

# Moments in Mission

Hope for the Journey

*Every morning is  
a new beginning,  
a new blessing,  
a new hope.*

## Annual Donor Report

2019-2020



Sisters of the Presentation  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*In Joyful Service*

# Dear Presentation Family,

Our Presentation Mission invites us to live out the Gospel values and work for justice. We are inspired by the witness of Jesus' mother Mary, who in her song of praise, known as the Magnificat, said, **"God has lifted up the lowly and filled the hungry with good things"** (Luke 1:52-53).

This last year has led many of us to experience and witness injustices of our world in a very real way. It calls us to walk with those who are in need, offering compassion, hope and peace with a spirit of joy. We do not do this alone. It is with partners like you that we continue to joyfully incarnate the compassion and justice of Jesus, as Nano did, so that our neighbors locally and globally might live with hope. Together, we are changing one life at a time, and we thank you for your partnership!

This Annual Report articulates how your gifts to our Presentation ministries are making a difference to both individuals and families. With your help, we continue working to sustain the whole person, mind, body and spirit. As you reflect upon these stories of impact, we ask you to prayerfully consider a stewardship gift to our Annual Appeal. One hundred percent of your donation directly impacts our ministries. We appreciate your gifts, as together, we continue to reach out to those that society has forgotten, strengthening them in faith, hope and love.

May God's blessings be ever present and provide you with all you most need! You and your loved ones are in our prayers at Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. We invite you to send your prayer intentions to us on the enclosed envelope or email us at **[wepray4u@presentationsisters.org](mailto:wepray4u@presentationsisters.org)**. Let us work and pray with one another for peace and justice throughout the world.

**In peace and mercy,**

**Sisters Janice, Mary, Lucille, and Vicky**

Presentation Sisters Leadership Team



*"Our HOPE  
is God's  
unfailing love."*

PSALM 147:11



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Join us as we intentionally inspire hope in ourselves and others. We welcome you to color and mail the included postcard, spreading the message of hope.





## Through prayer, we are filled with HOPE

While there is so much in our world that seems beyond our control and even frightening, as Presentation Sisters we find hope and comfort in our prayer lives. The apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:7, “For we live by faith, not by sight.” Perhaps never in our lifetime has this verse been more relevant. As our world addresses a viral pandemic and we are opening our eyes to ongoing racism, we must live by the faith that our God is ever-present and will bring us through these trying times. We pray for all of God’s people to find hope and continue in faith to trust that he will be with us in times of need. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

If you have a prayer request which you would like us to include in our daily prayers, we invite you to contact our prayer line at [wepay4u@presentationisters.org](mailto:wepay4u@presentationisters.org).



# Thank You, Partners

Together we continue the legacy of service to those in need.

We are grateful to the donors listed in this annual report, as well as the individuals who prefer to remain anonymous, for their partnership over the past year. The efforts of many coming together make it possible to do what none of us could do alone. It is through your prayerful and financial support that we are able to continue our ministry to those in need.

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Ann Marie Collins

It is our intention that this report accurately reflects the names of our donors from June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020. We also remember in our prayers those whose names are marked with a cross (†) as they are our partners who are deceased.

*We have established style guidelines to ensure consistency. If there is an error with your name, please let us know using the contact information listed on the back of this report.*

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## Stories of HOPE

*"I have been a dental hygienist for over 40 years. For several years, I have visited several of my elderly patients in their homes or care homes. During this time of COVID-19, I have, instead, been calling many of them on the phone and also writing letters and notes to some as a way of keeping in touch. Of course, this isn't the same as visiting in person, but a way to 'bridge the gap' until we can do so safely again."*

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## Stories of HOPE

*“One of our granddaughters in Minnesota became a teenager this past year. She greatly enjoys reading, dance, music and, of course, her friends and her phone. Her parents expect her to complete her chores, school work, be courteous and respectful of others and among other things, to be concerned about the world we live in.*

*Two years ago—to her parents’ great surprise—her school called and said she had received detention: she had left school without permission and joined a protest march! Her parents were somewhat upset, but we were very proud of her.*

*This past May, with the killing of George Floyd, our granddaughter began by verbalizing anger at the injustice, joined others on Instagram by making her screen go black and started to write about white privilege. To her credit, this time she asked her parents’ permission to join the [peaceful] protest march in Minneapolis. They said yes and joined her. Our granddaughter gives us great hope that this generation of ‘doers’ will bring out the social changes so that the part that says ‘All men (people) are created equal’ finally becomes a reality.”*

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 Dr. Patty & Mr. Scott Peters  
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## Stories of HOPE

*"I chalk the word 'HOPE'  
 on my driveway each  
 morning."*



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 Richard & Lisa Swisher

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 Vivki Zierden

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# Justice is our Work



The work of justice is, at its core, about inspiring hope. We work to inspire hope in those who are oppressed and those who have lost hope in a system that has failed them. Our justice ministry focuses on education, advocacy and working for systemic change. While some of our justice work is direct service, a large portion is more indirect and serves as the foundation of each of our ministry efforts. We truly believe that justice is at the heart of all of our work as Presentation Sisters.

Our justice commission strives to immerse Presentation People (Sisters, cojourners, employees and friends for justice) more deeply in the work of promoting justice issues, both locally and globally. We encourage prayer and build awareness of where systemic change is most needed in our world today. We work to educate those around us through media, conversations, lobbying, advocacy and the distribution of informational materials. While the COVID-19 pandemic has curbed some of these efforts, we are able to virtually participate in Zoom meetings, dialogue and prayer services.

Collaboration and connection with other organizations, such as the International

Presentation Association, Conference of Presentation Sisters, Avera Health, Presentation College and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, to name just a few, are key to our justice work. We also connect with individuals who share our heart for justice.

These partnerships are at the heart of systemic change and inspire hope that ripples throughout our communities. ●



We join with other like-minded organizations from around the world in furthering the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. These 17 goals offer a foundation for ending poverty and hunger, caring for land and water, creating gender equality, building more accountable institutions, and acting to address climate change. Our 2020–2025 focus with the UN is to honor and advance the rights of women and children, the rights of the Earth and the rights of indigenous and tribal people.



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In partnership with the Watertown Coalition and Mother of God Monastery, we continue our education and awareness efforts on the issue of sex trafficking. Our new billboard message will rotate throughout northeast South Dakota.





*With a contemplative presence and in partnership with others working for global justice, we willingly go forth to any part of the world to work for justice, alleviate oppression and promote human dignity.*



We open our compassionate hearts as we stand alongside all who are suffering.



Top: Presentation People joined others in an Interfaith gathering in Aberdeen this past summer. This was a statewide effort towards affirmation and unity, with events in Sioux Falls and Rapid City the same day.

Middle: Our sisters have made hundreds of masks (and continue the effort) to help curb the spread of COVID-19, donating their labor of love to Avera Health and others who have a need for masks.

Bottom: As Presentation Sisters from South Dakota, we do nothing alone. We actively listen, respect and build authentic relationships with our neighbors. This transforms our understanding of justice so that our actions help us live into peace.

We invite you to learn more about our work for justice and to consider whether your heart is calling you to share in these efforts. Find out more on our website at [presentationisters.org](http://presentationisters.org) or by emailing Sister Pat at [peprunty@presentationisters.org](mailto:peprunty@presentationisters.org).

## ABERDEEN AREA

# Hispanic Outreach



The COVID-19 pandemic has had a direct impact on our ministry with Hispanic residents in the Aberdeen

area. Personal visits are important to assess needs and establish a connection with those whom we serve. As these visits have become difficult, we are relying on phone calls, texts and emails to communicate or provide translation services.

The Delta Dental Van comes to Brown County a few times each year to serve children who may not be able to pay for services in a traditional dental office. Last year, Sister Myra took a mother and



Sister Myra provided an assuring smile to these young girls as she accompanied them on a dental visit.

Sister Consuelo's loving spirit shows through on a visit with a local family.



her twin girls to the van for a checkup. The girls' teeth were badly decayed and in need of immediate care. Sister Myra was able to locate a local dentist who was willing to work with the family for several months to give these girls healthy teeth. A partnership of the Presentation Sisters, Delta Dental Van and a local dentist offered this act of love and provided hope for a family in need.

Sister Consuelo received a call from Rita\*, for whom she had provided medical translation in the past. Rita wasn't feeling well and they were concerned she might have cancer. Because of COVID-19, Sister Consuelo could make her appointments but could no longer accompany her. The clinic Rita visited used the language line, but Rita had more questions when she returned home. Sister Consuelo was able to call the clinic to get the answers the family needed and also conveyed the test results that told Rita she was cancer-free.

**Praise and thanks to God! ♦**



**Sister Myra Remily**  
**Sister Consuelo Covarrubias**  
Ministry Coordinators

As the needs of the ministry evolve over these unforeseen times, we are grateful for gifts of all sizes to assist with transportation costs, school supplies for children or unforeseen expenses.

\*Name changed to protect the individual's privacy.



# Caminando Juntos

**WALKING TOGETHER**



For those ministering at Caminando Juntos, inspiring hope is a way of daily life. Kathy Donis, office manager, is at the heart of the ministry and welcomes

over 1,200 drop-in visitors yearly. She helps to fill out forms, connects clients with basic needs and orients new arrivals to the community. Angelica recently joined our ministry to provide support for the Caminando Juntos team.

Each year, Caminando Juntos educates and empowers hundreds of Latinos living in the Sioux Falls area through their educational programs. We have one of the few ESL programs in the area that is free and the only program specifically serving Spanish-speaking adults. This fall, we will begin offering a virtual bilingual story time as a way for parents to connect with their children at home and develop early literacy skills.

Over the past six years, we have assisted more than 60 young people, also known as Dreamers, obtain Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival



Kathy (top) and Angelica (left) listen and assist clients with questions and concerns.



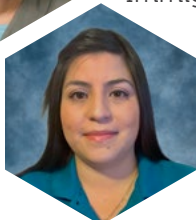
status. We also work collaboratively with other organizations to promote programs, services and resources in the community that benefit our clients and foster hope for their future.

We have been working creatively over the past several months to continue to serve the Hispanic community during this pandemic. We created a hotline number for our clients to use for emergency or high priority needs, such as food and housing assistance. We are primarily conducting business via the phone and average 30 calls daily. As the need presents itself for in-person consultations, we are slowly re-opening for appointment-only visits. The need for assistance has climbed dramatically and we continue to work to fill gaps where our clients do not qualify for other forms of support services. ●



**April Ross**  
Director and Educational Coordinator

**Sister Janet Horstman**  
Immigration Legal Specialist



**Angelica Narez**  
Support Services

**Kathy Donis**  
Office and Resource Manager

Ministry gifts of \$50 assist with transportation costs to immigration court (in Minneapolis) or textbooks for English Language Learners; \$25 provides hope for children with a gift of a welcome backpack or basic necessities in emergency situations.

# Catholic School Scholarships



Education is the key to fostering a quality of hopefulness in our youth. For over 100 years, our Sisters have been serving in education ministry and supporting Catholic education in the Sioux Falls Diocese. Through the generous support of our donors, each year our committee selects 40 students to receive a \$750 scholarship for Catholic education and three students receive a \$1,500 Catholic high school scholarship. This year, we received 111 applicants for the \$750 scholarships and 21 for the high school scholarships. We believe an investment in the Catholic education of area youth will nurture their Catholic values and provide a solid foundation for their futures. ♦



*“This award has truly been a great answer to our family’s prayer. We have watched firsthand what a Christ-centered education and love from teachers has given to the students and how it is forming them in their Catholic faith.”*

*“Our family wanted to thank you so much for your gift of a scholarship to continue our child’s catholic education. We pray that we are able to someday pay it forward to someone else.”*

*“For it is in giving that we receive.”*

ST. FRANCIS  
OF ASSISI

*“Thank you so very much for the scholarship award. This means so much to me and my family. This means I will get a great education, continue with my values and attend a safe environment. I will get to stay with my friends and at the same time make new ones.”*

Gifts directed to our Catholic School Scholarship will provide hope and support to students wanting to pursue/continue their Catholic education.

## 2020–2021 K-12 Scholarships

Aiden Ajdari  
Riley Barry  
LaRayne Bowers  
Courtney Brown  
Kira DeJong  
Colby Dengler  
Noah Dobbs  
Zachary Eschenbaum  
Ian Estrada  
Penelope Fitz  
Ezra Fix  
Isabelle Fouts  
Philomena Gallagher  
Madison Glatzer  
Sophia Guitierrez Ornelas  
Joslyn Hermanson  
Ryker Hoffman  
Colby Hoffman  
Keaton Johnson  
Benjamin Josten  
Evie Kindelspire  
Sierra Kokales  
Charlie Laskowski  
Reagan Lindquist  
Xavier Menke  
Liam Murtha  
William Neal  
Jaylee Ochoa  
Hayden Pasbrig  
Matthew Peters  
Ella Peterson  
Alex Ruiz-Raigoza  
Hayden Scott  
Clara Shaykett  
Gabrielle Thomas  
Rebecca Valencia  
Ariyah VanSickle  
Jorja Weber  
Tegan Weinecht  
Angelina Zamora

## 2020–2021 High School Scholarships

Ella Griffin  
Jazmine Hart-Crissman  
Emma Yellow Bird



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# Good Samaritan Ministry

FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN



For many years, we have worked collaboratively with area non-profits to assist those in need. In September 2019, we established a deeper partnership between our Good Samaritan Ministry and The Journey Home to distribute funds to individuals and families needing temporary assistance. The Journey Home has provided assistance to over 230 people since this partnership began, with over 130 of them assisted through the Good Samaritan Ministry. One requirement of those who receive financial assistance is that they must take part in budgeting classes that will assist them in becoming more financially secure.

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*Recently, a woman came to The Journey Home. She had been released from prison, was struggling to find work and also going through a divorce. She has partial custody of her three children and needed some temporary assistance as she worked toward a better life. The Journey Home was able to assist with her utility bill and gifted her with a food box and a gift card to a local grocery store. Since then, she has been able to find a job, mend relationships with her children and their father, and maintain her sobriety. She is also now regularly attending church and growing closer to God.*

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Throughout these past few months, we have seen our nation, as well as local communities, come together, uplifting our neighbors in need. We are thankful that many of our families received additional outside resources as they continue on their journey toward sustainability. Requests have once again increased. With your partnership, we are able to provide much-needed hope to individuals who have been hit especially hard during this world-wide crisis. ◆

*“Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us.”*

SAMUEL SMILES



There are times when one needs additional support. This ministry provides temporary assistance, working alongside individuals and families, helping them to become self-sustaining. Gifts of any amount may assist with rent, utilities and/or groceries.

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# Kaoma, Zambia, Africa



resentation School in Kaoma, Zambia, currently educates over 1,700 orphans and other poor and vulnerable children each year, inspiring in them the hope to build a better future. With the assistance of generous donors, we have not only provided school fees for area youth, but also expanded and built science and home economics classrooms.



*Febby was nine years old when a neighbor found her living alone. She finished the school year living with this neighbor but was then moved to live with her grandparents far out in the bush. Through the support of a donor, Febby completed high school with top honors and graduated as a clinical officer (physician assistant) last year. She is now enrolled in college and will begin studying for a pre-med degree. The sponsorship of this young orphan girl continues to provide her with hope and encouragement to aspire for a brighter future.*

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In addition to our school, we have constructed a conference center and five houses that are rented

to generate income. We also distribute food from Kids Against Hunger to those in need and provide monthly assistance to a few older women in the community. Through our fishing project we are also developing a curriculum to teach fish farming practices to 50 area farmers, with an emphasis on women and youth.

The people of Kaoma have not seen the community spread of COVID-19. Because we know it is just a matter of time, the schools have closed. Access to water is limited and social distancing is difficult, so the virus will present many challenges when it arrives here. ●



Sister Lucy and Mboma test the quality of water in one of our large fish tanks located next to the ponds and the hatchery.

The people of Zambia are very happy, asking for very little and always sharing with others. A gift of \$20 to this ministry would provide a month's supply of food to someone in need and a gift of \$180 would provide the gift of education, yearly school fees and uniforms for a young student.



**Sister Virginia McCall**  
Administrator



# LIVE Camp



his past Spring brought many new challenges to our world. In planning for the 2020 LIVE Camp, we soon realized that some modifications would need to be made.

Not wanting to cancel the week-long summer camp, but also keeping the safety and health of the campers top of mind, the camp board came together and formed the 2020 Virtual LIVE Camp.

Facebook and Zoom were just a few of the innovative and big ideas the team used in hosting the camp. In switching from an in-person camp to virtual, the campers were engaged with experiences that could be done from the camper's home. **The days were very interactive and included prayer, song, crafts, journaling, dancing, speakers, small groups, vespers, prize drawings and a counselor spotlight.** ♦



*“Camp holds a very special place in my heart. I first came here as a camper, then a counselor and now I hold a leadership position. I continue to come back because it continues to teach me and mold me into a better person. It helps me become a better leader and grow my faith. I see firsthand the impact this camp has on the young girls.”*

**LIVE CAMP COUNSELOR**



Campers shared their joy with inspirational sidewalk messages throughout their neighborhoods.

In partnership to further the LIVE Camp into the future, we are excited to actively work with a new board and 501(c)3 that will support and enhance this camp for years to come. We feel this new, 100% Latino board will make an even greater impact in Omaha and the Latino community. In this transitional time, we continue to support, collaborate and assist in financing the LIVE Camp. We are grateful for the partnership of foundations, businesses and individuals who continue to support and believe in this camp. Gifts of any amount will be used for scholarship assistance. This helps us to keep the camp registration fees at a minimum, allowing all to attend, regardless of economic status.



Sisters of the Presentation  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*In Joyful Service*

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## Uniting in Our Work for Justice

We look to others with similar missions for partnerships in our ministries. Together, we can do so much more by helping to carry the burden of others while lifting each other up in a spirit of hope. We invite you to join us as we intentionally inspire hope in ourselves and to all those we encounter.

For more information on connecting more fully with other Presentation People, please contact our Mission Development Office:

[marketing@presentationsisters.org](mailto:marketing@presentationsisters.org)

Sioux Falls: 605.271.0486

Aberdeen: 605.229.8337



[presentationsisters.org](http://presentationsisters.org)

