



In this issue of SOAR! News we are mindful of all the budding of new life in spring and the blossoms of summertime. We invite you to feel the love, joy and trust in the smiles, the care, and the togetherness shared among the children, teens, and adults – spiritual motherhood at its best.

Biology is the least of what makes someone a mother.
-Oprah Winfrey. Spiritual mothering or nurturing involves influencing the physical, emotional, moral, cultural, and spiritual lives of others.

To be a mother, one needs to feel the love of a mother. Many students, patients, homeless and hungry people have felt a mother's love through women religious who have touched their lives in loving ways.

Women religious have been spiritual mothers in the classroom and office, on the playground and street, and at the bedside. They have lived the spiritual and corporal works of mercy – releasing those bound unjustly...setting free the oppressed...sharing bread with the hungry...sheltering the homeless...Their kindnesses have broken forth like the dawn.

All women can be mothers in various ways. Women religious, through their ministries, give of themselves as spiritual mothers in the care, concern and compassion readily given to those who are in need.

Spiritual Mothering



Sister Ida, age 94, teaching the children the universal loving motherhood of the Blessed Mother.



Part of any good educator is enlightening, encouraging, nurturing all those in one's care regardless of age.



*Mother
is the name for
God
in the lips and hearts
of little children.*
William Makepeace
Thackeray



A mother's arms are made of tenderness and children sleep soundly in them.
Victor Hugo

As a mother has compassion for her children, so may God have compassion on you.
Psalm 103



SOAR! Grant Awards

Support Our Aging Religious is happy to announce the 2010 Grant Awards totaling \$ ¾ million that will benefit 44 religious congregations across 17 states. These grants, made possible by our friends and supporters, will improve the living conditions and ensure the safety of almost 3,000 elderly and infirm religious men and women whose median age is 79.

State	City	Congregations	Purpose
Colorado	Denver	Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer	Telephone Upgrade for Safety
Connecticut	Bethlehem	Benedictine Congregation	Window Replacement
	Hamden	Sacred Heart Manor	Replace Boiler
	Wilton	School Sisters of Notre Dame, Inc.	15 Hospital Beds
Delaware	Wilmington	Oblates of St. Francis de Sales (OSFS)	Replace Hot Water Heaters
Illinois	Alton	Ursuline Queen of Peace Infirmary	12 Infirmary Beds
	Olympia Fields	Augustinians-Prov. of Our Mother of Good Counsel	Upgrade Fire Alarm System
Kansas	Atchison	Benedictan Sisters, Mount St. Scholastica	Whirlpool and Lift
Kentucky	St. Catharine	Dominican Sisters of Peace/Sansbury Care Center	Hospital Beds
Maryland	Baltimore	Oblate Sisters of Divine Providence	Infirmary Renovation
Massachusetts	Holyoke	Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield	Automatic Door Openers
	Jamaica Plain	Daughters of St. Paul	H/C Accessible Bathrooms
	Framingham	Sisters of St. Joseph/Bethany Health Care Center	Whirlpool Tub Bathing Systems
	Somerville	Medical Missionaries of Mary	Bathtub Lift, Safety Railings
Missouri	High Ridge	Society of Our Mother of Peace	New Restroom
North Dakota	Richardton	Sisters of St. Benedict, Sacred Heart Manor	New Washer/Extractor
New Jersey	Totowa	Little Sisters of the Poor	Wheelchairs & Reclining Assist Chairs
	Convent Station	Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth	H/C Accessible Bathroom Renovations
	Caldwell	Sisters of St. Dominic of Cladwell, NJ	H/C Entrance Ramp & Parking Space
	Summit	Dominican Nuns	Handicap Grade Ramp

THANK YOU! for your generous grant....Our mission as a congregation calls us to be :”women of prayer and compassion...proclaiming the Good News through a ministry of justice...with reverence for all creation.” It is gifts such as yours that enable us to make a difference in the lives of people throughout our world –to be witnesses of God’s love and compassion to all we meet along life’s journey....We applaud the efforts made by SOAR! for the various retirement needs of religious women and men. Be assured that you will be remembered in our prayers.

Excerpt from a letter from Sr. Peggy Scarano, OP
Dominican Sisters of Sparkill



State	City	Congregations	Purpose
New York	Monroe	Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate	Light Upgrade for Chapel
	White Plains	Sisters of The Divine Compassion	Furniture-Assisted Living Bedrooms
	Blue Point	Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk	Kitchen Equipment
	Sparkill	Dominican Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary	Central Air Conditioning Replacement
	Pepper Pike	Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland	Emergency Lights/Generator
	Hamburg	Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph of Hamburg NY	Mattress Replacement
	Blauvelt	Dominican Sisters of Blauvelt	Upgrade Fire Alarm System
	Latham	Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet/Albany Province	Elevator Upgrade
	Staten Island	Sisters of St. John the Baptist, St. John Villa Conv.	Replacement of Asbestos Roof
	Maryknoll	Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic	6 Replacement Windows
Williamsville	Sisters of the Francis/Neumann Communities	Whirlpool bath tub	
Ohio	Pepper Pike	Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland	Emergency Lights/Generator
	Tiffin	Sisters of St. Francis	Bathroom Renovations
	Sylvania	Sisters of St. Francis/Our Lady of Lourdes	Medical & Therapeutic Equipment
	Columbus	Dominican Sisters of Peace/Mohun Health Care	Wander Management System
Pennsylvania	Scranton	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary	H/C Accessible Minivan
	Reading	St. Joseph Villa, Bernardine Franciscan Sisters	Sprinkler System
	Wyncote	Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus	Window and Floor Replacement
	Pittsburgh	Sisters of St. Francis/Neumann Communities	3 Automatic Lift Chairs
	Erie	Sisters of St. Joseph of NW PA, Inc.	Side Entry Tub
Rhode Island	N. Providence	Franciscan Missionaries of Mary	Upgrade Fire Alarm System
Texas	San Antonio	Society of St. Teresa of Jesus	Intercom & Electrical Repairs
Wisconsin	Sinsinawa	Sinsinawa Dominicans, Inc	Kitchen Equipment
	Milwaukee	School Sisters of St. Francis	Bathroom Renovations



SOAR! Prayer Partners

Prayer opens the heart to God, and it is the means by which the soul, though empty, is filled by God.

~ John Buchan

The grant recipients pray daily for their benefactors. They partner with SOAR! to pray in gratitude for our donors and your special intentions. SOAR! offers an opportunity for our friends to request prayers for special intentions. Please contact us at info@soar-usa.org

April ~ Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph

September ~ Society of Our Mother of Peace

May ~ Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

October ~ Little Sisters of the Poor

June ~ Ursuline Queen of Peace Infirmary

November ~ Benedictine Congregation, Regina Laudis of the Strict Observance

July ~ Benedictine Sisters, Mount St. Scholastica

December ~ Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern PA, Inc.

August ~ Dominican Sisters of Peace – Sansbury Care Center



*Let us run to her, and,
as her little children, cast
ourselves into her arms with
a perfect confidence.*
Saint Francis de Sales



The Board of Directors and staff of SOAR! announce, with mixed emotions, the resignation of Sister Patricia Sullivan, RSM, as president of SOAR!. We take this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge her service and commitment to the mission of SOAR! We warmly wish her all the best as she returns to an elected leadership position with the Sisters of Mercy.

Over the past five years, she devoted herself to improving the quality of life of aging religious women and men. SOAR! benefitted from her intellect, professionalism, warmth, dedication and her quiet spirituality.

Dear Friends of SOAR!

I give thanks to God always for you because of the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus (Corinthians 1:40).

Friendship is more about meanings than words. Over the past five years the friends of SOAR! have had special meanings for me. Through many appeal letters, newsletters, and events, I have met you and you have inspired me with your heartfelt generosity in responding to the needs of religious who taught you, cared for you, and prepared you for the sacraments. They are ever grateful for your help during their time of need and remember you in prayer.

I have resigned from this life-giving ministry that has enlightened and instructed me, personally and professionally. I have been elected to serve on the Northeast Leadership Team of the Sisters of Mercy and will live and work in Rhode Island. During my years working with you, I consistently gave thanks to God for your goodness and asked God to bless you with answers to your special intentions. Working with you is one of the things I will long remember.

God love and bless you -Sister Pat

The Board of Directors extend a very warm welcome to Sister Kathleen Lunsman, of the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Scranton, PA as the new president of SOAR!. Look for more information on Sister Kathleen in the fall!