16th Annual
Advent Alternative Gift Fair
December 7-8, 2019

‘Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.”’
Luke 1:30

Annunciation reprinted with permission of the Catholic artist, Jen Norton. To see more of her work, visit https://www.jennortonartstudio.com/
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‘Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.”’
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This year, our Advent Alternative Gift Fair falls on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. While not an Advent reading that we will hear this weekend, the Gospel for the Feast Day relates the beautiful story of the Annunciation and reminds us of the role Mary played in the Incarnation, the coming of Emmanuel, “God with Us,” for whom we wait this Advent.

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said, “Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.”
But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?”

And the angel said to her in reply, “The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;37for nothing will be impossible for God.”

Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her. Luke 1:26-38

Mary’s response reminds us of our own preparation for the great feast of Christmas. How many ways can we find a way to say “yes” to God’s offer to us to be “Christ-bearers” for the world?
The Advent Alternative Gift Fair is an opportunity for us to reach out to those on the margins through the agencies represented at the fair, agencies that strive to provide dignity and create a more just distribution of the Earth’s bounty. At the fair, you will find beautiful gifts for the holidays that also have a significant impact on the welfare of someone living in poverty here and across the globe. All items sold at the fair are Fair Trade, meaning that the producer or artisan receives a just wage or price for his or her work. Or, you may make a donation in someone’s honor directly to an organization or ministry in lieu of a material gift. By “alternative” giving, we can avoid excessive holiday consumption and, at the same time, honor someone with gift in their name to a worthwhile organization in our community or internationally.

**WHAT IS FAIR TRADE?**

In addition to honor cards, only Fair Trade items will be available at the fair. Fair Trade is much more than a fair price! Fair Trade principles include:

- **Fair price:** Democratically organized farmer groups receive a guaranteed minimum floor price and an additional premium for certified organic products.
- **Fair labor conditions:** Workers on Fair Trade farms enjoy freedom of association, safe working conditions, and living wages. Forced child labor is strictly prohibited.
- **Direct trade:** With Fair Trade, importers purchase from Fair Trade producer groups as directly as possible, eliminating unnecessary middlemen and empowering farmers to develop the business capacity necessary to compete in the global marketplace.
- **Democratic and transparent organizations:** Fair Trade farmers and farm workers decide democratically how to invest Fair Trade revenues.
- **Community development:** Fair Trade farmers and farm workers invest Fair Trade premiums in social and business development projects like scholarship programs, quality improvement trainings, and organic certification.
- **Environmental sustainability:** Harmful agrochemicals and GMOs are strictly prohibited in favor of environmentally sustainable farming methods that protect farmers’ health and preserve valuable ecosystems for future generations.

**WHEN AND WHERE?**

The Advent Alternative Gift Fair will be held the weekend of December 7-8 after each Mass in the Gathering Space of the Church.
WHAT IF I’M NOT GOING TO BE HERE DEC 7-8?

We will have a table set up in the gathering space the weekend of December 14-15. You may purchase greeting cards and/or make a contribution to one or more of the organizations then, or come to the parish office during business hours.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

Make a Contribution to a Local or Global Charity

Make a direct contribution to one or more of the charitable organizations. Consider honoring someone with an “alternative” gift, given in his or her name to a charity working to alleviate poverty, sickness, illiteracy, hunger or homelessness – here or across the globe.

- At the Fair, an honor card will be provided for the recipient of your gift. The funds collected will be sent directly to the agency that you select.
- All contributions are welcome. Thank you for your generosity!

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, amounts for each and number of cards from each, then write ONE CHECK, payable to Immaculate Conception. We also will be able to take credit card payments at the fair.

OR

Purchase a Gift

We have taken care to offer gift opportunities that support the working poor directly or through services that enhance health and quality of life. The gifts that are available for purchase have been made by organizations that assure that the dignity of the worker or farmer who produced them is paid a fair wage. These items include Fair Trade coffee and chocolate, and handmade art pieces that return a fair price to the artisans for their labor.

Thank You for Supporting the Advent Alternative Gift Fair!

Blessed “shopping!”
Around the Globe

**Bread for the World** is a collective Christian voice urging our nation’s decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. (Page 5)

**Heifer International** helps impoverished families throughout the world feed themselves, earn income and care for their environment through gifts of farm animals. (Page 6)

**Bull City Fair Trade** is a local retail outlet supporting the work of talented artisans in over 70 countries through Fair Trade practices. (Page 7)

**Raising Haiti Foundation** is a 501(c)3 charitable entity created in order to increase awareness of the extraordinary and unique work of Fr. Joseph Philippe in Fondwa, Haiti. (Page 8)

**Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua,** promotes self-empowerment through educational, economic and social development and respect for the Earth in San Ramón, Nicaragua, one of the poorest areas in the Western Hemisphere. (Page 9)

**Ugandan School Children’s Lunch Program** is a school lunch program in the Village of Bukomba, Uganda, administered through the US non-profit, Bethany Miracle Village. (Page 10)

Here at Home

**Families Moving Forward** provides emergency shelter to up to 21 families at a time. Numerous community partners, including Immaculate Conception and 30 other congregations, offer hospitality and critical social support to parents and children. (Page 11)

**Furniture Project of Durham** provides gently used, donated furniture free of charge to individuals and families moving from homelessness to housing. (Page 12)

**L'Arche North Carolina** exists to envision and establish a L'Arche community in our state, with special focus on the Triangle area. (Page 13)

**Our Children’s Place of Coastal Horizons Center** (OCP) is a statewide private nonprofit agency committed to the children of incarcerated and returning parents. (Page 14)

**Urban Ministries of Durham** provides emergency food, shelter, clothing and supportive services to homeless and hungry people in need. (Page 15)

**The Welcome Home Program** provides boxes of food and toiletries when people come home from prison. Along with the box they receive 20 hours of peer support (to get them connected to services) and a $25 Walmart gift card. (The card is spent with the peer support counselor to get underwear or other needed supplies). (Page 16)
Bread For The World, founded in 1974, is a collective Christian voice urging our nation’s decision-makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, Bread for the World’s members provide help and opportunity far beyond Durham and North Carolina.

Bread for the World’s Credo expresses well why more than 70,000 Christians throughout our nation support this advocacy work.

We are moved by God's grace in Jesus Christ to work for justice for hungry people. They may be in the next house. Or in the next country. No matter where they live, they are our neighbors. And we have the power to help. Charity alone is not enough. We must urge our government to make fair decisions so struggling families can provide for their children. We must write personal letters and emails to Congress and engage our churches, campuses and other organizations. We must change laws and structures that allow poverty to persist.

When we turn our faith into action, God uses our voices. Again and again, we win help and opportunity. Two fish become many. Five loaves become enough to feed a multitude.

God is moving in our time to end hunger, and we are part of this great liberation. It is our mission to help our neighbors. Wherever they live. They are hungry. And we are Bread for the World.

Bread for the World:

- Has a remarkable record of success in Congress, always working in bipartisan ways.
- Has helped to strengthen our national nutrition programs, assisting millions of families in this country who struggle to feed their children.
- Is focusing on developing the political will to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include ending hunger and malnutrition in our nation and around the world by 2030.

Bread for the World members have won far-reaching changes for hungry and poor people. In recent years, Bread’s advocacy efforts have resulted in more funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Head Start, reduced proposed cuts to programs for low-income families from $3 trillion to less than $50 billion in cuts, and extended tax credits to help 13 million low-income working families.

Immaculate Conception Church has supported Bread for the World for many years. In 2019, church members wrote nearly 500 letters to our Senators and Representatives, encouraging them to support a Global Nutrition Resolution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To make a tax-deductible donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, write one check directly to “Bread for the World Institute” and return it at the Gift Fair. Donations to Bread for the World, (a 501(c)(4) organization) are not tax deductible.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.</td>
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Heifer International, started in 1944, has worked directly with millions of families in more than 125 countries including the United States. Heifer has affected the lives of millions more through pass-on animals and training. Heifer helps impoverished families feed themselves, earn income and care for their environment.

Take a look at the chain of events you set in motion when you “purchase” a gift animal from Heifer International:

You decide to purchase a llama in honor of your mother, who has always loved these gentle animals. Your mother receives a holiday gift card from you describing the generous contribution you’ve made in her honor. Thanks to your gift, one more family is on the road to self-reliance.

Once the family has completed training and has prepared appropriate facilities, they receive a healthy llama. Throughout the year, the llama provides soft, warm wool and the promise of new hope for this family. Each family gives one or more of its llama’s offspring to another family in need in the community. That’s part of the “Passing on the Gift” tradition that participants agree to when they become partners with Heifer. Heifer also ensures that there is a healthy male llama in the village for breeding.

The second recipient family also agrees to contribute their llama’s first offspring to a family in need – who ALSO agrees to pass on the gift. You can see that your gift is much more than one animal – it is the gift of hope for an entire community. Even a small gift can make a difference. Like a stone dropping into still water, your gift ripples out for years to come, ending poverty, hunger and despair for families, villages and perhaps one day, even countries.

Your contribution of:

$20 will buy a flock of chicks for a family in Cambodia
$30 will give the gift of honeybees for a family in Kosovo
$60 will buy a trio of rabbits for a family in China
$120 will buy a goat for an orphanage in Poland, a pig for a young boy in Indonesia, or a sheep for a family in Guatemala
$150 will buy the gift of a llama in Bolivia

To make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, write one check directly to “Heifer International” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
"One World Market is now Bull City Fair Trade! New name, same world-changing game."

**Bull City Fair Trade** on Ninth Street is Durham's only non-profit fair trade store. The store, which is mostly staffed by volunteers, features hand-made crafts and food items that support artisans and farmers in over 70 countries around the world.

Bull City Fair Trade works to build reciprocal relationships between individuals and communities in developed and developing worlds in order to improve the well-being of the poor, both locally and globally; to provide work with dignity so as to end the cycle of poverty; to preserve and strengthen indigenous cultural heritage, including traditional craft techniques; and to teach the community about the economic situation, daily lives, culture and traditions of people whose goods we sell.

Bull City Fair Trade purchases goods only from the groups that observe fair trade practices and operate with integrity and transparency. We have personally spoken with the leadership of these groups as part of our vendor screening process.

**What is Fair Trade?**

Fair Trade is an economic partnership based on dialogue, transparency, and respect. This system of exchange seeks to create greater equity and partnership in the international trading system by:

- Creating Opportunities for Economically and Socially Marginalized Producers
- Developing Transparent and Accountable Relationships
- Building Capacity
- Promoting Fair Trade
- Paying Promptly and Fairly
- Supporting Safe and Empowering Working Conditions
- Ensuring the Rights of Children
- Cultivating Environmental Stewardship
- Respecting Cultural Identity

Fair trade is not about charity. It is a holistic approach to trade and development that aims to alter the ways in which commerce is conducted, so that trade can empower the poorest of the poor. Fair Trade Organizations seek to create sustainable and positive change in developing and developed countries.

To learn more about Fair Trade, visit the website of the Fair Trade Federation at [http://www.fairtradefederation.org](http://www.fairtradefederation.org)
Raising Haiti Foundation

Over the past three decades, Father Joseph Philippe has been providing rural Haitians with the motivation and tools they need to create wealth in their communities and to lift themselves out of poverty. He is best known as the founder of Fonkoze, Haiti’s largest micro-finance institution with 45 branches, 1,000 Haitian employees, 200,000 depositors, 62,000 loans in the hands of the poor, and millions in assets.

But even before the birth and miraculous growth of Fonkoze, Father Joseph was busy in the beloved community of his birth – Fondwa, Haiti. In 1988, Father Joseph founded the Asosyasyon Peyizan Fondwa (Association of the Peasants of Fondwa/APF Haiti) which now boasts a primary and secondary school serving some 700 students, an orphanage, a community radio station, programs in renewable energy, water purification, reforestation and agriculture and so much more. At the 200th anniversary of Haiti’s independence, APF Haiti established the University of Fondwa (UNIF), Haiti’s only accredited rural university.

Facing what others would consider insurmountable odds, whether economic, political or environmental—including the devastating earthquake of 2010, whose epicenter was very close to Fondwa—he, together with a growing team of collaborators, has persevered, turning challenge and struggle into progress and victory.

One of the unique characteristics of Father Joseph’s various undertakings has been the grassroots nature of the impulse and related processes. Far from the often-paternalistic approach taken by well-meaning NGOs, these ventures have blossomed from the ground up: undertakings by and for the very people whose lives are now being transformed.

Since the beginnings of these efforts, much assistance has flowed to these programs, whether in the form of human or financial resources, from Europe, the United States and beyond. The Raising Haiti Foundation, a 501(c)3 charitable entity has been created in order to dramatically increase awareness of this extraordinary and unique Haitian-born enterprise and to allow US donors to receive full charitable deductions for contributing to an array of promising grassroots programs.

To make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, write one check directly to “Raising Haiti Foundation” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua (SCSRN) was founded in 1993. It is a registered nonprofit organization in the state of North Carolina. Through collaboration between San Ramón, Nicaragua and its sister communities in North Carolina, SCSRN promotes sustainable, community-driven development in one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. Ongoing programs at Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua include:

- **Los Pipitos Center for Children with Disabilities** is free and open to any child with a disability. Physical and mental illness does not receive attention in rural areas. Los Pipitos partners with a licensed physical therapist and psychologist to serve these children.

- **Rural School Partnership:** Rural schools are often overcrowded and ill equipped. Organizations, schools, clubs, offices, churches and even individuals can sponsor a Rural School with a three-year commitment of $500 per year. This will supply the 50-70 students at an individual school with school supplies and classroom materials for the whole year!

- **Improved Sanitation in Rural Communities:** SCSRN has partnered with “UMOYS,” an organization of women in the northern part of the municipality, to create a shared latrine building project. SCSRN provides the materials and the families provide the labor. To date, five communities have benefited from this partnership.

- **Community-based Eco-Tourism:** SCSRN offers Eco-Tours as a unique, cultural-immersion experience that allows visitors to experience the history, cuisine, music and artistic traditions of a rural mountain community in a thriving ecological paradise.

- **School construction in rural communities:** Many children are now attending school because schools are within their communities.

Your contribution of:

- $5 will provide school supplies for one child for one year
- $15 will provide school supplies for three children for one year
- $75 will provide physical therapy for one month for up to 30 children
- $1,500 will provide school supplies for an entire school for 3 years

Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua offers fair trade coffee and honey from sustainable farms, jewelry and crafts made by local artists. These items are for sale at the Alternative Gift Fair.

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Sister Communities of San Ramon, Nicaragua” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
Ugandan School Children’s Lunch Program is a school lunch program in the Village of Bukomba, administered through the US non-profit, Bethany Miracle Village.

In 2015, Rev. Msgr. Michael P. Shugrue, of the Diocese of Raleigh, visited the Rector of the Cathedral, Father Joseph Kakooza, in the Diocese of Kasana-Luweero, Uganda for two weeks. During the two-week visit, Father Joe introduced him to one of his eight parish elementary schools. This school is in the Village of Bukomba and is typical of the other seven parish elementary schools. Out of a school population there of 236 students, 186 students come to school each day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and do not have any lunch (because their parents cannot afford to pay for these lunches).

No one knows how many of these 186 students also do not have breakfast before coming to school. While visiting the students, Fr. Shugrue noticed that the lunches were either porridge or rice and beans and cooked by two women over an open fire in a huge cauldron. These meals were simple but ample and nourishing and enabled students to be able to learn in the afternoon.

When Fr. Shugrue asked Father Joe what would be the cost of providing lunch for one student for the school year, he replied $30.00. Of course, that gift would need to be continued annually as we would not want to begin providing a student with lunch for one year and then discontinue the lunch, but gifts of all sizes are welcome!

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to Bethany Miracle Village with “Ugandan School Children’s Lunch Program” in the memo line and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
Families Moving Forward offers a temporary home to families with children in the crisis of homelessness. IC’s long-term partner Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network merged with Genesis Home in January 2016. The new agency, Families Moving Forward, is unique in its focus on addressing children’s needs to stop the generational cycle of poverty, as well as its commitment to continuing to serve our families once they are in their own home. The NEST is our core program, providing emergency shelter to up to 21 families at a time, with the goal of helping adults find jobs and moving families into permanent housing within 90 days. While in the NEST, families receive love and hospitality, and learn essential life skills. The Branching Out aftercare program ensures families are on track to retain their housing and employment, while also working on improving education and increasing income – which is ultimately the only way to end poverty.

Volunteer support, supplementing our professional case management, is absolutely crucial to providing the best outcomes for our families. Volunteers from Immaculate Conception serve meals and provide children’s programming one week each quarter. Others are involved with Study Buddies, working once a week with a school age child on their homework or another learning activity; and small groups work together to form a Circle of Support to walk with a family for a year after moving into their own home.

$36 will provide a monthly bus pass  
$50 will provide educational games for our K-5 children  
$100 will provide a daily planner for each family that comes into FMF  
$300 will provide a used washer and dryer for a large family moving into their own home  
$500 will provide STEM software for our computer lab

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Families Moving Forward” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
The Furniture Project of Durham is a ministry of Immaculate Conception Church which provides gently used, donated furniture and household items to those who have none. Our vision is to provide items that meet the physical and emotional needs of our clients so that they can feel at home in their housing. Many of the families and individuals that we serve are moving from homelessness to stable housing, and others are in housing but are struggling to live without basic necessities such as mattresses and box springs, dishes and flatware, or a table to eat on. All items are delivered free of charge by our all volunteer staff which thoughtfully tailors the selection of items to the needs and preferences of the clients. In 2018 we delivered to more than 130 clients, and we are on track to exceed that number in 2019.

The Furniture Project of Durham serves clients through area social service agencies such as Catholic Charities, Families Moving Forward, Housing For New Hope, Durham Homeless Care Transitions, Center for Child & Family Health, Community Empowerment Fund, Healthy Families Durham, and Latinx Services. The program also works with ICC staff to help our own parishioners.

We gratefully acknowledge special warehouse space considerations given by the Northgate Mall, the ongoing donated beds we receive from the Original Mattress Factory, ongoing furniture and housewares donations from Pennies for Change Thrift Store, annual grants from the ICC Parish, and a Raleigh Diocese Endowment for the Poor grant.

Your contribution to this ministry can fund the following needs:
- $350 will fund one month’s warehouse rent
- $75 will help us rent a U-Haul truck
- $45 will purchase a bed frame
- $60 will purchase a microwave
- $60 will purchase a Kitchen Table and four chairs from TROSA or another thrift store
- $75 will purchase a Sofa from TROSA or another thrift store
- $40 will purchase a Dresser from a thrift store
- $25 will purchase a Coffee Table or End Table from a thrift store

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Immaculate Conception” with “Furniture Project” in the memo line and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
In 1964, Jean Vanier started the first L’Arche community (French for “the ark”) when he welcomed two men with intellectual disabilities into his home in Trosly-Breuil, a small town in rural France. From that humble beginning, L’Arche has grown to be an international federation of nearly 150 communities in 35 countries on five continents.

At the heart of each L’Arche community are individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. They are not clients, patients or recipients of services, but rather friends, teachers, and companions, sharing life in community with those without intellectual disabilities. Through daily acts of care, trust and friendship, all community members are ambassadors of compassion and leaders of social change and the common good.

L’Arche North Carolina is in the process of opening a l’Arche community in our state, with special focus on the Triangle area. We seek to build relationships with those in our community who desire alternative housing for adults with intellectual disabilities, who recognize the gifts of all people, particularly those on the margins of society, and who want to journey with us as we work towards opening our first house. As a community of friendship, L'Arche NC will act as a sign of God’s love for the world as we advocate for a better city and state for people with intellectual disabilities.

The Board of L’Arche USA has been working closely for several years with L’Arche USA and has been approved as a “project.” We are only a step away from the community becoming a reality! In January, we will begin the process of hiring our first Executive Director, with the aim of opening a house the following year. Your donation will fund the following:

- Hiring an executive director, benefits and administrative needs
- Down payment for (or renovation of) our first house
- Hiring and training live-in assistants and our home life coordinator
- Purchasing a community vehicle
- Welcoming core members!

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Friends of L’Arche, NC” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
Our Children’s Place of Coastal Horizons Center is a statewide program, based in the Triangle, that serves as North Carolina’s leading advocate and educational resource focused on children of incarcerated and returning parents.

The work of Our Children’s Place centers on the following:

- Educating professionals, especially those working with children, about the impacts of parental incarceration, resources that are available, how to create a more supportive environment, and more

  This includes workshops for professionals working with children, such as school social workers and counselors, social services staff, and Guardian ad Litem (GAL) staff and volunteers; workshops at statewide conferences; and shorter presentations to staff and volunteers at various community organizations.

- Supporting the relationship between children and their incarcerated parents

  Right now, this is being done by hosting Parent Day at some of the prison facilities, including Orange Correctional Center. There has been discussion about doing more to support children during re-entry and those with a parent in jail.

- Identifying and promoting policies, programs, and practices which improve the outcomes for these children. Many of these changes may target the entire family in order to affect the desired outcome. This is a new area for the program. It may include looking at jail and prison visitation policies, how Departments of Social Services handle supporting these relationships, whether schools provide training to their staff, and more.

Thank you for working with us to create a community where children of incarcerated and returning parents are recognized, supported rather than shamed and stigmatized, and encouraged to share their stories!

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Our Children’s Place of Coastal Horizons Center” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
Urban Ministries of Durham connects with the community to fight poverty and end homelessness by offering food, shelter and a future to neighbors in need. UMD serves over 6000 of Durham’s residents living in poverty every year. Last year, the community cafe served over 20,500 meals per month to poor and hungry neighbors. Many parishioners are deeply involved in the work of UMD. Meals for the hungry and homeless are served in the cafe one Sunday a month by our parish.

Even though most of the food served in the café is donated by the Durham community or purchased through the Food Bank, small gifts can help make a greater difference.

Your contribution of:

$45 will pay for one night of shelter for a homeless person plus meals for a day

$110 will provide 15 prepared meals in the Community Café to a neighbor in need

$360 will cover groceries for 2 weeks for a family of four

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Urban Ministries of Durham” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.
The Welcome Home Program is a peer support program that helps Durham residents connect to local resources the first month after returning from a North Carolina state prison. Peer support specialists can help participants in the following ways:

1. Connect with employment, housing and mental health resources
2. Assist with accessing health resources and benefits
3. Connect with legal assistance for expungement and driver’s license restoration
4. Help with securing identification such as, birth certificate, social security card and driver’s license
5. Provide emotional and social support

The program also provides boxes of food and toiletries when people come home from prison. Along with the box they receive 20 hours of peer support (to get them connected to services) and a $25 Walmart gift card. (The card is spent with the peer support counselor to get underwear or other needed supplies).

- $10 will provide a pack of new socks
- $25 will provide a Walmart gift card
- $30 will provide new underwear and T-shirts
- $50 will provide bedding
- $100 will provide a cell phone for 3 months
- $250 will provide a complete Welcome Home box for one neighbor returning to our community

If you wish to make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, you may write one check directly to “Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to Immaculate Conception.