



OKLAHOMA STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR LIFE



December 20, 2016

Dear Brother Grand Knights:

Saint Teresa of Calcutta said, “If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed *just one*.” The Knights of Columbus and the Center of Family Love are challenging Catholic Churches across Oklahoma to adopt, *just one*, intellectually and physically disabled friend who lives at the Center of Family Love and for each church to raise money on behalf of their friend. The appeal will be called *The Joy of Mercy Appeal* also known as *The Love Challenge*.

We are proud to be the founders of the Center of Family Love where they have been serving those who cannot care for themselves for 35 years. The Center of Family Love never charges their residents or their families for the care they provide in the event the resident’s cannot afford to live there. Incidentally, the Center of Family Love must raise \$10,000 annually to meet each of their needs.

The Love Challenge is an appeal that will run through the end of June 2017. The Center of Family Love will work with the Knights of Columbus at each parish to designate a “Team Champion” who will accept *The Love Challenge* on behalf of their church.

The Center of Family Love will provide the “Team Champion” with their own website where donations can be accepted on behalf of their friend and a video will be provided explaining how *The Love Challenge* works. The “Team Champion” will work to assemble their “Team of 12” and together they will run a campaign challenging their friends and parish family to be the difference in their disabled friend’s life.

We are thankful for the endorsements of Bishop David Konderla and Archbishop Coakley who sent the attached letters to all the priests in our dioceses. I encourage you to meet with your priest to identify a “Team Champion” within your parish and set a monetary goal you would like to raise for your disabled friend.

“Team Champions” need to be selected by January 2017. Please contact Nancy Altman with the Center of Family Love at naltman@cflinc.org or 405-263-4658 x1042 and let her know your “Team Champion” contact information and the fundraising goal set by your parish. Nancy will be in contact with each “Team Champion” and will work to get them everything they need to launch *The Love Challenge*.

Your support means so much in our efforts to serve those with disabilities and to be united in doing what our Holy Father asks in tending the sheep – those marginalized and often forsaken by others.

Vivat Jesus,

Bob Melko
Center of Family Love Board Member
State Deputy, Knights of Columbus