



Hamilton Diocesan Council
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Inspired by the Spirit — Women Respond to God's Call



Directive #1

October 2017

To: Parish Community Life Standing Committee Chairs
From: Laura Grint Diocesan Community Standing Chair
Cc: Diocesan President, Provincial Officers

Greetings Sisters, As your Community Life Chair I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to this portfolio. I am just heading into my 40th year in the league and love each and every thing I have done with and for you, and league. Below is our focus and direction for the next two years.

Focus for 2017-2018

Provincial President Anne Madden has challenged us to focus on
Homelessness

In your Fall Regional packages I inserted the flyer for 50 Plus Ways to help the Homeless

Homelessness causes and consequences are complex. Historically, individuals experiencing homelessness in Canada were older, single men. The homelessness crisis we see today is much more diverse including, youth (couch surfers: those who had to temporarily live with family, friends, in their car, or anywhere else because they had nowhere else to live—a situation referred to as 'hidden' or 'concealed' homelessness), women, families, women with children, seniors, veterans, foster children, and indigenous peoples.

Many factors can contribute to an individual being homeless and makes it difficult to regain self-sufficiency, especially when homelessness is for long periods of time.

To Get Started

Spend time as a diocesan council/parish council learning and discussing what causes a person or group to be homeless. You might also want to study what options are available for the homeless in your area. Homelessness has many faces, through Faith, Love, Hope, as noted in first Corinthians 13:13, we will address this social crisis. Even seniors who have no one to care are homeless, they may have a roof but no support.

Here are some websites that address homelessness with suggestions for action:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-socialdevelopment/programs/communities/homelessness/understanding.html>

<http://homelesshub.ca> <http://homelesshub.ca/CommunityProfiles>

<https://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2017/05/31/common-misconceptions-abouthomelessness.html>

[Hidden homelessness in Canada - Statistics Canada](#)

If you have others please share them with me.

In the footsteps of Mary,

Laura Grint
Community Life Chair