

Ascension Partnership in Ministry Awards 2017-18

New Major Grants

1. **Ladies of Charity USA, “Mission Market”, Kansas City, Missouri
(\$100,000 over two years/First year \$50,000 – Second year \$50,000)**

Contact: Suzanne Johnson, President

Endorsement: Sister Mary Louise Stubbs, DC

Mission Market is a project that LCUSA is developing to provide a platform for people in developing countries to market and sell their products in the United States and other countries. The desire is to work to empower enterprising people from around the world to become self-sufficient in business. The plan is to create a viable online market for the unique goods handmade by people in developing countries where the Daughters of Charity have skill centers. Many products made by artisans in the Daughters of Charity skill centers can be sold through this platform. Retail gift shops such as Ascension Healthcare gift shops, other hospital gift shops, long term care facilities' gift shops, boutiques, thrift shops, special event planners, as well as other businesses, will log on to the online platform and purchase handcrafted artisanal products at affordable prices for resale.

2. **Justus Corp Charity Community Mobile Pantry, Justus Corp, Indianapolis, Indiana (\$100,000 over two years/First year \$50,000 – Second year \$50,000)**

Contact: Satina Badgett, CEO

Endorsement: Glenn McDonald, Director, Mission Integration

Justus Corp provides needy families and individuals around Marion County, Indiana, who are below the poverty level or are homeless with fresh and non-perishable food, toiletries and household products on a weekly basis. They provide mobile pantry set up, delivery and dietary services for poverty stricken neighborhoods and families, as well as education on what items aid in preventing illness and disease. The aim is to change the scope of food quality for low income families. Justus Corp Pantry's main focus for funding will be to service downtown Indianapolis, Martindale Brightwood, West Indianapolis and the neighborhood surrounding Watkins Park. The focus is on these areas mainly due to the lack of quality fresh produce and meats available, lack of transportation for most families and lack of quality grocery stores within a five-mile radius. By providing fresh produce, perishable and non-perishable food items to needy families in these areas, it will cut down on families and children going hungry, and limit illness and disease due to poor dietary intakes.

3. **St. Lazare House, DePaul USA, Inc., Chicago, Illinois (\$70,000 over two years/First year \$35,000 – Second year \$35,000)**

Contact: Peggy Robertson, Director of Foundation Giving

Endorsement: Sr. Jean Maher, DC

St. Lazare House will establish a permanent supportive housing (PSH) program at 2912 Arsenal Street in St. Louis for homeless young adults with mental health disabilities. There are no permanent supportive housing programs that prioritize homeless youth in the City of St. Louis. The St. Lazare House will become a congregate-site apartment building with 15 one-bedroom units and a finished basement with a full kitchen. Permanent supportive housing is an evidence-based best practice and will allow youth to exit homelessness by providing a continuum of housing options and comprehensive services.

Ongoing Established Programs

1. Annunciation House, Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, El Paso, Texas (\$25,000 one year grant / invited back to reapply for second year funding in 2018)

Contact: Sister Ida R. Berresheim, CSJ, CSJ Applicant & Immigrant Advocate

Endorsement: Sister Maureen Freeman, CSJ

Annunciation House assists the poor in migration with every type of needed service for those who are in need of shelter and other services. Annunciation House will provide food, clothing, health care, shelter, direction to legal assistance and education to refugees. These poor in migration pass through and/or are assigned for a period to one of the sheltering houses on their way to a safe stay with a relative or sponsor in the U.S.

2. Outreach Services, South Mobile County, Providence Hospital, Mobile, Alabama (\$50,000 Second Year of Funding / received \$20,500 in 2016 and was invited back to reapply for second year funding in 2017)

Contact: Kim Weems, Outreach and Advocacy Manager

Endorsement: John Halstead, Chief Mission Integration Officer, Gulf Coast Health System

Providence Outreach is based in Bayou La Batre but the service area includes six rural communities with an average family income of \$13,694. With the funds awarded in 2016, they developed a diabetes and hypertension assessment, education and monitoring program for the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian population of south Mobile County. Translators for each population have been trained and assist in identifying those in need. The 2017 funding will allow the program to expand to assist with ongoing education, follow-up and coordination of care. The participation and compliance rates show the Asian education program reflects the Asian population's desire to manage their conditions, but they face additional hurdles related to communication and navigating the complexities of the health care system.

3. La Casa Guadalupana, Detroit, Michigan (\$25,000 Second Year of Funding / received \$50,000 in 2016 and was invited back to reapply for a second year funding in 2017)

Contact: Sr. Marie Benzing, CSJ, Coordinator

Endorsement: Sr. Betty Granger, CSJ

La Casa Guadalupana is a nonprofit organization with three branches, one for emergency services, one for housing and one for education. Its mission is to revitalize the environment in general and improve conditions in the lives of the Hispanic community of Southwest Detroit by providing families with ways to improve their economic security and future prospects. Through holistic and individualized services, the focus is on providing adult education to improve academic skills, achieve GED certification, increase job opportunities, and look toward college education – in order to improve their lives, acquire economic self-sufficiency and provide better opportunities for their children. The funding for 2017 will help provide: expansion of adult education, expansion of the health services that are currently provided once to twice a month and improvement of the health referral system by developing a health provider network that will service their clients and provide the medical assistance that is needed.

International Programs

1. Integrated Community Health Programs, Concern America, Guatemala and Colombia (\$10,000 One Time Award)

Contact: John Straw, Executive Director

Endorsement: Sister Sandra Williams, CSJ

Concern America's "Integrated Community Health Programs, Colombia and Guatemala" build long-term health and sanitation system in impoverished rural communities through the training and accompaniment of community health workers. This successful model, known as Health Promoter Practitioners (HPPs), builds health and sanitation systems by training local community members whose resulting depth of knowledge, skills, and ability to provide health care is comparable to the work of nurse practitioners in the U.S. The innovative nature of C/A's HPP model is that it addresses the root cause of poor health care in isolated, impoverished regions by engaging the most valuable resource in every village: THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

2. Education Program, Vincentian Family Haiti Initiative (VFHI), Savanne Perdue, Haiti, near the border of the Dominican Republic (\$10,000 One Time Award)

Contact and Endorsement: Sister Margaret Marie Clifford, DC, Advancement Coordinator

The Vincentian Family Haiti Initiative (VFHI) Education Program consists of two components in seventeen selected schools (over 4,200 elementary students) throughout Port-au-Prince, LaHoye and Thomazeau, Haiti. The Education Program will raise the quality of education and a Feeding Program will provide daily hot meals for each student. The program promotes quality education in the schools by referencing the Department of Education requirements and partners with the schools for individual School Improvement Plans (SIP). Some focus areas include: infrastructure and equipment, teaching and school administration, governance and leadership, and finance and operations. The Feeding Program, in collaboration with Mary's Meals, will provide a daily hot meal for each student. Meal preparation and serving will, in turn, create local employment opportunities. Future plans include providing locally grown products to provide nutritious meals.

3. Training for Health Personnel, Daughters of Charity, Caribbean Province, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, (\$10,000 One Time Award)

Contact: Sister Elania Josefina Almánzar Flores, DC, Provincial Project Coordinator

Endorsement: Sister Servia Tulia Garcia Martinez, Visitatrix, Caribbean Province

The Training for Health Personnel program will help the people in Santo Domingo by implementing training and preparation for health care workers who serve or will serve in areas catering to marginalized populations. The Sisters believe this project will change the lives of the health care workers and the people receiving the direct care. Improved skill sets and knowledge will result in better health for patients. It is the responsibility of the Dominican State to meet these educational needs; however, they lack the resources and conditions to address this advancement in healthcare. The project goal is for a total of 1,230 health personnel to be trained over a three-year timeframe, thereby reaching 18,332 beneficiaries.

4. The Guatemala Water Project, Daughters of Charity, Irving, Texas (\$10,000 One Time Award)

Contact: Ellen Miller, RN, BSN-BC, Mission Coordinator

Endorsement: Sister Mary Jean Tague

Helping Hands Medical Missions (HHMM), is a Catholic medical mission group based out of Irving, Texas. The missions have been involved in projects that help the community as a whole, such as the Guatemala Water Project, which strives to provide potable water to the Mayans in the village of Santa Maria de Jesus. The funds for this project will be used to provide four storage tanks that have a covered top along with a new piping system that will allow them to pump water from the springs to the new tank in new pipes, which is located in a new geographic location that improves efficiency and is more convenient to the townspeople.

Second Year Funding:

1. Rutherford Faith Community Wellness Program, Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital (STRH), Murfreesboro, Tennessee (\$100,000 over two years/First year \$50,000 – Second year \$50,000)

Contact: Anne Davis, Director, Saint Thomas Rutherford Foundation

Endorsement: Greg Pope, Vice President, Mission Integration & CMIO, Ministry Market

The goal of this program is to work closely with more than 30 congregations to provide state-of-the-art wellness promotion and health care that embodies physical, psychological, social and spiritual care of individuals. The program is multi-dimensional with three primary components: 1) Faith Community Nurse Involvement 2) Clinically Integrated Coordination of Care, and 3) Congregational Health and Clergy Health Programming. The integration of STRH, Faith Community Nurses (FCN) and clergy health and congregational care support teams will lead to personalized care and better individual and community health outcomes. STRH anticipates reaching approximately 1,000 individuals with STRH congregational nurse navigation; touching 30,000 lives through FCNs, congregation care team support and education; initial commitment of 30 congregations; and initial participation of 80 church and organizational representatives.

2. Step-Down Respite Bridge Housing Pilot Program for People Experiencing Homelessness, Circle the City, Phoenix, Arizona (\$100,000 over two years/First year \$50,000 – Second year \$50,000)

Contact: Wendy White, Grants Specialist

Endorsement: Teresa Kvale, CSJ

This new pilot project would provide crucial short-term bridge housing with medical support for men discharging from Circle the City's Medical Respite Center who have transitional needs (the full-fledged project after the pilot will serve both men and women). Some of these patients have vouchers and need an interim situation until their housing is available. Others are waiting for income and other benefit programs to begin. Still others need step-down assistance to learn how to live independently and function within the community. The program focuses on providing a medically-supported living situation with behavioral wrap-around services, so that these individuals can maintain their health and well-being during this crucial transition period.

3. Health Care for the Homeless Initiative, St. Vincent's HealthCare, Jacksonville, Florida (\$50,000 over two years/First year \$25,000 – Second year \$25,000)

Contact: Jane Lanier, President and CDO, St. Vincent's Foundation

Endorsement: Tracie Loftis, Vice President, Mission Integration

HealthCare for the Homeless Initiative is expanding health services to the homeless in St. Johns and Clay Counties including health screenings, medications, lab work, vaccinations, flu shots and diabetes education. The program's goal is to develop trusting relationships with the homeless and promote the best health outcomes through patient services and individualized instruction in a caring, compassionate environment. St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry (MHOM) will collaborate with Clay County Health Department and Mercy Support Services to guide the homeless of Clay County to self-sufficiency. One clinic occurs at a local church that has a free food pantry and the second clinic occurs in the parking lot of a local grocery store near an extended stay motel where over 60+ homeless live. In St. Johns County, MHOM will collaborate with The Wildflower Clinic in providing free medical care to the homeless congregating near St. Francis House, the area's only homeless shelter.