

Franciscan Daughters of Mary

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Rose Garden Home Mission
Center for Hope and Healing
Friends of the Rose Garden Mission

Autumn 2013

A Light shining in the darkness

On November 13th, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) issued a "Special Message" at the conclusion of their fall General Assembly regarding the HHS Mandate:

"We stand together as pastors charged with proclaiming the Gospel in its entirety... and the Constitution and the law protect our freedom to do so. Yet with its coercive HHS mandate, the government is refusing to uphold its obligation to respect the rights of religious believers... **we bishops stand united** in our resolve to resist this heavy burden and protect our religious freedom... We seek to... protect our religious freedom, and **not be coerced to violate our consciences.**"



One of our Madison Ave. Windows

We were so moved by this stance of unity from our Bishops to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that we sent a letter to then USCCB President Cardinal Dolan and the Bishops expressing our gratitude for their collective resolve to "resist the heavy burden" that the HHS Mandate places on the Church and American Catholics. How very proud we are to be Catholic during this present stress where our US Bishops stand united against this heinous crime against our religious liberty!

Reflecting on history and remembering the many times God's chosen people have been unfaithful and caved in to outside or secular pressure to do what was "popular" rather than standing witness to the Lord and the fullness of His Truth, we are so very grateful to the Lord for the opportunity to

proclaim with Joshua of old, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!" (Joshua 24:15)

May God greatly bless the United States Bishops for their courage and fidelity. Please join the sisters in our daily prayer that all American Bishops remain united in defense of our religious freedom, speaking boldly the truths of our faith without fear both in word and in action.



Carol Adams and Mother Seraphina having fun at the Christmas Give-Away, 2012

God's Peace Dear Friend

On November 30, 2013 dear friend, Mission office volunteer and Clinic Receptionist Carol Adams went home to God.

Carol was indispensable in helping Mother Seraphina set up her office at the new Mission location, keeping all of the record-keeping data, and varied office duties. She was also the first volunteer at the Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing, offering to be the receptionist a whole year before it opened.

Carol loved the Rose Garden and was involved in every activity and event of the Franciscan Daughters of Mary and the Mission; Thanksgiving and Christmas Give-Aways, open houses, receptions for Vows and other special occasions, fund-raisers, the Partners in Hope for the Poor Dinner. She loved to help coordinate each event, was the first to arrive and the last to leave.

But Carol will be most affectionately remembered by Mother Seraphina and the



Friend and long-time volunteer Susan Romer painted this image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the side of the Mission's Guadalupe Center. The image will be blessed on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dec. 12th at 5pm

sisters for the support she gave them through Sr. Ann Mary's illness and passing, including spending the night in the hospital with Mother and helping to coordinate the reception after her funeral.

With the love and compassion she had for everyone she met, or even spoke with on the phone, Carol truly embraced the Sisters' charism to uphold the dignity of every human person from the moment of conception until natural death. She will be greatly missed.

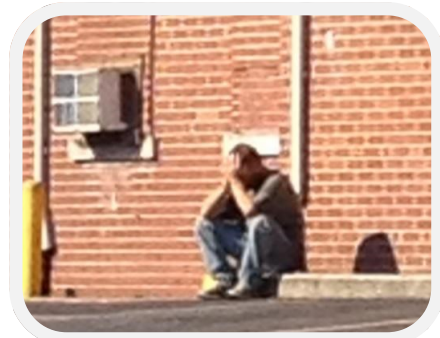
Eternal rest grant unto her soul, O Lord, may she rest in peace.



Carol with Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing Director Sheila Carroll, APRN, Joan Ziegelmeier, APRN and Mother Seraphina

Giving Thanks!

Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta said once, “Perhaps the greatest hunger in the world, the most terrible anguish was not physical poverty or deprivation, it was the anguish of not being wanted, of being forgotten, of having no one.”



A neighbor waits for the Mission to open

The greatest part of our Mission, really all we do, is to uphold each person’s dignity by giving them the love of Jesus Christ. We often tell the volunteers that if we have done this, we have done everything. Then, we just do whatever we can.

This being the core of everything we do, we have seen people move from making bad choices to making good ones, going from hopelessness to hope, from death to life.

Below, some of our friends and neighbors share their experiences.



A very grateful Mom and her precious ones

“**Everyone** has made me feel so wonderful and have given me hope that I had for sure lost. There had been many times that I prayed to God just to let me go to “sleep” and not wake. I went through so much pain and lost so much that I had lost all hope. This Mission has restored my hope and for sure my faith – I thank you all so much. I still go through rough times, but because of you all and God – I know in my heart all will be O.K.”

A young woman with children had her husband pass away and said that she

wouldn’t have been able to keep her children if we didn’t help her with food and clothing and baby items. We also helped her son who was having medical problems. She recalled the many times she came in and was just able to talk to Sr. Ann Mary who helped her in ways beyond her physical needs. Remembering sister she said, “I don’t know what I would have done if it wasn’t for Sister Ann & the Rose Garden.”

We want to thank you for that baby basket you put together for us, it was sooo



What a beautiful baby basket!

awesome! We love the stroller too – we’ve practiced using it with our cat! Ha ha. It’s a God send! Thank you so much!

A young preteen girl asked for a rosary one afternoon. Reading the prayers, sister noticed she was struggling with some of the words. So she shared that each part of the prayer had meaning; for example the Our Father, “If we call God Father,” sister said, “that means we are His children. And since God is King of everything, that makes His daughter a princess.”

Very excitedly she said, “Wow! I’m a princess! Life is good!”

Thank you so much for the turkey, it is the first time I’m cooking one. My family is so happy they can’t wait to eat it!

A woman who signed up for a Turkey this year went home and told her 13 year old son that they were having Thanksgiving. Her son asked her how that was possible and she replied that the sisters at the Rose Garden were going to help them get what they needed. Her son looked at her very excitedly and with a big smile



The line for turkey this year

said, “You mean I’m going to get a turkey?!”

“**Last year**

I stood in line for a long time for Thanksgiving food, not knowing what I would get.

When I brought it home, my Mom cried because she wouldn’t have had dinner if it wasn’t for you sisters. Thank you very much.”

“**I’ve been** to 4 different places trying to get help, but you are then first place to help us. Thank you!” A friend who came with her reminded her that the last place they were at helped her. She responded, “Yeah, they told us to come here!”

A woman was sharing with a volunteer that they lost their keys three months prior. The volunteer prayed with them a prayer to St. Anthony, and 5 minutes later she got a phone call from her sister who told her they found her keys!

A neighbor who had just left came back in frantic because she lost her phone. A volunteer prayed a prayer for St. Anthony’s intercession and moments later she found her phone.

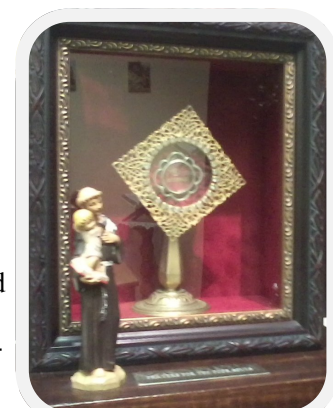
We prayed to St. Anthony with a neighbor who lost his wallet three days prior. When he got home it was in his mailbox!

A young man revealed to a volunteer that he was thinking about giving up on life. Bringing him in to our prayer room, they spent time talking and praying. The volunteer then handed him a religious prayer booklet on the subject of suicide.

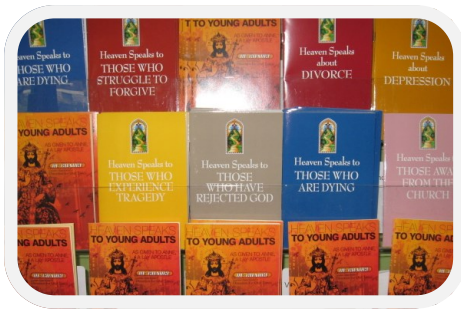
Two weeks later he came in to thank us. Shaking hands with sister he said, “Don’t ever get rid of those prayer books, they really helped me!”



Young woman at our turkey give-away



Our friends at the Apostles of the Holy Spirit donated this first class relic of St. Anthony of Padua, which resides in the Mission’s Prayer Room of the Father’s Love,



At left are the inspirational prayer booklets “Heaven Speaks” from *Direction for Our Times*, which recently received an imprimatur from the Catholic Church.



Even the babies can pray

P

arenting

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A woman who took our Parenting classes said regarding Natural Family Planning (NFP), “I really needed to know these things! And I really enjoyed it!”

“This is the first Christian based parenting class I’ve ever been to, and one of the first things I’ve ever completed.”

One of our Parenting Class Moms shared with us that the Judge told her that ours is the best program he’s seen because, he told her, we address all the important issues - especially regarding the essentials of discipline.

One young Mom got so much out of the Natural Family Planning classes that

she took off of work for the third and final session.

“Your Parenting Classes are the best I’ve ever been to, I’ve learned so much! Miss Fran takes the time to make sure we really understand what she’s teaching, and doesn’t get mad when we ask questions. I love the Rose Garden!

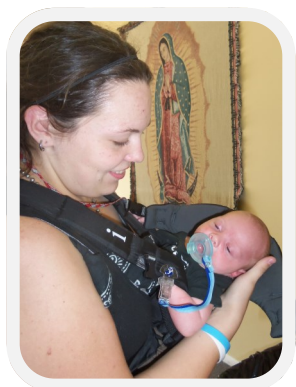


Sr. Clare’s favorite part

The Parenting Classes and Natural Family Planning have been a great blessing to our Mission! Below are some of the feedback our Parents have given us.

During the class where our Parents learn about interacting with their children—talking with the baby, singing to the baby, playing with the baby, walking with the baby, etc.— a pregnant Mom with a two-year-old said, “I never knew that before. I’m going to go home and do that today!”

At the end of her sessions, she said this was her favorite class because it changed the relationship she had with her daughter.



What a cutie!



What a loving Daddy



Doesn’t she look like me?



“I’m going to have a little brother”



Sr. makes some beautiful Baby Baskets!



A Basket with just what Mom needs



The Rose Garden is now a registered charity with Kroger’s supermarkets to receive rewards with their Community Rewards program.

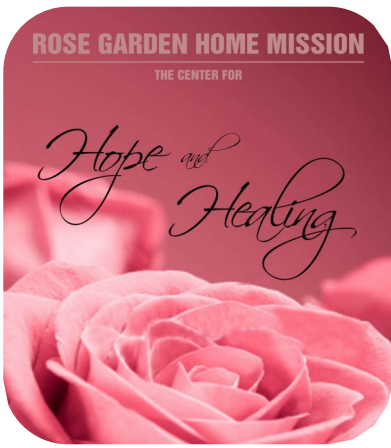
Last Quarter \$329.70 received

To enroll:

- go to: www.krogercommunityrewards.com
- click on Cincinnati, Ohio
- enter NPO # 82777
- designate Rose Garden Home Mission for the rewards

Then, when you shop using the Kroger Plus Card, the Rose Garden will receive a reward check each quarter. This in no way interferes with the fuel points rewards. Any questions can be directed to Mother Seraphina.

Thank you! God bless you!



Volunteers on a Mission

We have had some welcome additions to our clinic volunteer staff. Below meet Terry Burg, RN and Mary Margaret Spica, RN MS CSE.

Terry Burg



Terry getting busy with paperwork

One of my dreams was to spend my time doing volunteer work, so when I finally decided to retire last spring, I knew I would not be able to stay home every day. Having worked in the healthcare field for more than 40 years, I wanted to find something that would keep me connected.

I had read an article in the Messenger about the Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing free medical clinic and that the director was Sheila Carroll, whom I had worked with in the past.

Attending the Covington Diocese “Ministry Fair” at the DPAA dinner this past spring, I ran into Sheila and asked about volunteer opportunities. She gave me her card and assured me that there were several areas she thought I could be of service,



Terry Hardebeck is one of our clinic office staff

including quality assurance - making sure the clinic meets medical “standards of care,” contacting drug companies to donate medicine, and taking blood pressures on Healthy Tuesdays.

Since I began volunteering at the clinic, I have been extremely impressed with the fact that the patients are given the same level of care (and in many cases better) than they would be given in any doctor’s office. Most profoundly, it is being accomplished all by volunteers!

I am grateful for the opportunity to live out my dream.

Mary Margaret Spica

There are three reasons why I volunteer at the Rose garden Center for Hope and Healing.

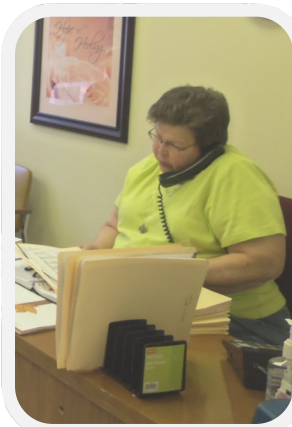


Mary Margaret completes her charts for the day

First, I think it is important to **pay it forward** in life especially if you have received many of God’s blessings. **Second**, using my nursing skills in retirement was important to

me, so when Shelia Carroll introduced me to the Rose Garden Clinic and its Mission. I felt this would be a good fit for my retirement. The **Third** reason is that I am self-ish. One cannot out do God’s generosity, so giving back to the Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing is my form of leaven to the community.

Having just studied the *Apostolate of the Laity* document of Vatican II at St. Catherine of Siena’s study group, I realize more fully our mission as members of the laity. The part that spoke to me is where it said, “the structure of the members are so compact that the member who



Carol Adams always the first to arrive, sets up for a busy day at the Clinic

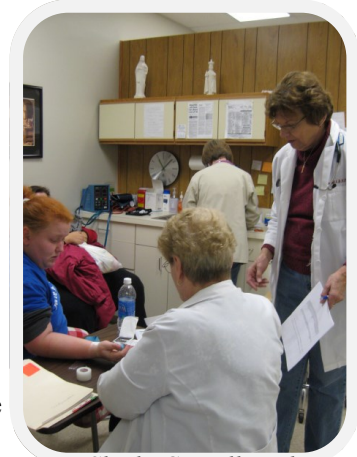
fails to make his proper contribution to the development of the Church must be said to be useful neither to the Church nor to himself.”

As Told by Our Neighbors

A patient who has an engineering degree, lost his job when his company closed, thereby losing his health insurance. He then suffered the loss of his wife of 35 years, he lost his vision, the dog died, he got sick and began to lose hope. He didn’t know what to do or where to go and developed “a desire to end it all.”

He heard about the Center for Hope and Healing from the local hospital and came to us for an appointment. We sat and listened to him. He said, “Thanks you guys, I feel better now! I don’t know what I’d do without you. You always smile and pay so much attention and listen to me. You are very caring and you don’t judge people.”

He is now convinced there is hope and his health has improved. Sheila Carroll believes that, “People need an ear – that is the start of healing – to listen to them and hear what they are saying.”



Sheila Carroll and Earlene Barker team up to help this neighbor



Sr. Catherine ministers to our neighbors in the waiting room



Office volunteer Lynn Wurtz

~
“I looked everywhere for help with my high blood pressure. The hospital is the one who told me to come here and I’m so glad I did! The clinic has been a blessing! If it wasn’t for

you, people like me without insurance couldn't get health care."



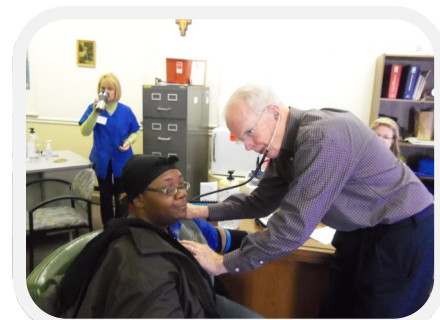
Fr. Ryan Maher with Pam Adams, RN give potatoes to our neighbors at the Mission's Turkey Give-Away

A friend told me about you a while ago. Without the Center for Hope & Healing I wouldn't have anywhere else to go. You are a God-send to me because I couldn't afford to go elsewhere."

"I came here because I had no insurance. You are very nice. You are always there to help us. If I'm feeling down when I come in, you have a listening ear and lift my spirit."

I've tried not to take a hand-out and to get a job, but it's really hard and no one wants to help. Before I came here I went to 6 other places for help, but couldn't get it.

Then I was referred to you. If it wasn't for this place, I don't know what I'd do."



Dr. Tom Donovan volunteering on our Healthy Tuesdays

Friends of the Rose Garden Mission

Ramping it up

The Friends of the Rose Garden continue to make repairs and improvements to the Mission. Recently, a team of "Friends" led by Chris Meyer and friends from the Knights of Columbus Council #5220 in Alexandria, built a handicapped accessible ramp for the new expansion to our clinic.



Our new ramp



Sister Clare is the first to test out our new ramp



Master Carpenter, Larry Sendelbach cuts with great precision



What great teamwork!



Project leader Chris Meyer & co.

Giving Great Thanks!

Friends of the Rose Garden Board of Directors, and friends of the Friends combined resources to purchase 700 turkeys for our Thanksgiving Give-Away! Other Board Members provided us with the first 100 packages of fixin's."

Special thanks to several local churches, schools, Youth Groups and friends for donating an extra 20 turkeys and enough "fixin's" for almost 800 families this year! Because of your generosity, no family that came to us for assistance went away empty handed!!



Good friend Charles Patrick gave turkeys to our needy families



"Friends" Board Member Adelsa Adrianza helps our Spanish speaking neighbors

Mission Needs

- * Diapers - 4's & 5's
- * Toiletries for Baby Baskets & Mommy Bags
- * Newborn Onesies
- * Newborn-Safe Toys
- * Baby Food—all stages
- * Formula
- * Toiletries for Homeless people
- * Volunteers to Help in the Mission Office
- * Microwave
- * Washing Machine
- * Elevator
- * New Roof

We are so grateful to God for the gift you are to us. It is through your prayers and donations that the Franciscan Daughters of Mary are able to serve God in the Northern KY, Greater Cincinnati area! In addition to our daily prayers for you, once per month Mass is offered in our convent chapel for your intentions.

*May God bless you for all the ways you love Him through your kindness to us.
Mother Seraphina & the Sisters*



Mother Seraphina's Ghost Writer

*The Lord bless you and keep you!
The Lord let His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you!
The Lord look upon you kindly
and give you His Peace!
~ Numbers 6:24-26*

Please keep us in mind as you consider your year-end giving