Newsletter of Support Our Aging Religious, Inc.

Spring 2022





## Here's some GOOD NEWS!

During these still uncertain times it's important to share good news. And that good news is YOU!

Your generosity is so appreciated by the Catholic Sisters, Brothers and Priests that you help. You've made it possible for them to be safe, secure, and comfortable in their homes.

The GOOD NEWS is...

You have improved the quality of life and the congregation's ability to care for aging religious women and men who've spent a lifetime caring for others.

You have ensured that religious who were isolated during the pandemic could remain closely connected with their communities through technology grants.

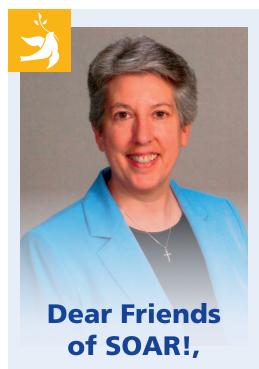
You have provided funds for exercise and therapeutic equipment that enhance mobility and build strength.

You have helped create safe and beautiful outdoor spaces where Sisters can gather and enjoy the fresh air and wonders of nature.

You have smoothed the way for Sisters using canes, walkers and wheelchairs by helping replace cracked flooring and worn or frayed carpets.

Your continuing goodness makes you a part of the SOAR! mission to be responsive to the ongoing and changing needs of aging religious across the United States. Now that IS some good news!





On my early morning walk today, I noticed so many daffodils in bloom. They seemed to appear overnight. Though the morning air was still a bit chilly, the daffodils were ready to show their bright yellow flowers, perhaps hoping for the rising sun to bring a little warmth.

Are you ready for the warmth of springtime? Are you ready to welcome the new life of the Easter season into your heart? If you are like me, you are eager to greet the hope and light of Easter with open arms. Our Lord Jesus rose from the dead so that we might walk in the newness of life. Let us accept this gift with abundant gratitude.

The Sisters, Priests and Brothers you support with your donations to SOAR! are grateful for the extra financial support you provided during the pandemic. It is with grateful hearts that they pray for you and your family during the holy Easter season.

Thank you for being a bright light to our aging religious. May God grant you abundant blessings this Easter and always.

D. Kachleen Lunsmann, HM

Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM

## **SOAR! Spotlight: Kristen Wise**

A member of the SOAR! staff since 2015, Kristen Wise is director of grantmaking. Because she works closely with the congregations she has a unique perspective to share with our supporters.

When I came to work at SOAR! I was amazed at the number of congregations of women and men religious. It's humbling to be part of an organization that helps them age with dignity. I see SOAR! as a bridge linking donors who believe in our mission to the aging religious and their growing needs.



I'm often the first voice a congregation hears when they contact SOAR!. We have developed real partnerships with the congregations we help. Our common goal is to care for the needs of their aging members.

My interactions have given me a greater understanding of how vital the mission of SOAR! is to ensure health, safety, and quality of life for our grantees. I remember talking to a community that received a grant to replace a heavy wooden convent door with an automatic door. If a Sister in a wheelchair wanted to go elsewhere in the building, she had to wait for another Sister to help. Usually that Sister also had mobility issues. You can imagine how overjoyed the Sisters were when the automatic door was installed. Now they have the freedom and independence to move from one part of the convent to another.

SOAR! supporters make a life changing difference for aging Sisters, Brothers, and Priests across the nation. Thank you!

# Qualified Charitable Distributions\*, a tax savvy way to help religious

(and satisfy your required minimum distribution.)

Did you know giving from your IRA can help satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) and achieve your charitable goals? If you are 72 or older and are required to take a minimum distribution, consider making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to charity instead. Such a gift fulfills the necessary requirement and will not be treated as taxable income.

To make a QCD to SOAR! of any amount up to \$100,000 please call your IRA administrator and have them mail a check directly to SOAR! Please ask them to include your name and address on the QCD paperwork so we can provide you with the required receipt you will need for your taxes.



Please contact Elizabeth Góral-Makowski at (202) 529-7627 or emakowski@soar-usa.org to let us know your intentions or if you'd like to learn more about planned gifts or other options of giving.

\*The information provided is not tax advice. Please consult with your financial or tax advisor to receive the best advice that suits your circumstances.

# Make sure our aging religious can count on you – become a Faithful Friend monthly donor!



Faithful Friends donors are a vital part of SOAR! and its mission. They help SOAR! be at the ready to step up and help aging religious when and where the need is greatest. Plus, it's an easy way for you to help support aging religious and make a lasting impact.

To sign up, visit soar-usa.org/faithfulfriend/



### Save the Date - It's time to celebrate!

SOAR! Fall Awards Dinners will be in person!

After a two-year hiatus, SOAR! is planning to bring back our fall awards dinners in person.

New York: Wednesday October 5, 2022 New York Athletic Club Washington, DC: Thursday November 3, 2022 Embassy of Italy

More details are forthcoming.

Contact events@soar-usa.org or call (202) 529-7627 for information.

We look forward to seeing you!





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

# Follow SOAR! on Social Media



Facebook
Like, share, comment
facebook.com/soarusa



#### **Twitter**

Do you follow us? @soarusa twitter.com/soarusa



YouTube

Watch online anytime youtube.com/user/soarusa1986

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



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

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



