



--Dear Friends of SOAR!

We have new fundraisers – a 13-year-old Girl Scout and her family.

On February 23, I attended the Wine and Cheese Fundraiser for the benefit of SOAR! at the parish hall of Queen of Apostles Catholic Church in Alexandria, Va. This event was very special because a 13-year-old Girl Scout led the way to make it possible. Maddie Caballero, daughter of Michael and Kathryn Caballero, and member of Girl Scout Cadette Troop 2935 in Alexandria planned and hosted the fundraiser along with her parents and siblings.

About 50 parishioners gathered to enjoy friendship, refreshments, and the background music of a cellist Daren Shumate of Alexandria. Everyone seemed to appreciate the variety of cheeses donated by Trader Joe's at Bailey's Crossroads. All were happy for Betty Joe Lash when she won the beautiful gift basket and certificate contributed by The Curious Grape in Shirlington.

After meeting with Maddie and her family, I learned that she devoted herself to the project to help build her leadership and decision-making skills and to increase the awareness of the financial needs within Catholic religious institutes across the country. All the challenges in planning and hosting the fundraiser to honor and support the Catholic religious were integral to Maddie's earning The Girl Scout Silver Award, the second highest award in Girl Scouts.



Maddie standing with her younger siblings, Mary, AnneMarie, and Michael, who helped with food preparation, decorations, and cleanup.

I spoke on the history and mission of Support Our Aging Religious, Inc. I emphasized that the founding of SOAR! by a lay group of people in 1986 was the first response to address the financial distress of aging and infirm religious. I stressed that the problems identified in 1986 are growing as a result of increasing living and health care costs, the growing number of elderly and infirm religious, and fewer younger members.

The evening was most enjoyable and it gave me an opportunity to express the gratitude of the religious for all who have contributed to SOAR! over the past 22 years and the National Religious Retirement Fund since 1988 as well. A special thank you was extended to the Michael Caballero Family, especially Maddie, for hosting such a pleasant and profitable event for SOAR! Maddie deserves The Girl Scout Silver Award.

As the participants left the fundraiser, they gave good will offerings totaling \$3,850—enough for a SOAR! grant. Typically, grants range from \$2500-\$25,000.

On behalf of the SOAR! Board of Directors and staff and the grant recipients, I extend a heartfelt thank you to all who partner with us to make the grants possible.

May the joy and peace of the Risen Lord be with you.

Sr Pat Sullivan, RSM

2007-2008 SOAR! GRANT AWARDS TOTALING \$1 MILLION

State	City	Congregations	Purpose of Grant
California	Los Angeles	Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary	AC Units
	San Francisco	Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	New Boiler
	Atherton	Society of the Sacred Heart	Backup Generator
District of Columbia	Washington	Carmelite Sisters of Charity	Hospital Beds
Delaware	Wilmington	Oblates of St Francis de Sales	Automatic Lift Chairs/ Hospital Bed
Florida	St. Leo	Benedictine Sisters of Florida	Roof Repair
Georgia	Savannah	Carmelite Monastery, Savannah	Roof Repair and Ventilation
Illinois	Olympia Fields	Augustinian Order	Automatic Fire Doors
	Melrose Park	Missionary Sisters of St.Charles Borromeo	HVAC Repairs
	Chicago	The Congregation of the Passion	Upgrades & Repairs
Indiana	Saint Mary of the Woods	Sisters of Providence	Roof Replacement
	Oldenburg	Sisters of St Francis, Oldenburg	Window Replacement Window Replacement
Kentucky	St.Catharine	The Literary Society of St. Catharine of Siena	
Louisiana	Mandeville	Eucharistic Missionaries of St. Dominic	Hearing Aid
	New Orleans	Our Lady of Wisdom Health Care Center	Replacement of Specialty Whirlpool Bathing Units
Maryland	Lutherville	Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore, Inc.	Emergency Warning Light HC Bathroom Renovation
Massachusetts	Waltham	Marists Sisters	Elevator Upgrade
Michigan	Monroe	Sisters, Servants of the IHM	Handicapped Accessible Van
Minnesota	Little Falls	Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls	Medical Equipment
	Collegeville	Saint John's Abbey	Call System
Missouri	Conception	Conception Abbey, Inc.	Elevator Upgrade
	Savannah	Sisters of St. Francis of Savannah MO	Medical and Other Equipment
	St. Louis	Society of the Sacred Heart	Elevator for ADA compliance
New Jersey	Morristown	Order of St. Benedict of New Jersey	Elevator Upgrade
	Convent Station	Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth	HC Accessible Renovations
New York	Sparkill	Dominican Congregation of Our Lady of the Rosary	Call Bell System
	Blauvelt	Dominican Sisters of Blauvelt	Fire Alarm System Upgrade
	Brooklyn	Sisters of Mercy of the Americas	Hospital Beds and Call System
	Rochester	Sisters of Mercy of the Americas	Heat Detectors/Annunciator Panels
	Clarence	Sisters of St Joseph	Hydrotherapy Whirlpool Tub
	Latham Buffalo	Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet Sisters of St Mary of Namur, Buffalo	Elevator Upgrade Generator

State	City	Congregations	Purpose of Grant
New York (cont'd)	Syracuse	Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities	Medical Equipment
	New Rochelle	The Ursuline Provincialate	Roof Repair and Maintenance
Ohio	Toledo	Sisters of Notre Dame, Toledo	Side Entry Whirlpool Tub
	Sylvania	Sisters of St Francis	Electric Hospital Beds Mattresses
Pennsylvania	Pepper Pike	Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland	Elevator Refurbishment
	Pittsburgh	Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh	New Furniture
	Philadelphia	Medical Mission Sisters	Electric Doors and Furnishings
	Pittsburgh	School Sisters of St. Francis	Call Bell System and Laundry
	Greensburg	Sisters of Charity	Magnification Machine
	Allison Park	Sisters of Divine Providence	Replace Whirlpool Bath
	Pittsburgh	Sisters of St. Francis - Providence of God	Emergency Alert System
	Erie	Sisters of St Joseph of Northwestern PA	Medical Equipment
Rhode Island	Bensalem	Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament	Window Replacement
	Barrington	Discalced Carmelite Nuns	Infirmary Renovations
Texas	Boerne	Benedictine Sisters	Lift Chairs
	Houston	Dominican Sisters of Houston	New Call System
	San Antonio	Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco	Lift Chairs and Chapel Chairs
Wisconsin	Fond du Lac	Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes	Wander Guard Security System
	Milwaukee	School Sisters of St Francis, Milwaukee	Central AC repair
	Sinsinawa	Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters	New Walk in Tub

NEW ORLEANS RECOVERY COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

SOAR! continues to support the following Congregations still recovering from Hurricane Katrina as reported in a *New Orleans Recovery Collaborative Project* by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) and Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities (FADICA):

Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 Congregation of the Marianites of Holy Cross
 Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of Medaille
 Dominican Sisters, Congregation of St. Mary
 Eucharistic Missionaries of St. Dominic
 Sisters of the Holy Family of New Orleans
 Sisters of the Order of St. Ursula



If the only prayer
we ever say in our
lives is "Thank
You" that will be
enough...

Meister Eckhart

58 RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS WILL SHARE \$1 MILLION IN GRANTS

On February 4 the SOAR! board of directors approved of 58 grants to religious congregations in 23 states totaling \$1 million. The awards range from \$5,500 to \$25,000 to help upgrade elevators; install wander guard, call bell, and fire alarm systems; and replace roofs and windows.

Since its founding, SOAR! has distributed almost 800 grants totaling \$9 million to religious institutes in 43 states and Puerto Rico.

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EASTER BLESSINGS!



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