



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office of the Cardinal

April 12, 2016

Gulf Coast Leadership Council
The Metropolitan Organization
4141 Southwest Freeway, Suite #650
Houston, TX 77027

Dear TMO and Texas IAF Leaders,

As you celebrate over forty years of organizing in Texas, I write to congratulate you for your dedication throughout these years. I know that in offering my gratitude for your presence and leadership in the Houston Area, I speak for so many individuals who are grateful for the transformative effects that the Metropolitan Organization (TMO) and Gulf Coast Leadership Council (GCLC) have brought about for so many.

Notably, the TMO and GCLC have helped to leverage millions of dollars for basic services for our families, such as improving flood prone areas, reducing crime in our neighborhoods. In addition, they have supported legislation which addresses the health care needs of the poorest of the poor; continue to work for immigration reform; help thousands of young adults move out of poverty and into careers with family wages through their support of the Capital IDEA-Houston initiative; and protect the dignity of workers in the public sector by fighting for living wages.

Furthermore, TMO and GCLC are committed to helping transform local leaders by equipping them to become better advocates for their local communities. Just Recently, Pope Francis, in his Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, spoke of the need to support and accompany families, especially in their struggles. It is evident that the work of TMO/GCLC and the Texas IAF Organizations are supporting the Church's mission to be a witness of compassion for all, especially those who are on the fringes of the society.

I congratulate you for over forty years of organizing in Texas and pray that many more will join your efforts to serve as ambassadors of mercy for all people.

Sincerely Yours in Christ

+Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

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