

# Columbus Hope Foundation Workshop

July 8, 2023

## Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by CHF President, Michael Allen

Opening prayer was led by Jeff Crouch, State Deputy and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Michael Allen, CHF President

Introduction of CHF Board Members, CHF President, Michael Allen

### **Attendance**

Present Officers:

K of C State Deputy, Jeff Crouch, SD

CHF President, Michael Allen, Jr. PSD

Treasurer, David I. Tibbs

Secretary, Anthony Panek

Charleston Region, Jim Martin - **absent**

Greenville Region, Larry Patton, FDD

Myrtle Beach Region, **vacant**

Aiken Region, Charles R. Goergen, PGK - **absent**

Rockhill Region - **vacant**

Columbia Region - **vacant**

Beaufort Region, Denny Mahoney - **absent**

Drive Chairman, Jim Carswell - **absent**

Publicity Chairman, Joe Balotti

Also present were Grand Knights and Columbus Hope Foundation Chairmen from K of C Councils throughout the State of South Carolina. 32 were present at the workshop.

### **Purpose and History of CHF, CHF President, Michael Allen**

Brother Allen gave a brief talk on the history and purpose of the Columbus Hope Foundation. He highlighted that since the 2002 formation of the CHF, \$7,177,247 in gross donations was raised. Over the 46-year history, \$10,495,209 in gross donations has been raised.

### **Approval with Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

CHF Secretary Tony Panek read the minutes from the last workshop (21 Aug 2021). No changes or comments to the minutes.

## **President's Report**

The support of citizens with intellectual disabilities is a **life issue**. Brother Allen described how Iceland is using pre-natal genetics testing and aborting most Down Syndrome babies. There is a disturbing and increasing trend in Europe and the U.S. on the acceptance of aborting babies with intellectual disabilities. Our work needs to highlight the acceptance and contributions of Down Syndrome citizens in our society.

Thanks to all Councils and Chairmen on their fundraising efforts. Donations are rising since COVID-19 but not quite yet to previous levels. CHF fundraising has rebounded, however with changes in the affiliate membership program, roughly 1800 members are no longer billable members in their council. As a result, the number of billable members in our councils has dropped which impacts the fundraising goals. In an effort to return to previous fundraising goals, council goals will be based on \$75 per billable member. This \$75 per billable member will result in an overall goal of \$470K this fundraising year. We will entertain ideas on how to solicit funds from the 1800 affiliate members.

## **Presentation of State Grants – President, Michael Allen**

Seven \$5000 State Grants were awarded this year. The following organizations were awarded grants this year:

- Special Olympics
- Tribble Center
- PeeDee Regional Center
- Camp HOPE
- Washington Center
- Thad E. Saleeby Development Center
- Parents & Guardians Center

Representatives from Special Olympics, the Pee Dee Regional Center and Saleeby Development Center were present to accept the check and made brief comments.

## **Presentation of Council Awards – CHF President, Michael Allen**

Ten councils qualified for awards since the State Convention. Plaques were awarded to those councils at the workshop.

# Columbus Hope Foundation Workshop

July 8, 2023

## **Treasurer's Report – David Tibbs**

CHF provided grants totaling \$274,958. Our expenses were \$4561.58 for a 1.6% expense ratio.

This year's Profit Loss Summary is attached.

## **CHF Workshop Presentation – Joe Balotti, CHF Publicity Chairman**

Brother Mike Allen explained an emergency prevented Brother Jim Carswell, CHF Fundraising Chairman from making the workshop. Brother Joe Balotti filled in and presented fundraising strategies and ideas to the members present. Points included:

- Tootsie Roll order forms are on the CHF website
- Supreme has aprons not the yellow vest. Appears the old source no longer provides the service. Suggested large signs and displays when collecting outside of stores.
- Council 5194, Florence uses these strategies for fundraising:
  - Solicit at McDonalds in the drive thru lane.
  - Large liquor stores in area permit them to collect
  - Plan small golf outings, mostly for fun to raise funds
  - Ushers at Darlington Raceway
  - Mailing campaign to local businesses and past donors.

Brother Alan Chambers described Council 6726 efforts:

- Enjoy yourself and interact with the donors.
- Council is very successful with fundraising socials. Lasagna dinners, Asian dinners and Thanksgiving Turkey Frys. Turkey Frys is their big winner. Doing it for 23 years.

Brother Craig Burgess of Council 3684 described their success with selling smoked pork butts/pulled pork.

## **State Membership Chair – Brandon Chambers**

Brother Brandon Chambers spent a few moments sharing tips on advertising what the Knights of Columbus and your council does for the church and community. Some councils put this info on a small bi-fold business card and provide it to potential

# Columbus Hope Foundation Workshop

July 8, 2023

candidates. Gives the candidate a feel for what the council accomplishes as they make their decision.

He also highlighted that the Form 100 will be replaced soon by on-line membership registrations.

## **Turn in Procedures – Secretary, Anthony Panek**

Brother Panek reviewed the Columbus Hope Foundation Fundraising Report (Form CHF101) and Request for Columbus Hope Rebates (Form CHF102) with emphasis on ensuring forms are complete when submitted to avoid delays in processing grant checks. Proper accounting for expenses (particularly for donated goods and services) was emphasized.

Get your CHF 101 and CHF 102 forms from the columbushope.org website. You can always email me for assistance.

Checks sent to Secretary is for the Net Amount on your CHF 101. Ensure the checks are made out to “Columbus Hope Foundation, Inc.” No other names like Operation Hope of Knights of Columbus.

Send checks from businesses made out to Columbus Hope Foundation, Inc. with an appropriate CHF 101. Business Donation flyers should have their council number on them to ensure that the proper council gets credit for them. Advise them to include your council number with any direct donations to CHF, to claim credit for the fundraising. The same applies for business Matching Fund programs.

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

Brother Alan Chambers volunteered to take on the CHF Drive Chairman position for the 2024-25 fundraising year.

President Mike Allen requested Board of Director volunteers. Consider it and get with him if interested. Vacant positions are the Rock Hill, Myrtle Beach, Columbia and Beaufort Regions.

## **State Deputy Comments and Closing Prayer**

State Deputy Jeff Crouch described his involvement as a youth with Tootsie Roll fundraising in front of grocery stores. Then how he became a Knight at 18 and used his time collecting funds as service hours.

## Columbus Hope Foundation Workshop

July 8, 2023

He stressed that a goal is a target. Don't stress, do the best you can. Any amount is beneficial and needed.

He stressed the importance of Brother Allen's remarks about Iceland and the aborting of babies. He made comments about reports in Northern Europe of euthanasia practices with citizens with intellectual disabilities.

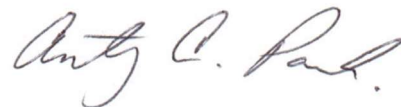
Finally, he made comments on charity being a duty not a courtesy.

### **Meeting Adjourned – Michael Allen**

President Allen wished everyone a successful and safe fundraising year and adjourned the meeting.

**Michael A. Allen, PSD, FDM**

Michael A. Allen, PSD  
CHF, President



ANTHONY A. PANEK  
CHF, Secretary