Catholic Commission

Local Resources in Response to the Economic Downturn
Foreclosure Prevention, Jobs, Debt Reduction/ Budgeting, Food Assistance and Legislation

- **The Consumer Affairs Office of Summit County publishes the "Foreclosure Prevention Local Resource Directory." This 10 page guide provides useful information on the following topics: foreclosure assistance and counseling, governmental assistance for homeowners, legal services, and other helpful consumer advice. The directory can be downloaded at http://www.co.summit.oh.us/conaffairsForcloseInter.htm.**

- **Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People offer Foreclosure Prevention Seminars that are free and open to the public. Dates are posted on the web site at www.esop-cleveland.org. The web site also offers resources about: possible mortgage solutions, foreclosure scams, and how to interpret your credit score. In addition, the steps regarding the foreclosure process are outlined on their site.**

- **The state of Ohio, Department of Commerce has developed an outstanding web site to assist Ohioans facing foreclosure on their homes. The "Save the Dream" web site provides county by county information regarding HUD approved housing counseling agencies, legal services, community organizations working on foreclosure and other services. Visit www.com.ohio.gov/savethedream/ or call the hotline at 888-404-4674.**

- **The Consumer Credit Counseling Services is a non-profit credit counseling agency that helps people improve their financial well-being through counseling, community outreach and financial education. They offer assistance in the following areas: budget and credit counseling, bankruptcy counseling, housing programs and financial education. You can visit them at www.cccservices.com.**

- **Catholic Social Services of Summit County offers a financial fitness class. The class includes the following topics: budget development, money management, wise use of credit and other consumer information. For further information, contact Jenny Fowler at 330-762-7481, ext. 104.**

- **The Job Center provides a link to training, education and employment opportunities in one customer-friendly system. According to their web site, "Our services are designed to meet your needs, no matter what your skill level; whether you are looking for your first job, you've lost your job because of downsizing or company closure, or you are exploring new opportunities." Some of the resources at the Job Center are: job postings and referrals, career counseling, resume help, workshops and classes, skill and aptitude testing, 30 computers with internet access, books, videos and other job seeker resources and support services. The Job Center is located at 1040 E. Tallmadge, Akron. The phone number is 330-633-1050.**

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Rose Juriga, Chair Thomas J. Allio, Executive Director

- **Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing grocery relief and financial support to communities throughout the United States. Each month participants receive fresh and frozen food items with an average retail value of $60 for $30. Generally, one unit of food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week. The food is the same high quality that one could purchase at a grocery store. There are no qualifications, minimums, income restrictions or applications. For more information, visit www.angelfoodministries.com.**

- **Consider the services of the Catholic Credit Union near you: St. Paul's Credit Union, 1762 Brown St, Akron, Ohio 44301, 330-724-5183, www.stpaulsparishfcu.com; Ohio Catholic Credit Union, 526 Canton Rd #203, Akron, Ohio 44312, 330-733-6002; Falls Catholic Credit Union, 33 Graham Rd., Akron, Ohio 44313, 330-929-7341, www.fallsccu.org.**

- **The Catholic Commission offers timely legislative information on issues that are the priority of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, the Catholic Conference of Ohio and Catholic Charities USA. You can regularly track the progress of the economic stimulus package, as well as, what respected church leaders are saying about this crisis. Visit www.catholic-action.org.**

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