

## SOAR! Awards \$1.1 million in Grants

At its May meeting, the SOAR! Board of Directors approved the awarding of 61 grants totaling just over \$1.1 million to Catholic religious congregations of women and men in 22 states.

Each of the projects funded will enhance the lives of our aging religious and help them remain with and engage with their communities.

Many religious congregations struggle financially to meet the practical needs of their aging members. With an increasing number of members past 70 and fewer in the workforce. There is limited capacity for communities of religious to build the resources necessary to care for their elderly and infirm Sisters and Brothers. The faithful support of our donors makes it possible for SOAR! to provide grants funding that is critical in ensuring the safety, care, and dignity of these beloved servants of God.

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**SEE PAGE 3 FOR A FULL LISTING  
OF CONGREGATIONS THAT  
RECEIVED GRANTS IN 2015.**

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**SOAR! board of directors chairperson, Kathryn Pirrotta Caballero, presents a grant check to Sister Rose Marie, Hennessey, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose. The grant will help provide a new fire alarm system.**



*"Each time I visit congregations to deliver grants, I am moved by the earnest requests of the Sisters and Brothers to thank you for helping them in their time of need."*

– Kathryn Pirrotta Caballero,  
Chair, SOAR!  
Board of Directors



**Sister Eileen Nolan, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville, New York, receives a SOAR! grant from board member, Jim Lynch. The grant will enable the Sisters to purchase and install handrails in the infirmary.**



*"I'm always delighted to see firsthand how the goodness and gifts of so many people help make the lives of our aging religious a little easier."*

– Jim Lynch,  
SOAR! Board Member



Dear  
Friends  
of  
SOAR!

"[T]o love God and neighbor... means seeing in every person the face of the Lord to be served. (Pope Francis)

My heart is filled with gratitude for the many times that you, our dear benefactors, reach out with love to serve God and neighbor. You live out the Gospel command to love another each time you send a donation to SOAR! to help our nation's aging religious men and women.

I could say "thank you" to you one hundred times, and I still wouldn't be fulfilling the wishes of the Sisters and Brothers who ask me to thank you on their behalf.

Time and time again I get phone calls and letters from the presidents or superiors of religious congregations asking me to please convey their deep gratitude to the SOAR! benefactors. Believe me, friends, you are truly making a difference. Your donations make a difference. Your prayers and concern make a difference. YOU make a difference.

Thank you for seeing the face of Lord in those you help by making a donation to SOAR! God bless you now and always.

In gratitude,

*S. Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM*

Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM

# Welcome the New SOAR! Staff



Sister Peggy Scarano, OP  
Regional Representative, East Coast



Sister Carol Loughney, IHM  
Donor Relations



Edward Bauer, Regional Representative,  
Midwest and West

**SOAR! welcomes  
Sister Peggy Scarano, OP,  
Sister Carol Loughney,  
IHM, and Eddie Bauer.**

Our new staff is committed to reach out to you, our donors, to thank you, to share with you SOAR!'s vital work, and to hear from you how together, you and SOAR! can better help our aging and infirm religious.



At the SOAR! office, we are blessed to hear so many stories of how religious have made such a difference in the lives of our grateful donors and their families.

If you would like to share a story about how religious have nurtured you and why you support SOAR!, drop us a note or email [info@soar-usa.org](mailto:info@soar-usa.org), or call 202-529-7627 and speak with Elizabeth Góral-Makowski.

*Celebrate  
with us  
at the*  
**SOAR!**   
**29th Annual  
Dinners!**

October 7, 2015 at the New York Athletic Club in New York City and November 6 at the Italian Embassy in Washington, DC.

For details, visit [www.soar-usa.org/events](http://www.soar-usa.org/events) or contact Sister Kate Clancy, IHM at [kclancy@soar-usa.org](mailto:kclancy@soar-usa.org) or 202-529-7627.

*See you there!*

# 2015 SOAR! Grants

## CALIFORNIA

**Daughters of Mary and Joseph**  
*Rancho Palos Verdes*

Replace window and sliding glass door

**Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle**  
*San Francisco*

Provide accessibility and safety improvements to rectory

**Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament**  
*Bonita*

Install air conditioning in convent

**Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose**  
*Fremont*

Install fire alarm

## ILLINOIS

**Sisters of the Living Word, Arlington Heights**  
*Arlington Heights*

Purchase furniture for aging in place

**Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Chicago**  
*Chicago*

Purchase safety upgrades

## INDIANA

**Brothers of Holy Cross, Midwest Province**  
*Notre Dame*

Purchase chairs for chapel

**Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis**  
*Oldenburg*

Upgrade touch exit controller to ensure the ongoing safety of Sisters with memory issues

**Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana**  
*Ferdinand*

Install acoustical wall panels

## KANSAS

**Benedictine Sisters Mount St. Scholastica**  
*Atchison*

Purchase electronic blood pressure and pulse machines

## LOUISIANA

**Sisters of the Holy Family, New Orleans**  
*New Orleans*

Renovate bathroom

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield, Springfield**  
*Springfield*

Install handicapped access lift

**St. Joseph's Abbey, Spencer**  
*Spencer*

Renovate showers in infirmary

**Sisters of St. Anne, Marlborough**  
*Marlborough*

Purchase furniture for aging in place

**Glastonbury Abbey, Hingham**  
*Hingham*

Install accessible lift

**Cistercians of the Strict Observance, Wrentham**  
*Wrentham*

Renovate infirmary kitchenette

**Daughters of St. Paul, Boston**  
*Boston*

Install walk-in bathtub with water jet therapy

**Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa**  
*Brighton*

Install fire escape doors

**Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Newton**  
*Newton*

Upgrade Sisters' kitchenette and service area

## MARYLAND

**Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity**  
*Silver Spring*

Necessary safety upgrades

**Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart**  
*Towson*

Necessary safety upgrades to parking area

**St. Joseph's Society of the Sacred Heart**  
*Baltimore*

Technology upgrades to phone system

**Atlantic Midwest Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Baltimore**  
*Baltimore*

Purchase furniture for aging in place

## MICHIGAN

**Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe**  
*Monroe*

Assistive listening devices

## MINNESOTA

**Benedictine Sisters of St. Paul's Monastery**  
*St. Paul*

Purchase a Smart Stand to assist infirm

Sisters to stand up

**Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota**  
*Little Falls*

Purchase automatic recliners

## MISSOURI

**School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province, St. Louis**  
*St. Louis*

Elevator upgrade in retirement center

## NEW JERSEY

**Sisters of St. Dominic, Caldwell**  
*Caldwell*

Install generator for elevator

**Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth**  
*Convent Station*

Install ceiling paddle fans in the Sisters' bedrooms

## NEW YORK

**Sisters of Charity New York, Riverdale**  
*Riverdale*

Upgrade bathrooms for accessibility

**Dominican Nuns of Perpetual Adoration**  
*Bronx*

Install a whirlpool bathtub

**Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, Garrison**  
*Garrison*

Elevator upgrade in assisted living wing

**Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Maryknoll**  
*Maryknoll*

Replace windows on the retired/assisted living floor

**Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America**  
*New Rochelle*

Purchase and install electric stair lift

**Ursulines, Order of St. Ursula, New Rochelle**  
*New Rochelle*

Install energy efficient heat vacuum/pump system

**Sisters of St. Dominic, Blauvelt, New York**  
*Blauvelt*

Purchase furniture for aging in place

**Dominican Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary**  
*Sparkill*

Install two generators

**Dominican Sisters of Amityville, Amityville**  
*Amityville*

Purchase and install handrails in infirmary

**Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk, Jamaica**  
*Jamaica*

Purchase two stairlifts

**Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, New York**  
*Brentwood*

Renovate laundry facilities

**Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet - Albany Province, Latham**  
*Latham*

Purchase whirlpool tub

**Sisters of St. Joseph of Buffalo, NY**  
*Clarence*

Upgrade dining serving area

**Sisters of St. Mary of Namur (Eastern Province)**  
*Buffalo*

Purchase furniture for aging in place

**Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, Rochester**  
*Rochester*

Replace entrance door and chairs

**Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities, Syracuse**  
*Syracuse*

Install magnetized door holders on retired Sisters' bedroom doors

## OHIO

**Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland, Pepper Pike**  
*Pepper Pike*

Water system repairs

**Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown, Canfield**  
*Canfield*

Renovate handicapped-accessible bathrooms

**Sisters of St. Francis, Tiffin**  
*Tiffin*

Renovate handicapped accessible bathrooms

**Sisters of St. Francis of the Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes, Sylvania**  
*Sylvania*

Cambro induction system

**Sisters of Notre Dame, Toledo Province**  
*Toledo*

Purchase furniture for aging in place

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton**  
*Scranton*

AV upgrades for infirmary chapel

**Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, Aston**  
*Aston*

Upgrades to Sisters' retirement home

**Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great**  
*Fox Chase Manor*

Install new boiler and water heater

**Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Mid-Atlantic Community**  
*Merion Station*

Replace external doors with windows for Sisters with dementia

**Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart**  
*Reading*

Sound system for convent chapel

**Bernardine Franciscan Sisters, Reading**  
*Reading*

Install a nurse call/alert system

## SOUTH CAROLINA

**Poor Clares at Franciscan Monastery of St. Clare, Travelers Rest**  
*Travelers Rest*

Install hearing loop in chapel

## WASHINGTON

**Sisters of St. Dominic of Tacoma, Tacoma**  
*Tacoma*

Assistive listening devices

## WISCONSIN

**Sisters of Charity, Blessed Virgin Mary**  
*Dubuque*

Install stair lift for convent stairs

**School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee**  
*Milwaukee*

Medical alert system

# Announcing the SOAR! Legacy Society

Estate planning is important for all people. It provides for the future needs of your family and loved ones. It can also be a means to ensure charitable organizations you've supported, like SOAR!, are remembered.

In recent months, a few dear friends have remembered SOAR! in their estate plans. Their confidence in the mission of SOAR! and their loving desire to support elderly religious in their time of need is a life line.

To honor these donors and so many others who wish to make a lasting gift to SOAR!, we have established the **SOAR! Legacy Society**. This special group celebrates those individuals who share our vision to ensure that aging Catholic religious Sisters, Brothers and Priests live in safety and with the comfort and dignity they so deserve.

Should you choose to include SOAR! in your will or other estate plans, we would be honored to know of your intentions and have you as a member of this newly formed Society.



Members of the SOAR! Legacy Society will be recognized in the Winter edition of our newsletter, *SOAR! Notes*, and will benefit from special inclusion in the prayers and good works of the Sisters, Brothers and Priests who benefit from donations made to SOAR!

A brochure is enclosed with the newsletter to help you review some options for estate planning. Please let us know if you've already included SOAR! in your estate plans. You can also call SOAR! at 202-529-7627 and speak with Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, SOAR! president.

## Do you know...



SOAR! will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2016! Check our Winter edition of *SOAR! Notes* to

learn about ways you can join us in commemorating this special year and honoring the aging religious Sisters, Brothers and Priests whose lives of service have blessed so many.

## Thank you for supporting our aging religious!

To review SOAR!'s legacy brochure online, please visit [www.soar-usa.org](http://www.soar-usa.org). Our legal title is Support Our Aging Religious, Inc. and our federal tax ID number is: 52-1485481



**A CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION SERVING ELDERLY SISTERS, BROTHERS AND PRIESTS SINCE 1986.**



The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate the mission and needs of SOAR! and to express our gratitude to our donors.

President: Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM  
Editor: Elizabeth Góral-Makowski



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