



December 1, 2017

Dear Friends of the Genesee Valley Presbytery,

We want to thank you for the generous grant of \$2000 as a part of our requirement to match the \$60,000 Catholic Campaign for Human Development. We are at the midpoint, and Jimmy just finished the required report – and we have done an excellent job fulfilling the expectations of the grant. In fact, in our meetings with them some time ago, we had already exceeded their expectations at that point!

We are taking some bold steps forward in the coming year to expand our capacity and create more jobs. We are so grateful for your support in reaching our goals.

We are focusing on four priorities, the fourth being somewhat of an unannounced opportunity. Our other three are as follows:

1. Stabilizing our staff - We are well underway with this one. This also includes clarifying and raising expectations for women currently hired and prospective hires. One cool possibility is a woman who has come to us from a halfway house and is very serious about her recovery. She is a 14-year Army vet and managed inventories of over a billion dollars. Do you think she might be helpful as we grow? She is very excited about the coming opportunities, but we will all take it slow while she gets back on her feet.
2. Renovation of the Greenhouse Café - Leaving the Cannonball behind was painful in many respects. But it has also occasioned other needs to support our cooking and catering needs. We are undertaking this renovation to add a new kitchen which will enable us to move forward. This is a huge project. We also need to do extensive renovation at our South Avenue location.
3. Online ordering - We have the technical capability, but not the staffing nor space, at least as it is currently laid out. F. Oliver's on Park Avenue, will be offering four of our coffees online within a week! That's our first step forward.

We thank you for your fantastic support, and we look forward to helping you drink delicious coffee that is fair trade, organically grown and sustainably farmed, roasted by women who have a new chance at life.

Ever so grateful, Joy A. Bergfalk, Executive Director

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