Greetings from the Adrian Dominican Sisters Motherhouse! We just completed a grand event, *Embracing the Future / Encuentro con el Futuro / Pagyakap sa Hinaharap*, which brought to campus more than 600 Sisters, Associates, Co-workers, and Partners in Mission from July 31 through August 4, 2019. The gathering was convened to embrace and address the future of our Adrian Dominican community, as the following purpose statement describes:

“The General Council is convening this gathering in order for us to come together as a community at this transformation time – a time of great letting go that is also calling us to boldly move forward. We want to acknowledge our losses and celebrate the gift of the women on whose shoulders we stand. We want to recognize our changed reality and celebrate the gift of who we are today. And, fully aware of the gifts of our past and present, we want to join with our partners in mission to discern our unknown future – and celebrate the gift of the new life to which we are beckoned. For our God is always One who goes before us and calls us into the future.”

Thank you for your continued support, for your faithfulness, and for the love you bestow upon our Sisters each day. We invite you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram throughout the year, as a quick and easy way of staying up to date on all the latest happenings of the Congregation.

Gratefully,

Amy Palmer, MA, CFRE, Director of Development
The Office of Development is a busy place and for that, we are so grateful! The donations you send through the mail and the gifts you make online all make us smile. It’s a good thing that our office is busy! It is our pleasure to write to you to thank you for your generosity. Each gift, no matter the size, is a blessing to the Sisters. Thanking you is one of the best parts of our day!

However, we can’t do it alone! Many Sisters join us in this ministry of Development. Some Sisters make phone calls to express their personal thanks for your support to the Congregation, while others write personal notes on the letters we send. The Sister volunteers are our touchstone, reminders of the people who benefit from your generosity. They are always happy to express their personal gratitude for the ways that you touch their lives with your generous support.

Here, in their own words, are the ways that our Sisters view their special ministry to you.

Sister Patricia Brady, OP

“Calling our donors is a very personal way to give thanks to those who have given so much to us. When I talk with people on the phone, it’s wonderful to hear their responses of why they make donations. In many instances it’s because of their contact with Adrian Dominican Sisters they’ve known over the years. It’s very personal. The community doesn’t just see you as someone giving money but as someone they’re very close to, who has been giving money over the years.”

Sister Helen Therese Mayer, OP

“I was asked to make phone calls of thanks to people who have donated. We are given a little bit of information about what their donation is for. This helps me to make a connection. ‘I see you’re a graduate of Dominican High School. So am I.’ And we get into a conversation. That has been pleasant. This work gives me a better understanding of what the Development Office does for us, the amount of work they do, and the wonderful results they’re getting. We’re not school teachers any more, but we’re still engaged in mission and ministry. Your donations help us to keep it up. It’s been a rewarding experience because I see the good things that have come from the Development Office.”

Sister Angela Susalla, OP

“I think that, because there’s a personal note on the formal letters, our donors can see that we really do appreciate what they do for us. It’s because of them that we continue to exist. They certainly help us, especially when we ask for something in particular, like the recliners and the benches in the Reflection Garden. Writing a personal note is a connection with the donors. I sign my name, so it’s a connection. They see that I’m one of the elder Sisters and so I really do appreciate so much what they are doing for us.”
Sister Maurine Barzantni, OP

“I enjoy writing the notes. On several occasions I have been able to write notes to people that I know, and that’s always a pleasure, or I know personally the Sister whom they have made the donation in honor or in memory of and so I’m able to make my note more personal. I’m amazed at the number of people who respond to us or who donate to us – some with large gifts and some with very small gifts – but it gives me a sense that their experience with our community has been valuable to them.”

Sister John Norton Barrett, OP

“I like to write notes and I think it’s so important that the Development Office writes letters to everyone who donates, no matter how much. I thank our donors for their contribution and tell them the Sisters hold them in their hearts and prayers and how important it is to the Sisters and how grateful we are. The Sisters have been so active in the past and now they’re looking for their help as they look to the future.”

Our Volunteer Callers
Rosemary Abramovich, OP
Rosemary Asaro, OP
Patricia Brady, OP
Ann Romayne Fallon, OP
Jean Fitzgerald, OP
Barbara Ann Hehr, OP
Margaret Heinz, OP
Mary Keefe, OP
Anne Liam Lees, OP
Frances Madigan, OP
Mary Margaret Mannard, OP
Christa Marsik, OP
Chris Matthews, OP
Helen Therese Mayer, OP
Helen McAllister, OP
Marion O’Connor, OP
Diane Odette, OP
Jeri Renner, OP
Maria Romero, OP
Laura Marie Smith, OP
Michael Thomas Watson, OP

Our Volunteer Writers
John Norton Barrett, OP
Maurine Barzantni, OP
Tarianne DeYonker, OP
Joan Delaplane, OP
Patricia Fischer, OP
Jeanne Lefebvre, OP
Joan Marconi, OP
Joella Miller, OP
Angela Susalla, OP

“We’re not school teachers any more, but we’re still engaged in mission and ministry. Your donations help us to keep it up.”
- Sister Helen Therese Mayer, OP
Remember our Wish List

Have you ever longed to see the physical, tangible results of your donations? Sometimes that isn’t possible – such as when you donate to support the overall Mission of the Congregation. But when you’d like to be able to see, touch, and feel the results of your donations, check out our Wish List, which suggests tangible, specific items or programs to which you can donate.

Here are some items currently on our Wish List:

• New recliners and lift chairs for the retired Sisters on campus. The recliners allow the Sisters a comfortable place to sit as they read, pray, visit with others, or watch TV. The lift chairs enable them to stand on their own – without the help of an aide – while continuing to use and develop the muscles needed to stand.

• One shampoo sink, one wheelchair-accessible styling chair, and one salon station with a mirror for the Dominican Life Center’s newly refurbished Beauty Salon. These items will help the Co-workers in the Beauty Salon to brighten up the days of our retired Sisters, who often just need the lift of a new hair style or haircut to get them through times of illness.

• New mattresses for Weber Retreat and Conference Center, so that retreatants and guests can sleep comfortably and feel refreshed for the next day’s activities. A good night’s sleep is a key component of Weber Center’s mission: to offer hospitality and the best accommodations possible for those who stay there.

• Adjustable wire shelving for the Arts and Crafts Room. This shelving is a durable and flexible way for Sisters to store their art supplies and to allow their art pieces to dry properly.

• Medium and large garden stones, engraved with a short message honoring or remembering a loved one.

For details on the Wish List, visit www.adriandominicans.org/WaystoGive/WishList