

SOAR! Awards 2018 Grants

At its May meeting, the SOAR! Board of Directors approved the awarding of *more than \$1.2 million in grants* to Catholic Sisters, Brothers and Priests across the United States.

Your gift to SOAR! is a way to say “thank you” to these tireless servants of God.

Each of the projects funded will ensure they can remain safely in their communities and surrounded by love. Your gift means that they can continue their mission to God’s people.

This year, you made it possible for SOAR! to award **77 grants**, including nine emergency grants, to religious congregations in 21 states and Puerto Rico. These grants assisted 8450 aging men and women religious.

Thank you!



In June, SOAR! board member Mary Etta Mills, right, delivered a grant check to Sister Luz Ortiz, center, and Bernadette Sahm with the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart in Towson, Maryland.

You are invited to meet SOAR! in Chicago

SOAR! is hosting a thank you reception in Chicago

on Tuesday, September 18, 2018

4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

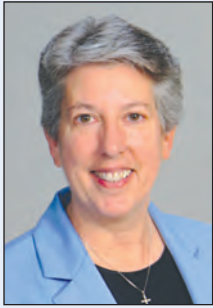
at St. Ignatius College Prep

Fr. Rowe Building

1076 W. Roosevelt Road

Please RSVP to Annika Paquette at events@soar-usa.org or (202) 529-7627.

We hope to see you there!



Dear Friends of SOAR!

My inbox was overflowing last week with messages from more than 70 leaders of congregations who had just received word that their congregation was approved to receive a SOAR! grant. I wish I could forward each email to you so you could feel the same joy I experienced reading each message. The grant means so much to them, and it means even more to their aging members. The grant means freedom for a Sister in a wheelchair who can now open an automatic door by herself. The grant means peace of mind for the Brother in charge of scheduling rides for medical appointments in his community. He is so happy they can now buy a minivan that will accommodate wheelchairs. Your donations and support bring joy to so many Catholic Sisters, Priests and Brothers, not only to those who are aging, but also to their leadership and superiors who care for them. A constant message included in each thank you was a reassurance that the SOAR! donors are included in the community prayers of each congregation. Over and over again I read the sincere words, "Please know that we are remembering your donors in our prayers." And you are always remembered in mine.

In gratitude,

Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM

Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM
President

Treasured Memories

For generations, Catholic Sisters have prepared boys and girls for their First Communion. We asked them to share their favorite memories and pictures of their students on this holy day, as well as pictures and reminisces from their own First Communion days.

"I remember thinking that the time to receive Jesus would never come! When we finally processed to the communion railing and knelt to receive the consecrated host, I was so excited and happy," wrote Sister Ann Casper, SP.

"From now on I would not have to sit by myself in the pew when everyone else went to Communion! It was indeed a special day and still is."

Sister K.C. Young, OP, remembered teaching her first class of First Communicants in 1971.

"One of my 7 year old students named Santiago asked this beautiful question as I explained what privilege we have to receive the consecrated host: 'Sister, can I really be a house for God?'"



Sister Ann Casper on her First Communion Day

Some of our donors shared their own treasured memories:

"As it was war time, my mother fashioned my dress from her wedding dress. The soles of my shoes were cork as no leather was available." – Carolina in East Williston, New York

"I am a recipient of a phenomenal education taught by Religious Sisters of Mercy. My First Communion day was 75 years ago but I remember it as a very special day." – Christine in Oakland, New Jersey

"I made my First Holy Communion over 70 years ago and I remember it like it was yesterday. I still have the Rosary I was given." – Patricia in Northport, New York

You can read more memories on our website at www.soar-usa.org/memories. If you have a memory you would like to share of your own First Communion, email Eleanor LaPrade at elaprade@soar-usa.org or call (202) 529-7627.

2018 SOAR! Grants

ARKANSAS

Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco
Upgrade door to health center

CALIFORNIA

Missionary Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit, Los Angeles
Purchase accessible van

Daughters of Mary and Joseph, Rancho Palos Verdes
Purchase chair lift

Sisters of Notre Dame, Thousand Oaks
Replace windows

Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles, Alhambra
Purchase accessible van

Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, Bonita
Replace beds

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, Fremont
Install automatic dining room doors

Abbey Of New Clairvaux, Vina
Replace roof

Lovers of the Holy Cross, Gardena
Renovations to infirmary

CONNECTICUT

Daughters of Our Lady of the Garden, Middletown
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hamden
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

FLORIDA

Poor Clare Nuns, Fort Myers Beach
Hurricane Maria relief

ILLINOIS

Sisters of the Living Word, Arlington Heights
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

The Congregation of the Passion, Holy Cross Province, Park Ridge
Upgrade HVAC

Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Wheaton
Purchase accessible van

Dominicans, Province of Saint Albert the Great, Chicago
Install safety upgrades

Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus, Chicago
Purchase medical equipment

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Chicago
Replace beds and furniture in infirmary

INDIANA

Brothers of Holy Cross, Midwest Province, Notre Dame
Purchase adaptive furniture

Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Ferdinand
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

KANSAS

Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison
Purchase medical equipment

MASSACHUSETTS

Sisters of St. Chretienne, Wrentham
Replace carpet and rugs

Daughters of St. Paul, Boston
Upgrade bathrooms for accessibility

Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Newton
Replace windows

MARYLAND

Missionary Servants Of The Most Holy Trinity, Silver Spring
Replace fan coil units

Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore, Lutherville
Purchase furniture for aging in place

Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, Towson
Purchase vehicle for wellness coordinator

Atlantic-Midwest Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Baltimore
Purchase adaptive furniture

Oblate Sisters of Providence, Baltimore
Purchase adaptive furniture

MISSOURI

Adorers of the Blood of Christ, St. Louis
Upgrade bathrooms for accessibility

Sisters of St. Francis of Savannah MO, Savannah
Replace infirmary furniture

NEBRASKA

Missionary Society of St. Columban, St. Columbans
Upgrade bathrooms for accessibility

NEW JERSEY

Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell, New Jersey Caldwell
Install nurse call system

Missionary Society of the Salesian Sisters, Haledon
Install hearing loop system

Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station
Install automated door operators

NEW YORK

Servants of Mary Ministers to the Sick, Bronx
Purchase furniture for aging in place

Sisters of Charity New York, Bronx
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, Garrison
Replace televisions with wall-mount units

Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Maryknoll
Purchase new sound and camera system

Passionist Missionaries, Rye Brook
Renovate fire alarm control and emergency system

Ursuline Sisters of the Eastern Province, New Rochelle
Install air conditioning

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North American, Province, New Rochelle
Renovate bath and bedroom for accessibility

Sisters of Saint Dominic of Blauvelt

Blauvelt
Upgrade bathrooms for accessibility

Dominican Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary, Sparkill
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

Sisters of St. Joseph, Brentwood
Purchase text to speech reading machines

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet – Albany Province, Latham
Purchase medical equipment

Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, New Windsor
Install acoustical ceiling in dining room

Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities, Syracuse
Purchase furniture for aging in place.

Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, Rochester
Purchase nurse call-light system

OHIO

Dominican Sisters of Peace, Columbus
Purchase scooters and adaptive furniture

Sisters of St. Francis (Sylvania Franciscans), Sylvania
Purchase electric air mattresses

Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Highland Heights
Renovate laundry room and install carpeting for accessibility

Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, Ohio, Tiffin
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

OREGON

Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel, Oregon, Mount Angel
Purchase furniture for aging in place

PENNSYLVANIA

Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh, Bakerstown
Renovations for accessibility

Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern PA, Erie
Purchase furniture for aging in place

Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Erie
Install automatic door operators

Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Danville
Upgrade bathroom for accessibility

Sisters of IHM Scranton, Scranton
Replace flooring in infirmary

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, Aston
Purchase lift chairs

Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great, Jenkintown
Replace exterior doors of buildings

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Mid-Atlantic Community, Merion
Purchase adaptive technology

Canons Regular of Premontre, Paoli
Purchase accessible van

Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Immaculata
Purchase mechanical lifts

2018 SOAR! Grants *continued*

Bernardine Franciscan Sisters, Reading
Upgrade equipment in skilled-care facility

PUERTO RICO

Hermanas Dominicás de la Santa Cruz, Bayamon
Hurricane Maria relief

School Sisters of Notre Dame, Caguas
Hurricane Maria relief

Religiosas del Sagrado Corazon, San Juan
Hurricane Maria relief

RHODE ISLAND

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Northeast Community, Cumberland
Replace windows

SOUTH CAROLINA

Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy, Charleston
Replace heater/AC

TEXAS

Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT), Corpus Christi
Replace windows

La Salle Sisters, Houston
Hurricane Harvey relief

The Cenacle Sisters, Houston
Hurricane Harvey relief

Missionary Carmelites of St. Teresa, Houston
Hurricane Harvey relief

VIRGINIA

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia, Bristow
Purchase assisted-living equipment

WISCONSIN

School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee
Replace hospital beds

Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Francis
Purchase therapeutic whirlpool



Francis and Jean Smith, Sister Peggy Scarano, OP, Kelly Smith Haley at a reception in Chicago on June 7. The event was hosted by the Smith family and introduced their friends and colleagues to the mission of SOAR!.

**PLEASE JOIN US
for the SOAR! Awards
Dinners benefitting aging
and infirm religious**

Thursday, September 27, 2018
New York Athletic Club
New York, New York

Honorees:

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, C.Ss.R
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
Deacon Kevin McCormack
Sister Tesa Fitzgerald, CSJ

Friday, November 2, 2018
Embassy of Italy
Washington, DC

Honorees:

Jones Day
Sister Mary Bourdan, RJM

For further information, please visit
www.soar-usa.org/events
or contact Annika Paquette
at (202) 529-7627 or
events@soar-usa.org.

Please remember SOAR!
in your will or estate plans.
Our legal title is Support
Our Aging Religious, Inc.
Our federal tax ID number
is 52-1485481.

Federal employees and military personnel can donate to SOAR! through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Designate Support Our Aging Religious (SOAR!) to receive your CFC contribution and help aging religious. Our number is 10041.

Make sure aging religious can count on you — become a Faithful Friend monthly donor! It's an easy way for you to help support aging religious, and means they can count on your faithful support to help them live in safety and with dignity. To learn more, visit www.soar-usa.org.

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

SOAR!
Support Our Aging Religious

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 Lunsman, IHM
Editor: Elizabeth Góral-Makowski
Co-Editor: Eleanor La Prade



Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/soarusa



Follow us on Twitter
www.twitter.com/soarusa



Follow us on Instagram
www.instagram.com/soarusa



P.O. Box 96409 | Washington, DC 20090-6409 | (202) 529-7627 | www.soar-usa.org