

Bringing joy to the world



For over 35 years, the incredible generosity of SOAR! donors has ensured the safety, dignity and comfort of aging religious women and men. The kindness of people like you brings joy to their souls and to their communities!

Our aging religious stay active and increase their strength thanks to therapeutic equipment purchased through a SOAR! grant. They improve their balance and coordination – decreasing the risk for falls and increasing their overall vitality.



The cardio drum equipment is a hit with the Sisters of Notre Dame of Toledo, Ohio.



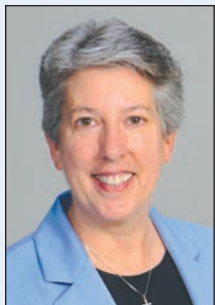
Stair lifts allow Sisters to remain active in their communities.

Sisters experience fewer aches and pains and greater comfort thanks to adjustable hospital beds provided by a SOAR! grant. The ability to move the beds to higher or lower levels allows elderly religious to safely transfer from their beds to a standing position or to a wheelchair.

Scooters and stair lifts help religious safely move around their residences and participate in ministries and in the life of their community.

These are just some snapshots of the ways your gift makes a difference. Thank you for all you do to bring joy and peace of mind to religious across the United States.

You are a blessing!



Dear Friends,

In the midst of the global pandemic and all the restrictions in the workplace necessary to keep us safe, the staff at SOAR! has been working very hard. I often say, when you are going uphill, it is time to step on the gas! And that is what we are doing.

We are motivated by the stories we hear about the increasing needs of our aging religious during these times when the protections taken to stop the spread of the virus can sometimes leave them feeling alone or isolated, or even afraid. We know that you, our donors, want us to provide for the needs of our Sisters and Brothers in the timeliest manner possible. It is because of your generosity, that we can take care of our aging religious *today*.

Thank you for inspiring me and the staff at SOAR! to work hard to make a difference to the aging religious who need our help.

As we move into the close of another year, know that you and your families are in my prayers. May you enjoy happy and healthy celebrations with friends and family. Merry Christmas.

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.

WAYS TO PARTNER WITH SOAR!

Your prayers and support are a godsend to aging religious. As we look towards the start of a new year, please consider other ways you can partner with us:

Donor Advised Funds

A Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is an investment account for philanthropic giving. It offers immediate tax benefits and the flexibility to support your charities over time.

Appreciated Stock

The gift of appreciated stock to a qualified charity like SOAR! can benefit both you and aging religious. Potential advantages to gifts like these include the elimination of property gains tax on the appreciated value, plus the charitable donation deducted from the calculated value of the stock at the time of the donation.

Individual Retirement Account (IRA)

You can realize tax advantages with a gift made directly to SOAR! through a qualified charitable distribution. The provision has a cap of \$100,000 per individual for charitable distributions from individual IRAs each year.

Become a Faithful Friend

You can specify an amount to be charged each month to your credit card or withdrawn from your bank account. Visit www.soar-usa.org/faithful-friends. You can cancel or change your gift at any time by contacting us.

Social Media

Become an ambassador for SOAR! by liking and sharing SOAR! posts on social media. Whether it is Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn, you can help SOAR! spread news about its mission.

If you'd like to learn more about planned gifts or other options of giving, please contact Elizabeth Góral-Makowski at (202) 529-7627 or emakowski@soar-usa.org.

An interview with SOAR! honoree Sister Donna L. Ciangio, OP, D. Min.

Sister Donna received the 2021 Father Victor Yanitelli, SJ Award at the Fall 2021 SOAR! New York Gala. She was recognized for her more than 50 years of religious life, in which she has played significant leadership roles as well as nurtured the gift of faith in others. A Dominican Sister of Caldwell, New Jersey, she has served as chancellor of the Archdiocese of Newark since September 2018.

SOAR! recently spoke with Sister Donna about how religious life is changing as more religious age, and how SOAR! makes a positive difference in the lives of aging religious.



Yanitelli Awardees, Sister Donna Ciangio, OP (2021) and Sister Gerardine Mueller, OP (2019)

SOAR!: *How has your community adapted to changing demographics?*

Sister Donna: As the years have progressed, Sisters have pulled back from some of their traditional teaching ministries. While they continue to remain a part of life in the schools, and tutor students at Caldwell University, Sisters are ministering in different roles. This includes working in parishes and on internal congregational ministries that seek to address environmental and global concerns as well as societal issues, such as immigration and homelessness.

SOAR!: *Can you update us on the aging Sisters who live at the St. Catherine Health Center?*

Sister Donna: Due to continuing COVID-19 concerns, they still cannot have visitors. Yet, the Sisters remain a powerhouse of prayer, and those Sisters who still can are involved in community projects and participate via Zoom in congregational meetings and conversation circles for study and future direction of the congregations.

SOAR!: *How have SOAR! and its donors made an impact on the lives of the aging Sisters?*

Sister Donna: SOAR! has offered incredible help to the Dominican Sisters over the years, including providing grants to upgrade the nurse call system, electronic medical charts, and technology. Religious communities need SOAR! All that SOAR! does through the generosity of its donors contributes greatly to the quality of life for aging religious.

Through its videos, mailings and presence on social media, SOAR! connects its donors with the aging religious and their communities. Donors learn more about the contributions of individual religious women and men and how their humble service continues to benefit others.

Having been a part of the New York Gala planning committee for several years, I have, first of all, met so many wonderful congregational leaders and those caring for the elderly religious. Secondly, I have heard the stories and testimonies of the SOAR! grant beneficiaries and how simple improvements bring such joy to their living situations. The SOAR! staff and all of the benefactors who support the organization have truly blessed the lives of so many religious and their congregations.

The Father Victor Yanitelli, SJ Award is presented yearly in memory of Father Yanitelli, a Jesuit priest greatly admired for his selfless service to others. The award is made possible through the kindness of the Hattler Family, in particular Denny Hattler, who established the award over 20 years ago.



In Grateful Memory

*We remember in prayer our dear Legacy Society members
who rest in God's eternal peace.*

Julian Binstock • Anne C. Deaven • Mary Grace DiCairano
Henrietta C. Galbaldon • John L. McQuade • Marie O'Brien
John T. Oliver • James P. Ward
Anna Marie and Robert White • Gerald A. Wolf



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.

Sample Bequest Language

"I give, devise, and bequeath to SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious, Inc.)
of Washington, D.C., ___% or \$_____ (amount) of my estate."

Our legal title is Support Our Aging Religious, Inc.

Our Tax ID number is 52-1485481

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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.

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

