

Honoring Yesterday, Embracing Tomorrow



This year marks an important milestone. SOAR! celebrates 35 years dedicated to its mission to ensure the health, safety and dignity of aging Catholic Sisters, Brothers, and Priests in the United States.

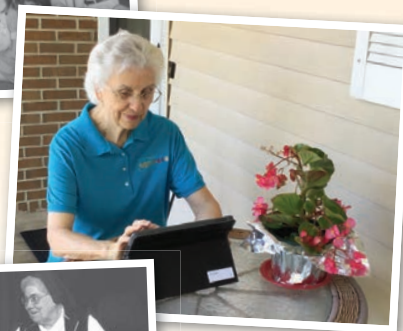
Through your partnership, SOAR! remains true to its mission. Together, we honor the selfless devotion to service of these women and men religious. They have cared for us and stood with us in good times and in bad. Their commitment to their ministry and mission does not fade. They remember us every day in prayer and through their good works.

SOAR! distributed its first grants to 11 congregations in 1987. In fiscal year 2020, SOAR! provided 90 grants totaling more than \$1.3 million.

SOAR! grants continue to provide necessary assistance to enhance the care of aging religious and help them thrive and actively participate in the life of their communities. Keeping up with the signs of the times, SOAR! strives to remain flexible to meet the changing needs of religious.

Your goodness allows SOAR! to support our religious when they need us most. Along with its regular grant awards, SOAR! assists congregations in emergencies from hurricanes to broken boilers. Its role as a vital resource for religious congregations has perhaps been most evident during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

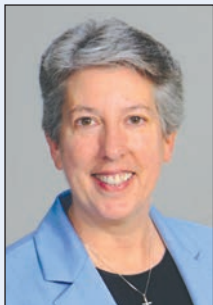
Thanks to you, SOAR! looks to tomorrow with hope and confidence. Thanks to you, SOAR! looks to tomorrow with hope and confidence. With your support, SOAR! can honor the Catholic religious who continue to faithfully serve God's people.



Support Our Aging Religious

35  **Years**
of Caring
Honoring yesterday, embracing tomorrow

1986
2021



Dear Friend of SOAR!

"This is the time to be slow, lie low to the wall until the bitter weather passes." The words of the poet, John O'Donohue, speak to me not only of the winter months, but also of the pandemic time in which we have been living for more than one year. Soon the cold weather will end, and we will step out into the warmth of springtime. With caution, we will also move away from the loneliness and isolation of the pandemic, but we will never be the same. Many of us have lost loved ones to COVID-19, or know people who recovered from the virus but still have long-lasting symptoms. For our community at SOAR!, we will always hold in our hearts the memories of the religious women and men who died this past year. It was heartbreaking to hear the news of the rapid succession of deaths in convents and monasteries. I know you prayed along with us for the souls of all who died, and I thank you for always keeping our aging religious in your prayers.

"If you remain generous, time will come good; and you will find your feet again on fresh pastures of promise, where the air will be kind and blushed with beginning." May Easter hope bring new life and new beginnings to you and those you love.

Blessings,

S. Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM
Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM

P.S. If you haven't sent me your email address, please send it to info@soar-usa.org.

Mark Your Calendar for the 2021 SOAR! Virtual Awards Galas

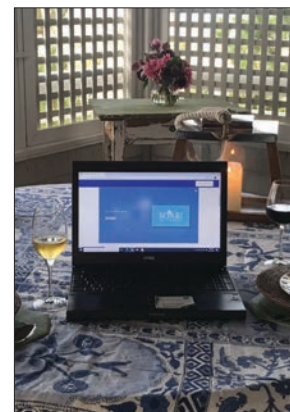
Celebrate the 35th anniversary of SOAR! at our virtual galas this fall. The funds raised at these events will benefit our aging religious, and help SOAR! respond to the emergency needs.

The SOAR! New York Awards Gala takes place on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 7 PM EST.

The SOAR! DC National Awards Gala takes place Friday, November 5, 2021 at 8 PM EDT.

There is no charge to join us at these events, but pre-registration will be required. It would be an honor to have you as a guest. We'll be sharing more information in the coming months about how to sponsor and register for these exciting events.

For more information, please contact Kevin Callahan, special events director, at events@soar-usa.org or visit www.soar-usa.org/events. We look forward to your participation!



Every gift
COUNTS.

Every gift makes a
DIFFERENCE.

Every gift expands
your legacy of
LOVE.



Leave a Lasting Legacy

To learn more about planned giving, visit www.soar-usa.org or call SOAR! at (202) 529-7627.

Words of Thanks for Your Care in Action.

Because of you, aging religious women and men across the country are filled with gratitude for your generosity and kindness. In this edition of SOAR! Notes, we wanted to share a few pictures of your care in action, along with some of the many thank you notes that SOAR! receives.



STAIR LIFTS

Missionary Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit, Los Angeles, CA

Stair lift chairs give Sisters peace of mind knowing they can safely move from floor to floor.

"The lift chair assists those in my community who have difficulty climbing stairs."

Sister Reyna Resendiz, MGSps

Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hamden, CT

The installation of new flooring in the dining area and some bedrooms provides a safe and even surface, which prevents falls and makes it safer for Sisters using walkers or wheelchairs.

"The new dining room floor is beautiful! It's so easy to walk on with walkers."

Sister Elaine Lattanzi, ASCJ



FLOORING



SCOOTERS

Congregation of the Resurrection, Chicago, IL

The motorized scooter is used by members to navigate the hallways and is a blessing to those with limited mobility, who can now continue to participate in community prayer and ministry.

"I cannot imagine returning to my life without the scooter. I guess I had not realized how limited my movements were until SOAR! had enabled the house to purchase and allow me to use the electric scooter. I really am very grateful."

Brother Bill Hallas, CR

Dominican Sisters of Peace – Akron and Columbus, Ohio

COVID-19 affected everyone, including congregations needing to get PPE and sanitation supplies to ensure the safety of their Sisters.

"Thanks to the Rapid Response Grant provided by SOAR!, the Motherhouses had necessary PPE and infection control supplies."

Sister Patricia Twohill, OP



PPE



VANS

Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, Towson, MD

An accessible van ensures that Sisters are able to travel comfortably and safely to doctor's appointments and social events.

"We are overcome with gratitude and deep appreciation. I'm thankful that an organization like SOAR! exists."

Sister Loretta Cornell, MSHS

Thank you!

Half My DAF Challenge

Your gift can have a bigger impact than ever through the #HalfMyDAF 2021 matching-grant challenge.

There is more than \$140 billion unused in Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs) across the country. The #HalfMyDAF challenge aims to put these charitable dollars to work right now, when and where they are needed the most.

Anyone who makes a grant to SOAR! through their DAF and commits to granting half the money from their DAF to qualified charities before September 30 increases our chance to get a matching grant of up to \$100,000. You can fill out your nomination form and learn more at www.halfmydaf.com. The more people who nominate SOAR!, the better our chances of receiving a matching grant!

Your donation can go further than ever, and will help SOAR! continue its mission of ensuring the safety and dignity of aging Catholic Sisters, Brothers, and Priests across the United States.



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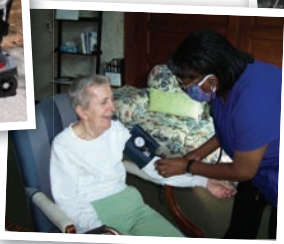
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Say "thank you" to our aging religious all year long. Become a FAITHFUL FRIEND monthly donor! To learn more, visit www.soar-usa.org/giving.



A CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION SERVING AGING 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.

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