

HANDMAIDS OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS USA PROVINCE

ANNUAL REPORT OF PHILANTHROPIC GIVING
2019-2020



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This Annual Report presents the names of donors who made gifts to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province between September 1, 2019 and August 31, 2020. While every attempt has been made to guarantee the accuracy of this report, omissions and errors may occur. Please advise the Province Development Office at 610-642-5715 of any inaccuracies.

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Dear Friends,

“Be still and know that I am God.” This simple but profound sentiment expresses my deepest and most heartfelt belief. In the past seven months of chaotic and unpredictable events brought about through the global COVID-19 Pandemic, I continue to hold firm to trusting in the infinite wisdom, mercy, and justice of our Creator. I remind myself daily, “Be still. Listen to the inner voice that compels us to pay attention to one another. Be still. Hear the whispers that give us strength and courage and faith. Be still. Know that you are never alone, no matter how isolated and removed you may feel. Be still and embrace the stillness with hope.”

A very brief recap of the state of the Handmaid USA Province finds us in a situation that we have never previously experienced. Our ministries continue to struggle with the difficulties that have presented themselves as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We were mandated to close the doors to our school in Wyncote and jump head first into virtual teaching and learning; we were forced to cancel all of our retreats and programs at Saint Raphaela Center and have not had an income at the Center since March, 2020. Our sisters who serve the public from our ministries in Philadelphia, Haverford, Miami, and Athens have had very limited access to those who depend on them. In short, we are struggling.

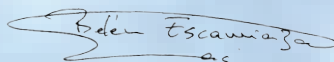
This pandemic has taken a significant toll on our revenue sources. Income, fees for service, and fundraising endeavors are suffering. Contributions to our annual fund are down by more than 50% and our grant-seeking endeavors have seen a drop of \$50,000 from our previous fiscal year. All of this having been mentioned, you will see through the pages of this report the efforts our sisters have made and are continuing to make in order to move forward. Undoubtedly you will also see the outpouring of support we have received from you, our friends and supporters. Though the numbers may be down, our spirits are lifted.

With little time for preparation, we have had to use our resources wisely. And we have had to trust God amid the confusing world in which we are living. In many ways, despite the hardships, it has been a blessing. Through the world's suffering, we see and experience how very intertwined our lives are, and we have come to more deeply appreciate the fragility and preciousness of life and good health.

I ask as you review this Annual Report to consider the works of the sisters and those we serve. I ask you also to stay connected with us. Despite our need to follow the rules for physical distance today, I pray that we can and will stay connected and united in our hearts, and that in the near future we will once again be able to enjoy a loving embrace and a warm handshake.

Knowing that our financial picture has suffered, we are keenly aware that yours may have suffered, as well. And yet, we know that some have not felt a financial hardship. With this in mind, should you find it possible to make a gift to the Handmaids, please know how deeply appreciative we would be. Your commitment to our mission and ministries has never been as critical as it is at this moment. We are profoundly grateful for your trust, your goodwill, and your willingness to walk in solidarity with us. We could not embark on this journey without you. Please know that you remain in our prayers.

With gratitude and love,



Belén Escauriaza, acj
Provincial Superior, USA Province
Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



Sr. Belén Escauriaza, acj

HANDMAIDS OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS, USA PROVINCE

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Sr. Carmen Cabrejos, acj
Sr. Cecilia Chen, acj
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Sr. Angela Cordero, acj
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Nhan Nguyen, acj Novice
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Sr. Asunta Thanh, acj
Sr. Cecilia Tong, acj
Sr. Lyan Tri, acj
Sr. Oanh Vo, acj
Sr. Julia Walsh, acj



Health officials conduct COVID-19 testing at Oasis Católico Santa Rafaela.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has created isolation, job loss, and increased health concerns, the Handmaid community in Athens, Georgia, has expanded its mission to assist those who are suffering from the effects of this unwelcome and deadly virus.

In partnership with the Georgia Department of Public Health, the sisters have hosted four COVID-19 testing times at Oasis Católico Santa Rafaela. The last one had more than one hundred people receiving a test. According to statistics from the department, Clarke County, which encompasses Athens, had registered nearly 5,000 cases of those infected by the virus throughout September.

Also meeting with many different Latino groups and Clarke County government agencies, the sisters have evaluated and planned ways to collaborate and offer assistance during this pandemic. Among the many concerns facing their community — tenant rights and eviction, education, and limited health resources, food insecurity topped the list.

As a result, the sisters' monthly food distribution has doubled from once to twice a month and on average provide more than 10,000 pounds of food to about one hundred families within the Athens area. That amount



of food is enough to feed four hundred and fifty people, two thirds of whom are children. The sisters have continued their twice weekly egg distribution and have coordinated with volunteer families who provide and deliver sandwiches and the other food staples. The sisters emergency food shelves are stocked with rice and beans for those in urgent need.

For those individuals and families who have contracted the virus, as well as those who have been directly affected through job loss, the Handmaids have offered financial support through providing assistance with rental payments and utility bills.

As the school year commenced, Clarke County School District announced that its students would begin school virtually. Nearly 10% of the

of Each Other

The Handmaids in Athens offer help and hope

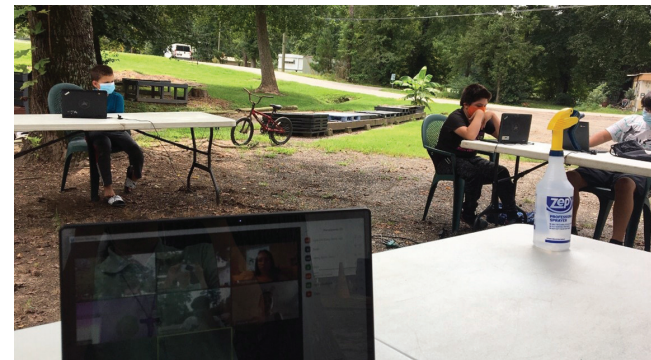


families at Oasis do not have access to the internet, and as a result, the Handmaids are advocating for these students so that the district will provide them with hotspots. Additionally, the sisters at Oasis have made Wi-Fi available to the students during the day and have extended its Wi-Fi coverage to reach the parking lot and halfway to its soccer field. This allows for the sisters to provide space for outdoor classes and a way to safely help children who have technical problems with their devices or connectivity.

Instead of in-person tutoring, Oasis has begun to offer virtual support to its students. In its first two weeks of opening its fall registration, the program has had more than 130 volunteers from the University of Georgia sign up to be tutors.

While the challenges of the Coronavirus Pandemic

continue and will be felt far into the coming months, the Handmaids remain steady in their support and true to their mission in "offering all that we are and have" to the people of God. As Pope Francis reminded in his September 16th general audience address, *"To emerge from a pandemic, we need to look after and care for each other. Caring is a golden rule of our nature as human beings."*



Students take part in virtual classes at Oasis.

Handmaid Academy

COVID-19 Response

“The teaching in our schools is more than a profession; it is a priestly function.”

St. Raphaela Mary

After closing its doors and undertaking virtual learning in March, 2020, the Handmaid school in Wyncote set out to handle the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic by instituting rigorous guidelines and procedures in order to be poised to reopen in September.

To begin their work, school administrators established a Pandemic Response Task Force, made up of volunteer medical, legal, and business leaders from within the community to address the best way to safely bring students and teachers back to campus.

Consistent with the guidance from the **American Academy of Pediatrics**, and following the Pennsylvania Department of Education Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan, the school embarked on a vigorous effort to restructure its physical teaching spaces and health initiatives. Among

the key elements are:

- facilities cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation;
- safety protocols including masking, social distancing, restricting use of congregate settings, hygiene practices;
- monitoring student and staff health.

All of these measures are congruent with the Handmaid philosophy of education and address the three pillars of the school's

educational foundation: academic excellence, differentiated instruction, and collaboration in teaching and learning.

Recognizing that the commitment to educating the whole child goes well beyond the academic experience, the school is dedicated to serving the social, emotional, psychological, and spiritual needs of its students. It is believed that this is best achieved by bringing students back to campus and safeguarding them with good health and safety protocols. While the school looks forward to in-person teaching and learning, it has offered the provision of virtual learning to those families who prefer it.

The efforts being made will have other challenges and may not be perfect. But they are well worth the benefits of seeing the happy faces of students as they learn, laugh, and live together again in the AAA community.



Expecting in an Unexpected Time

How Sister Cam Banh Supports Pregnant Women During the Pandemic

Ask any woman who has given birth to describe her feelings during pregnancy and you will get a barrage of responses from euphoria to emotional upheaval - and everything in between. Those days and months spent waiting for a precious new arrival are oftentimes accompanied by a multitude of questions and concerns that arise, and add to a certain sense of nervousness and apprehension.

As a pregnancy counselor and social worker at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catholic Social Services/Family Services, Sister Cam Banh knows all too well the familiar scenario of expectant mothers. Working in two locations, Holy Redeemer School and St. Thomas Aquinas Church/School, she is responsible for meeting with women whose pregnancies include not only the typical pre-natal concerns, but oftentimes other life challenges, as well.

Many of her clients are immigrants who do not currently have legal status; some are single mothers. But for Sr. Cam, her greatest concern is that regardless of the mother's situation she has access to good health care in order to give birth to a healthy baby.

In March, 2020, everything took a turn and Sr. Cam was no longer able to meet in-person and advise her caseload of expectant mothers. With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, offices were closed, and Sr. Cam had to resort to working remotely from home. "I made



a lot of phone calls primarily to encourage my clients to keep their medical appointments," she recalls. "Most of them asked if I could be present with them and obviously, I agreed. It was important that they have me available to assist with language translation and to provide moral support."

The pandemic added to the fears of any expectant mother. What happens to my baby if I get the virus? The hesitation and panic of leaving the home and going outside or coming into contact with a person carrying the virus contributed to an increase in their anxiety.

But additionally, because of their extenuating circumstances - the inability to work; the inability to collect unemployment insurance; being disqualified for emergency medical assistance due to an absence of proof of income —

added to the level of stress many were experiencing.

According to Sr. Cam, "*My level of stress also rose. The problems these women were facing contributed to my anxiety to try to figure out how to assist them. I found myself spending hours on the phone trying to reassure them, consoling them, and offering whatever type of support they seemed to need.*" In early April, Sr. Cam began attending the pre-natal health care appointments with her clients. Having her present allayed their fears and allowed them to feel "not alone." As she listened patiently and with compassionate understanding, Sr. Cam found herself united in love and trust with scores of vulnerable women.

Ever mindful of the Handmaid mission and vision, Sr. Cam embraced the difficulty of her tasks with hope and hospitality, and with the knowledge of God's infinite mercy, grace, and kindness. And while there were times when answers were not always readily available, Sr. Cam stayed faithful and gave to those in her care the hope and promise of a future beyond the pandemic and with the joy of a new life they had been called to bear.



Sr. Cam Banh, acj

Coping With the Pandemic in Bolivia

Nhan Nguyen is a novice with the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province. Living in the novitiate in Bolivia for the past year, Nhan has experienced the COVID-19 pandemic situation with many of the same mandates and prohibitions that have been in place in the United States. She reports that on March 12, 2020, the President of Bolivia announced a national quarantine, followed by the cancellation of all flights, the suspension of all school classes and all private and public transportation, and the prohibition of public gatherings, liturgical celebrations, and all other church activities. Stay-at-home measures were set in place and a mandate including social distancing, and the use of masks and alcohol spray in public were implemented. Additionally, in the Handmaid community the sisters added their own protective measures — among them disinfecting (changing clothes, shoes, and showering) before entering the house and decontaminating all foods and bags brought from the outside.

United in mission with the Bolivia-Peru province and the Institute, the community in Cochabamba sponsors Iriandes, a school (Kindergarten -grade 12), a retreat house, and the family ACJ. These apostolic works have filled the sisters with joy in service of the people and in the evangelization of the Good News. Once the quarantine began, their ministries were severely impacted. Sr. Nhan explains, *"It felt so strange to be at a distance with one another and with such limited physical contact. We witnessed the quick spread of virus and the increase in the number of contaminated cases and deaths. We saw firsthand the economic crisis (no jobs, no money, no food), and the lack of medical services and attention. Our sisters were desperate to help and felt more than ever the need to offer support and to accompany those who had been most affected by the pandemic. Despite many limitations, difficulties, and fears, we looked for a possible way to reach out to others, to continue our mission, and to seek and respond to God's presence and Christ's mission in all things."* There have been many challenges, but the sisters have managed to find innovative solutions to continue their work. Here are a few examples:

CHALLENGE

We were forced to stop going to Las Lomas, a poor village on the mountain, south of Cochabamba, due to the lockdown restrictions and having no public transportation to get there. As time passed, the situation became worse. People were losing their jobs and income resulting in little or no food on the table daily.

SOLUTION

We couldn't stay still and asked the San Lucas Foundation (a community-based health service in the peri-urban and rural area of Cochabamba) whether they would permit us to travel with them by ambulance to Las Lomas. They agreed, but only one person was permitted to accompany their team of the doctors. On the first trip, one of our sisters, Stefanny Coronel, was able to get to Las Lomas and brought with her money to distribute to those in need. While the doctors saw their patients, she hiked her way to the families. Having less than two hours to accomplish her mission, Sr. Stefanny realized it was not enough. A second plan was then devised. After searching through different means we managed to arrange for a commander of the Cochabamba Navy to assist us. This time we were able to have four novices who were armed with dozens of food bags plus money. The food bags we had prepared contained rice, noodles, and vegetables and fruits from our own little farm.



At lower left, Nhan is pictured with the Commander of the Cochabamba Navy.

CHALLENGE

For the most part we have been unable to offer retreats at our retreat house, although we were happy to serve a small religious community of six sisters and one private retreatant. To do this, we separated our prayer spaces, and redesigned the ways in which clothes were laundered and meals were prepared and served.

SOLUTION

Eventually, our retreat house was able to be "repurposed" offering a safe haven for a family besieged by a domestic violence situation. A woman called us for help because her husband had wounded her several times with a knife in an attempt to kill her. We were able to provide a safe place to care for the family for two weeks before they were able to shelter at a center that helps those dealing with domestic violence. During this time, the mother learned how to read, how to write her name, and how to knit. We later created a pandemic project mission in Las Lomas to continue accompanying and helping those who are suffering this type of abuse and have few alternatives.

In a similar situation, the sisters offered a space in the building that housed former novices to a mother (Marisabel) and her two children (José and Paz), because her husband (German) works at a hospital where the cases of COVID-19 are high. For their health and protection from the virus, the family stayed separated from German for more than 4 months, finally returning home when the fear of potential infection had subsided significantly.

CHALLENGE

In Bolivia, the school year runs from February to the first week of December. Our school was closed in March due to the pandemic, just a month after we opened for the year.

SOLUTION

Despite the difficulties of not having consistent internet access, the resignation of some teachers, and some parental complaints, we successfully managed to have all virtual classes for our students. Together with the community, we have accompanied and listened to our professors and staff members through meetings and phone calls. Desiring to bring Christ to the homes of the families of our school, we discerned the ways to accompany the educational community. The idea of broadcasting adorations, prayer services, and Eucharistic celebrations through Facebook, Zoom, or Meet was born, and we began broadcasting Adoration on Facebook every Thursday. We have invited the Little Worshipers — those at the primary level and their families to participate in our Adoration with the slogan *“In this quarantine we are all Little Worshipers”*. Later, we changed the transmission from Facebook to Zoom, which allows children to interact during the Adoration.

When many parents could no longer afford to pay for their children's tuition and protested that the tuition be reduced by 50%, the sisters and the school managed to find a way to pay our professors and staff members on time. As a result, the school debt has increased each month and we are faced with major financial problems.



Making matters worse, suddenly, on August 2nd, the Bolivian government announced the closure of the 2020 school year for both public and private education. Chaos ensued and many private schools declared an emergency closing down their schools due to their inability to cover administrative costs and teachers' salaries.

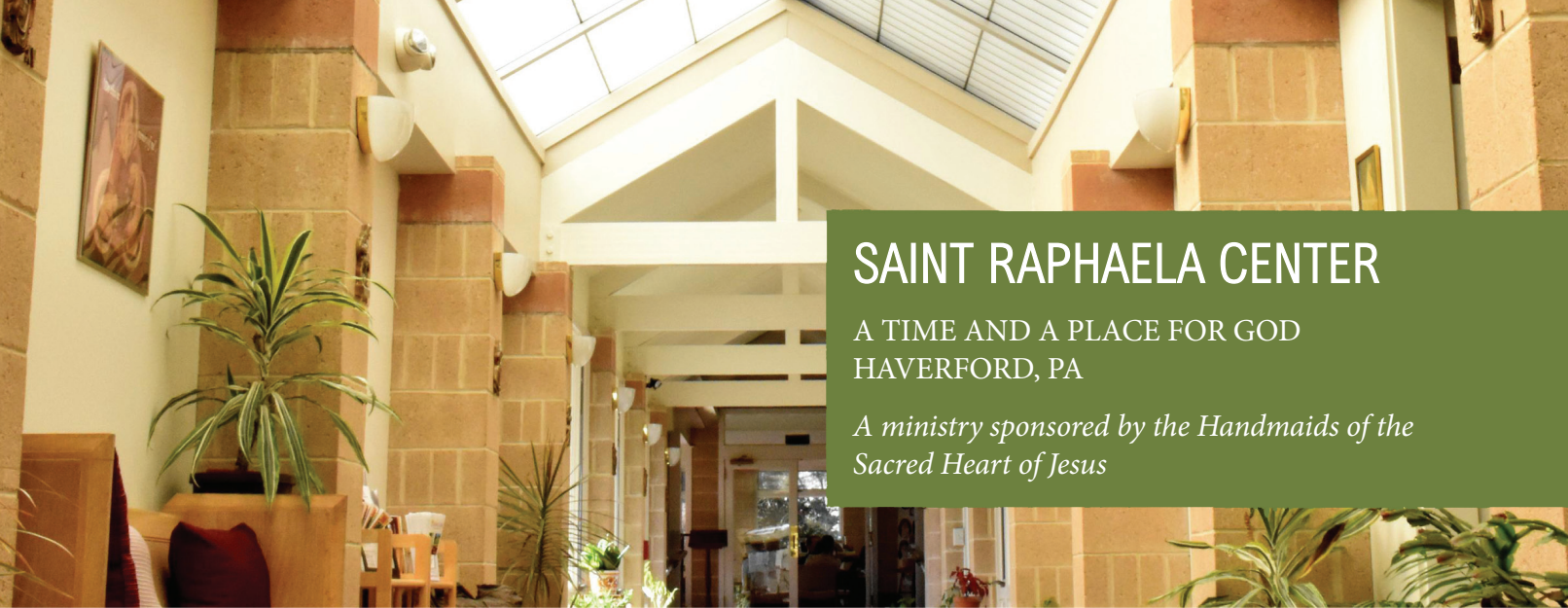


However, the sisters could not abandon the professors and staff members (whom they regard as family) and within a week of the closure announcement, they called for the meeting with their school administration and all the professors, looking for an alternative way to continue virtual learning. During the meeting, both the administrators and professors agreed to share a portion of their income with the school service staff members who are not able to work. The sisters were obviously happy to witness such a gesture of solidarity among the school personnel and created a new program with all courses for all grade levels. They began classes, but need an additional two hundred students to register in order to pay the minimum salaries for professors and staffs. The sisters are determined not to lose hope. For the novice Nhan, the image of the boat facing the storm (Matthew 8:23-

27) comes to mind. *“We are all in the same boat, facing the storm, but Jesus also is there with us. Jesus said, ‘You of little faith, why are you so afraid?’ As we walk by faith and trust that God is accompanying us, all we can do is to hold tight to our faith and walk together with Jesus through the storm.”*

Throughout the pandemic, the sisters have had the unbridled support of the Family ACJ — those who walk with faith with the Handmaids; those who have unselfishly offered food, clothing, and other necessities to their neighbors as needed. United in prayer and apostolic work, these faithful members share in the Handmaid mission not only in service, but also in spirit.

In summing up the pandemic and its effects on the Bolivian community in Cochabamba, Nhan recognizes that the quarantine situation moved the sisters to react quickly in response to the community's needs. Developing plans and solutions and thinking “outside of the box” were essential to their apostolic work — work that has filled them with joy in service of the people and in the evangelization of the Good News. Missing the physical closeness of the community continues to be a great hardship for the sisters, who so lovingly want to embrace their community not only offering help, but hugs. As Nhan states, *“We work and entrust all members of the community into the hands of God, in action and in prayer. Through our apostolic works, in our community life, and in our daily adoration, we are able to live the Eucharist more vividly.”*



SAINT RAPHAELA CENTER

A TIME AND A PLACE FOR GOD
HAVERFORD, PA

*A ministry sponsored by the Handmaids of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus*

"OUR HOME IS A
PLACE OF REST AND
HEALING, A SPACE
TO EXPERIENCE
GOODNESS AND
HOSPITALITY. WE
DESIRE TO CARE
FOR YOU, TO
EXTEND GOD'S LOVE
TO YOU."

LYAN TRI, ACJ



COMPELLED TO ACCOMPANY

The Gospel compels us to accompany those who are weary, those who are thirsty, those who seek peace. The global pandemic and the realities of racial injustice pain us individually and communally. Responding to both physical and emotional pain, we have refocused our mission to be a designated place for healing, for rest, and for quiet. We acknowledge that we have a specific need to respond to – to provide an opening, a space where individuals can physically be still with God's restorative love. We desire to offer nourishment of the body, mind and heart to contribute to the healing of individual persons, who then influence their own communities and our greater world.

Some people wonder what quiet can provide in a world that needs our attention. A space of quiet is not a muting of the external, but a carved spaciousness for God to enter, a space not of loneliness but accompaniment, to be nearer to God. In choosing intimate nearness with the Holy, we give God's love more room, more opportunity, and more freedom to move in us and lead to transformation. This time of pandemic presents an invitation to solitude in a rich way, where we can lean into the unknowingness while held secure in God's Mystery. We trust that in the comfort and gentleness of our home, God will remind retreatants of their own belonging and belovedness.

In this season our grounds are bursting with God's creation and you cannot help but to encounter Beauty. In preparing meals with tomatoes from our garden and arranging flowers around our altar, we ground ourselves in the simple gifts of our earth. We are invited to see, taste, touch and experience God's goodness. The Spirit of Creation surrounds us and invites us to reflect on where God is tending our own lives for new life, beauty, a rich harvest.



Also in this season, new hands and hearts have arrived to add to the life of our Center. We have welcomed additional staff members and volunteers and broadened our virtual ministry opportunities. We now offer spiritual direction and silent retreats via Zoom. Taize and Adoration on our Facebook Live has reached followers in Spain, India, Timor, South America and the Philippines. We are grateful at this time for the many calls, emails and notes from friends who have sent encouragement or graciously shared resources in these past few months.

Moved by both the suffering of our world and the generosity of our supporters, we, the Handmaids, feel compelled to open our home. The Saint Raphaela Center is a place where we desire to care for you - to extend God's love to you. Our team has developed a Protocol for Care and Concern, a mutual agreement between staff and visitors to ensure safety and well-being in light of the pandemic. We are ready to connect, listen, support and share life. Our doors are open for rest and healing. May the desires of God's heart continue to guide our ministry.

Follow our new Facebook Page: The Saint Raphaela Center and Instagram account @straphaelacenter.



"AFTER MY WIFE MARY'S DEATH I RESPONDED TO A PARISH BULLETIN REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST AT THE CENTER. I RESPONDED A FEW MONTHS LATER, OVER 7 YEARS AGO, AND I AM STILL HERE AT THE CENTER. I FOUND A PLACE OF PEACE AND HOSPITALITY THAT HELPED TO FILL THE DEEP VOID LEFT IN MY LIFE WITH THE DEATH OF MY WIFE AND SHORTLY AFTER THAT OF MY SON, CHRIS. MY TIME AT THE CENTER HAS GROWN FROM BEING A SUPPORT HANDYMAN FOR REPAIRS TO BECOMING PART OF THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF IN PROVIDING PROGRAMMING ON WEEKEND RETREATS, DAYS OF REFLECTION AND ONE-ON-ONE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION.

FOR ME THE CENTER HAS BEEN A PLACE OF RESPITE FROM THE LONELINESS OF LOSS AND PEACE IN KNOWING AND FEELING GOD'S LOVE AND PRESENCE AS I SIT IN THE CHAPEL AND WHEN I INTERACT WITH THE HANDMAIDS AND STAFF. THE CENTER IS A PLACE AWAY FROM THE HECTIC WORLD WE LIVE IN AND ONE WHERE ONE CAN FIND SPIRITUAL PEACE.'

DEACON DAVID SCHAFFER



DONORS TO SAINT RAPHAELA CENTER

We L♥VE Our Volunteers

Where might you find some of the most dedicated and hard-working friends of the Handmaids? Look no further than at the Saint Raphaela Center in Haverford, PA. Handling almost anything — from answering phones and planting flowers, to providing the beautiful music for our Taize Prayer Services, presiding over liturgies, directing retreats, and facilitating programs, these thoughtful and caring friends generously share their time and talents to help make the Center a warm and welcoming place for our guests. We are beyond grateful for their many acts of kindness.

Marcus Alalay
Rebecca Bergh
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Local artist Marie Gilligan volunteers her time and expertise repainting the Center's statues.

Gifts to \$100

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Additional Contributions

Saint Raphaela Center deeply appreciates the in-kind offerings made to the Center by Sr. Angela Felin, RSM, Ward and Kathy Fitzgerald, Riddle Village, Villanova University, and our anonymous donors.

Saint Raphaela Center is grateful to the participants of Race in America: Virtual Book Club, as well as other friends of the Center for a contribution of \$595.00. (100% of the proceeds from this SRC sponsored program plus other gifts were donated to the Equal Justice Initiative.)

Due to the cancellation of all programs and retreats, many subscribers contributed all or a portion of the deposit fees to Saint Raphaela Center. The Center is grateful for the generosity, understanding, and compassion extended by so many groups in regard to our policy regarding deposits. Thank you!

Rooted in



Core Values

The Handmaids' response to the abject poverty in El Salvador and the now present-day reality due to the COVID-19 pandemic is rooted in the core values that Saint Raphaela Mary and her sister instilled in the Community over one hundred and forty years ago. From the time they were children, the Handmaid foundress and her sister, Dolores, learned from their parents that in blessing others with works of mercy, they in turn were blessed. This labor of love continues to the present day through the commitment that the Handmaids have in El Salvador through Project FIAT.

Out of the realization that public transportation halted and the President's mandatory in house quarantine to the entire country of El Salvador moved us to take action in a variety of ways. The first action was to continue providing the volunteer house employees with their full salary, even though they were unable to work. We also wanted to come to the aid of the other non-full time workers who rely solely on the presence of the Project FIAT volunteers as their only means of support. Every fifteen days we arrange for these workers to receive a modest stipend along with



rice, beans, sugar, and corn meal to help alleviate some of their suffering through these difficult times. In addition, private transportation is arranged for the two volunteer house watchmen

who take turns working four straight 24 hour shifts.

Another important work of mercy dear to the hearts of the Handmaids is education. This is evident in our cooperation with the school in Las Delicias as we support the teachers and children with books, study aids, materials and tutors. We also share the frustration of the parents and students alike as they struggle to learn virtually

under difficult circumstances such as lack of internet and audio visual equipment. Students left on their own to learn has been increasingly challenging and resulting in many abandoning their education.



As the Handmaids continue their work in El Salvador, there remains a gratitude to all donors contributing to facilitate these community responses, in particular, the response towards the food program. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the food program was unable to continue providing hot meals. Thanks to the financial support of our donors, we have extended the food program to include as many as ninety men, women, and children. Every fifteen days volunteers from the village of Las Delicias prepare bags of needed staples which are then distributed to those participating in the program.

As the Handmaids continue to respond to the COVID-19 crisis in El Salvador may God bless them with graced energy and fortitude as they go forward in this labor of love.

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*"The measure of
your success will be
the measure
of your
generosity."*

Pope John Paul II



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The purpose of the Development Advisory Board is to assist the USA Province of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in its efforts to gain the public interest and the voluntary financial support necessary for continuing its Eucharistic/Reparative mission and ministries among the people of God.

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Midway through the planning of the Journey of Hope, the COVID-19 Pandemic forced the cancellation of the event. The individuals and groups listed here had already made contributions, offered sponsorships, and secured advertisements for this annual signature event. 100% of these generous supporters refused a refund offer and instead chose to have their contributions remain. The Handmaid USA Province is deeply humbled and grateful to recognize those whose kindness and support continue to demonstrate their unwavering faithfulness and generosity to the Handmaids.

Honor and Memorial Gifts



In memory of

Eleanor (Pearl) McKelvie

March 5, 2020

Eleanor (Pearl) McKelvie passed away peacefully on March 5, 2020. A frequent visitor to the Saint Raphaela Center, Pearl loved to sit and pray amid the tranquil beauty of the Center, finding it a place of respite and repose. At the time of her death, Pearl's family requested that memorial contributions in her name be made to the Handmaids. We are honored to be recipients of this loving gesture.

Anonymous

James and Felicia Coffey

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Melissa Gonzalez

Christopher Mead

Karen Mead

Robert McCormick

Eileen Raab

Kathryn Shaw

Kenneth and Kathleen Smith

Vanguard Matching Gifts



In honor of

Sister Marietta Jansen and Sister Margarita Martin

Sisters Marietta Jansen and Margarita Martin, along with Sister Angela Cordero, were missioned to Athens, GA in September, 2002 to respond to the needs of a community of Latino immigrants. In the ensuing years, the sisters offered a loving environment trying to live out the Handmaid Charism of "healing hearts" to those in need and the most vulnerable among us. To that end, an outreach center was created. "Oasis Católico Santa Rafaela" has become a beacon of light for the community. Beyond offering support, advocacy in the city and state, and basic necessities to the more than two thousand who live in the trailer park and those within a 50 mile radius, Religious Education in the Parish and Student Catholic Center was also provided. Partnering with the University of Georgia, they established a tutoring program for the children in the community having more than 3,576 tutors who offered 90,467 hours of service throughout the 18 years. In June, 2020, the sisters were missioned to other Handmaid communities: Sr. Marietta to Wyncote and Sr. Margarita to Miami.

In gratitude for their many years of dedication and service to the Athens Community, some of their friends have chosen to honor them with a contribution to the senior sisters fund. The Handmaids are deeply grateful for the generosity and kindness of the following individuals.

Mary Gould

Elizabete Vasconcelos Hammock

Richard Hussey

Thomas and M. Jean Lauth

Christy Sinksen

Kathy Smith

Young Women's Christian Organization

Grants

During the 2019-2020 year, the following agencies provided \$160,566.79 in support to the Handmaids USA Province. We are deeply grateful for the generosity they offered to our mission and ministries.

The **Archdiocese of Philadelphia** provided a grant of \$4,300 for retired sisters.

The **Berdan Support Fund** provided a \$2,000 grant for continued support of the Formation Program.

The **Butwell Family Foundation** provided a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for for unrestricted use by the USA Province.

The **California Community Foundation** provided a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the Formation Program.

The **Connelly Foundation** provided a \$25,000 grant to the Saint Raphaela Center for facility improvements.

The **National Religious Retirement Office** provided a grant of \$44,916.79 for retired sisters.

The **PHA Interdiocesan Fund for Religious** provided a grant of \$850.00 for retired sisters.

The **Steven Molinari Family Fund** provided a \$68,000 grant to Project Fiat.

The **Sullivan Family Charitable Fund** provided a grant of \$3,000 for the Athens community to use at their discretion and a \$1,500 grant for unrestricted use by the USA Province.

Commemorative Gifts for Outdoor Sculpture Garden & Walking Path

The signature piece that will be a central focus of the outdoor garden at St. Raphaela Center features an extraordinary bronze sculpture designed by renowned artist, Timothy Schmalz. Fittingly, his design of The Last Supper captures the essence of Christ's sharing His last meal with his friends. Highlighting the Handmaids profound devotion and reverence of the Eucharist, its addition to the Retreat Center adds a dimension of unparalleled beauty and inspiration. Once in place, this spiritually and physically interactive masterpiece will serve to enhance the opportunities available for prayerful reflection, contemplation, and conversation with God.



***Last Supper Sculpture Garden & Walking Path
Major Commemorative Gift Opportunities***

Commemorative Contributions Secured

Last Supper Table Lydia Alvarez

Apostles' Stools

Thuy-Linh and Luan Dang and Family
Joe and Donna Ferrier
Chuck and Betsy Minnich
David and Mary Reid
Antonia Romano and Family
Deacon David Schaeffer

Garden Benches

Ray and Carol Angelo
Tom Corley, Lizanne Corley, Susan
Corley, and Carolyn Braithwaite
Tim and Jennifer Marler
Wendy Ricker
Jack and Fran Shutack

Remaining Commemoratives

Walking Path (4 sections)	@\$15,000
Last Supper Sculpture	\$50,000
Apostles' Stools (6)	@\$3,000
Garden Benches (5)	@\$1,000

Contribution and Gift Designations



According to the requests of our donors, designations to specific funds have been honored. The following chart details a breakdown of contributions. These gifts do not include gifts or memorial gifts made directly to Saint Raphaela Center or Project Fiat.

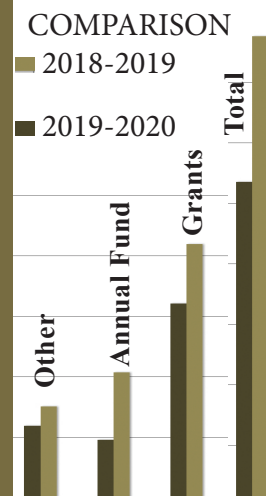
Fund Designations	Grants	Annual Fund	Other	Total
Aged and Infirm	50,066.79	2,095	5,037 (Novena of Masses) 1,800 (Memorial Gifts)	58,998.79
Ancillae-Assumpta Academy		275		275
Athens	3,000	500		3,500
Cuba Project		600		600
Formation	12,000	8,412.12		20,412.12
Human Migration		200		200
Project FIAT	68,000	1,269.15		69,269.15
Province General Operating	2,500	23,934.70	33,717.17 (Journey of Hope) 862.15 (Memorial Gifts)	61,014.02
Saint Raphaela Center	25,000	10,555	18,008.20 (Commemorative Gifts)	53,563.20
2019-2020 TOTALS	\$160,566.79	\$47,840.97	\$59,424.52	\$267,832.28


To Contribute to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province, you may:

- Remit a check by mail to the: Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province Development Office
616 Coopertown Road
Haverford, PA 19041
- Contribute on-line through visiting our website, www.acjusa.org.

What a difference a year makes

2018-2019 TOTALS	Grants	Annual Fund	Other	Total
	\$209,827.25	\$103,543.77	\$75,367.90	\$388,738.92
DIFFERENCE	-\$49,260.46	-\$55,702.80	-\$15,943.38	-\$120,906.64



 Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
USA Province Development Office
616 Coopertown Road
Haverford, PA 19041
610-642-5715
www.acjusa.org

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Fort Washington, PA
Permit No. 748

Address Service Requested

Annual Fund

Our Annual Fund helps provide support for the general operating expenses of the province, for formation and training, and for the continued care of our senior sisters. The campaign extends from September 1 through August 31 of each year.

Foundation Support

If you or a family member has established a foundation, contributions to the Handmaids may be made through your foundation. If you serve on the board of a foundation, or if your employer has a foundation, please make us aware. Opportunities for grants are often available to organizations such as the Handmaids.

Memorial Bequests

Oftentimes when a loved one dies, the family wants to memorialize their loved one in a significant and meaningful way. One of the simplest ways to do this is to request that contributions in memory of your loved one be designated to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province.

Planned Giving

Significant tax advantages are available for making contributions to charitable organizations through planned giving, (including bequests, securities, life insurance, annuities, and more). Please consider the Handmaids when planning your estate.

Matching Gifts

You can double or triple your support by designating the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province as the recipient of matching funds when your employer has a Matching Gift Program. Please check with your employer to determine whether a Matching Gift Program is offered.

Donate on-line at
www.acjusa.org

STAY CONNECTED



how can you help?