floods in India, Esk-omi, Foster Child, Sisters and School in Peru, Ivory Coast, Peru, Nicaragua, Dr. Comeau/Better World, Matercare, Family Plan, Burundi, Salesian Mission in Mongolia.

Most Councils report that they do not have a Chairman for this Committee. Their focus is to build stronger faith, to make their presence known in their parish. To build on membership in order to make all the ladies in the parish active participants. The most fun they had was when they got together to work on a project which included making quilts (they say quilters have more fun), shawls, pies, bazaars, bake sales, knitting toques, mitts and scarves, shawls and Senior Birthday parties. Praying together and bringing God's presence among them with Peace and Unity.

Respectfully submitted  
For God and Canada

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