



You help our aging religious get around

Imagine not being able to get around your home because a door is too heavy to open. Maneuvering a wheelchair, scooter or walker while trying to hold a door open is awkward at best and at worst, can cause injury or a fall. The same is true trying to use a walker across flooring that is buckled or carpet that is frayed.

Thanks to SOAR! donors, grants for automatic doors and updated flooring help aging religious move safely and freely around their convents and monasteries. These upgrades remove the worries about falling or other injury.

Grants for items such as stair lifts and elevators are crucial in helping keep aging religious with mobility issues active. Accessible vans are necessary to assure the safe, dignified and easy transport of aging religious to in-person medical appointments as well as to enriching activities.

It is because of SOAR! donors, congregations can receive grants that improve accessibility and enhance the independence of our aging Sisters, Brothers and Priests. They can participate in community meetings, in prayer, and in other ministries. These improvements also encourage the aging women and men religious to be more active, which is good for their health and the health of the community!

Thank you for your partnership with SOAR! and helping our aging religious get around!

"There are no words to adequately express our gratitude to SOAR! and its donors. SOAR! has been walking with us for many years and providing much needed assistance to ensure the quality of life for our aging members. Thank you for your goodness and generosity."

*- Sister Irene Ellis, OP, Prioress,
Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, New York*



SOAR! Spotlight: Jennifer Christiano

Jennifer joined the SOAR! staff in May 2022 as director of special events and regional representative for the DC/Maryland/Virginia area. Here she shares some of her thoughts on SOAR! and its mission with our readers.

I began my career journey at NBC in Washington, DC. From there I moved into nonprofit development where I served in both director roles and in overseeing special events. I also worked in areas focused on the aging and elderly. I have passion for sharing the ways donors can be advocates for and support the mission of nonprofits who serve to address the needs of this vulnerable population. SOAR! definitely fits this criteria.



I joined the team at SOAR! because the mission aligns with my values and I knew I could help make a difference. I am very grateful to be a part of SOAR! and the opportunity to work with our great staff and donors.

Our aging religious have done so much for so many people. They have helped change people's lives for the better. Our donors recognize that. I have been moved by the compassionate support of SOAR! donors who realize the great needs of our aging religious. They give to SOAR! because they believe in what SOAR! does and want to be part of that mission.

I love that I can help people learn more about SOAR! through the dinner events and individual meetings. Our events help our guests hear about the importance of SOAR! through stories from people who they directly help, as well as from others who have long supported our mission. The more ways we can share those stories, the more other people will understand the vital importance of their support of SOAR!

Our donors' generosity and impact on the lives of the aging Sisters, Brothers and Priests is so inspiring. Thank you!



Dear Friends of SOAR!

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." I saw this quote on a billboard along a winding road in West Virginia years ago. The saying has always stuck with me. Though it is attributed to Audrey Hepburn, I believe the wisdom is known by everyone. The seeds we plant today become the fruits and flowers of tomorrow. The simple act of planting seeds shows the world what we have in our hearts, and that is Hope.

During the season of Easter, our hearts are filled with hope and joy in the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of new life. I pray that a new hope-filled energy inspires you to be grateful for today and plant a garden for tomorrow.

Your faithful support of SOAR! is a blessing, and your donations are used immediately to support a congregation who needs help today. Donations made through your IRA or donor advised fund or even your estate plans are the fruits of seeds you planted long ago. These thoughtful donations are like gardens in bloom.

I'm grateful for the many ways you support our mission to help aging religious. May the miracle of this Easter season bring you renewed hope, joy and peace.

S. Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM

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Save the Date – SOAR! Fall 2023 Events

**37th Annual
New York Awards Dinner**
Wednesday, September 13, 2023

New York Athletic Club
180 Central Park South,
New York, NY 10019

**37th Annual
Washington, DC Gala**
Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Embassy of Italy
3000 Whitehaven Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20008

More details are forthcoming.

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



"As we give thanks for God's goodness and blessings, we prayerfully entrust you, your Board members and all the generous benefactors of SOAR! who help make possible the many worthwhile projects in support of aging religious, to His providential care."

*- Sister Mary Scholastica, OCD,
Congregational Directress of Mission Advancement,
Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart, Los Angeles CA*

"I wanted to tell you that this morning's Mass at the Abbey was for SOAR! - "In gratitude for the mission and staff and donors of SOAR! and for their intentions". Our hearts go out to you in gratitude for the work you do and for the many, many ways that SOAR! has enriched the lives of every member of our monastic community."

*- Sister Angele, OSB
on behalf of Mother Abbess and all the nuns at the
Abbey of Regina Laudis, Bethlehem, CT*

Top 3 reasons to become a Faithful Friend today!



1. It's easy! There's no need to hunt for stamps or write checks.
2. It's flexible! You can easily increase, decrease or stop your gift by calling the SOAR! office.
3. You provide steady support to SOAR! and its mission. Monthly giving provides a steady source of support and helps ensure SOAR! is there for religious communities.

To sign up, visit: www.soar-usa.org/faithfriend or call Elizabeth at (202) 529-7627.

Donor Advised Funds

Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) are one of the fastest growing charitable giving programs. It is an easy vehicle to help you manage your charitable giving to organizations like SOAR! Recommending a gift to SOAR! from your DAF is easy. There are also no transaction fees, so that 100% of your grant is received by the charity. Visit www.soar-usa.org/giving to make a donation directly through your DAF or call Elizabeth at (202) 529-7627 for more information.



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 Silver Spring, MD, _____% 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



Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.