

FY 2024 MINISTRY TRUST GRANT MEMBER INITIATIVES

The Congregation Ministry Trust Review Committee for Member Initiatives approved \$852,168 for 26 Member Initiatives for Fiscal Year 2024. Ministry Trust Grant criteria requires an alignment of the funded project with the Mission and Vision of the Adrian Dominican Sisters and the General Chapter Enactments of 2016 and 2022.

Angela House

Houston, Texas

Maureen O'Connell, OP, Board Member

Angela House provides safe, drug- and violence-free transitional housing and holistic programs for women re-entering society after incarceration. The Ministry Trust Grant (MTG) allows Angela House to continue structured case management for residents. The grant also provides for additional house case manager(s) to meet with each new resident upon arrival to create an individualized plan for successful reentry into broader society.

Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale Counties Counseling Center

Adrian, Michigan

Pam Millenbach, OP, Staff

Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale Counties staffs therapists to provide individual, family, and marital therapy. The center's professional clinicians approach complex trauma with evidence-based practices and well-researched interventions based on their clinical experience, ethics, and the strengths and preferences of the clients, while recognizing their culture. The grant will help ensure the continued development of a Counseling Center for Lenawee County to treat children who are victims of trauma and abuse. The grant will also provide a victim advocate for Hillsdale County's newly established Child Advocacy Center.

Centro Santa Catalina

Juárez, Mexico

Victoria Dalesandro, OP, Board Member

Centro Santa Catalina aims to lift women and children from abject poverty and social

marginalization by providing nutritional, entrepreneurial, and life-skills activities. The grant provides funding for staffing and program expenses, enabling the development of strategies to improve the quality of life for adolescents and adults.

Community Action Agency

Adrian, Michigan

Joella Miller, OP, Board Member

Community Action Agency (CAA), a social service nonprofit organization, offers "Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting-By World," a program to help individuals in poverty productively develop their resources. The program offers challenging, respectful, and empowering experiences that introduce methods to build self-sufficiency through financial, social, and emotional resources. The participants will become investigators of their own experiences and create a plan with specific steps to reach their goals. The CAA Migrant Services Program provides much-needed medical, vision, and dental services, as well as prescriptions to seasonal workers in Lenawee County migrant camps. The grant will support migrant medical services, program expenses, and Getting Ahead student stipends.

Con/Vida Popular Arts of the Americas

Detroit, Michigan

Barbara Cervenka, OP, Co-Founder

Con/Vida works primarily with Brazilian and Peruvian artists with limited financial resources, giving them a voice and validating and popularizing their work within the North American culture. Con/Vida promotes traveling art exhibits to educate North American audiences

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about the history and culture of the common people of Peru and Brazil. As Con/Vida works to contribute its collection to an institution in Brazil, it still needs to rent space for office and storage in Detroit and provide insurance during the coming fiscal year. The grant includes rent for eight spaces to house the artists' works.

Dominican Hospital Foundation Women's Cancer Detection, Diagnosis, and Support

Santa Cruz, California

*Adrienne Piennette, OP, Mission and Volunteer
Coordinator*

Dominican Hospital's Katz Cancer Resource Center seeks to expand mammography access, screenings, and support for under-served women in Santa Cruz County. The grant is to lessen the impact of health disparities by providing accessible, vital, time-sensitive cancer detection services via mobile mammography, along with support and educational resources.

Earth Law Education Initiative

New York, New York

Corinne Sanders, OP, Board Member

The Earth Law Center (ELC) Education Initiative works to secure the passage of at least three eco-centric laws and resolutions in the United States and at least three such laws internationally, along with submitting amicus briefs in various court cases. The grant supports staff and program expenses vital to the ELC Education Initiative in its work to secure the passage of new laws and court decisions that recognize the rights of nature and the human right to a healthy environment. The ELC will not engage in any lobbying with Ministry Trust funds.

Esperanza Para Haina

Dominican Republic

Carol Gross, OP, Board Member

The Hope for Haina Health Project provides basic medical services in a neighborhood clinic, monitoring patients and treating their chronic conditions before they become serious. The grant will offer stipends to part-time doctors, a dentist, a nurse, and assistants who provide free services to an under-served community of 14,000 people for whom health care is not readily available.

Friends in Solidarity with South Sudan

Washington, D.C.

Durstyne Farnan, OP, Board Member

Friends in Solidarity with South Sudan collaborates with the Catholic Health Training Institute to support the empowerment of citizens in this young African nation. The grant provides full funding to support students for one year in a three-year nursing program to train South Sudanese women and men as certified midwives and registered nurses. The comprehensive training includes practical experience in multicultural living.

Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee County

Adrian, Michigan

Joanne Peters, OP, Board Member

Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee County will raise funds, hammers, and saws to expand the home repair program to meet immediate repair needs outside the limited time frame funded by other sources. The greatest benefit will be for vulnerable homeowners living at or below 70% of the area median income who do not typically qualify for traditional home improvement bank loans. The grant will support home repair supplies and loan funds.

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HOPE Community Center

Adrian, Michigan

Beth Butler, OP, Board Member

HOPE Community Center offers participants the opportunity for holistic programs and projects that promote health, wellness, and dignity in a culture of caring and sharing. HOPE community members participate in leadership activities as learners and teachers through various structured programs to help them become empowered self-advocates. The grant supplements staff and program expenses, making it possible to continue mind-body-spirit classes and activities for HOPE members.

Hotel Hope MLK

New Orleans, Louisiana

Judith Zynda, OP, Board Member

Hotel Hope is a nonprofit, interfaith organization that provides housing to women and their children in a safe and loving atmosphere while guiding them to self-sufficiency and self-empowerment. Intensive case management links women to services and opportunities with the aim of long-term residential sustainability. The grant supports staff and emergency housing assistance, anticipating that by June 30, 2024, Hotel Hope will provide emergency financial assistance to 20 women, helping them maintain safe and stable housing for themselves and their children.

Housing Help of Lenawee Homelessness Prevention

Adrian, Michigan

Jean Tobin, OP, Board Member

Homeless Prevention in Lenawee County supports families and individuals in housing crises who need assistance to overcome barriers to housing and self-sufficiency. The grant will provide funding for safe, affordable housing and support services for four low-income households that are not currently eligible for government housing

assistance. The grant will also provide financial assistance, case managers, and programming to households temporarily unable to meet their mortgage or rent obligations.

Maketai, Inc. Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest

Judith Bisignano, OP, Founder and Board Member

Maketai collaborates with and supports projects of the Ecuadorian Achuar people that deepen social justice, expand environmental awareness, and promote participatory actions among the Achuar, especially the women and young adults. The Achuar Leadership Project proposes training to promote and implement sustainable reforestation, community ecotourism, and Indigenous concepts of spirituality and well-being in Ecuador's Amazon rainforest. The grant will provide tuition for training and certification of Achuar community members to become ecotourism guides. The goal is to raise awareness of the need to conserve and support the sustainable development of the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest and to provide a source of income for the community. View <https://vimeo.com/443924028>

Mercy Housing Northwest, Columbia Heights

Vancouver, Washington

Judy Byron, OP, Board Member

Mercy Housing Northwest (MHNW) creates stable, vibrant, and healthy communities by developing, financing, and operating affordable, program-enriched housing for families, seniors, and people with special needs who lack the economic resources to access quality housing. Last year, the new Columbia Heights community welcomed 150 families, including several Ukrainian refugees. The grant will provide resident support services for Ukrainian refugee families.

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Meta Peace Team

Lansing, Michigan

Ellen Burkhardt, OP, Board Member

The purpose of the Meta Peace Team is to educate the public about the vision and practice of active nonviolence, particularly as it relates to conflict intervention, and to provide training in active nonviolence and violence de-escalation skills. The training is designed for the specific needs of the participants. The grant will provide staff support, trainer stipends, and program/facility expenses, helping the Meta Peace Team to provide violence de-escalation and bystander intervention skills trainings to students, teachers, and school personnel in at least six elementary, junior high, and high schools by April 2024.

Michigan Interfaith Power & Light

Detroit, Michigan

Kathleen Nolan, OP, Board Member

Michigan Interfaith Power & Light aims to build economic and environmental sustainability and climate resilience through installed solar panels with energy storage at predominantly Black, Indigenous, and people of color congregations within Detroit, Highland Park, and Hamtramck. The pilot project site is Lord of Lords Missionary Baptist Church on the East Side of Detroit. The goal is to install solar at four to five additional congregations by the end of 2024, for a total of 10 congregations. The grant will provide staff support, program expenses, and energy storage.

National Coalition for Community Capital

South Burlington, Vermont

Corinne Florek, OP, Board Member

The National Coalition for Community Capital (NCCC) provides opportunities for people of all levels of wealth and all demographics to participate fully in the economy as investors. Widening the investor pool creates more opportunities for diverse stakeholders to receive investment from their neighbors and build enduring wealth.

Through its Community Capital Education Accelerator program, the NCCC aims to continue using the newly developed educational cohort model established in 2022-2023 to host four to six online workshops to increase understanding and real-life application of community capital tools and principles. These educational cohorts are anchored to a particular geography or community to help new community investors. The grant will provide support for staff, consultation, and program design.

Peace Education Foundation

Miami Shores, Florida

Mary Ann Caulfield, OP, Board Member

The Foundation's Peace Education Initiative with the Dominican Family in Latin America works in collaboration with the Confederation of Dominican Sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to teach conflict resolution techniques and violence prevention strategies to Dominican teachers and lay leaders in Argentina, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, and the Philippines. The goal is to promote resilient schools and communities by training 250 participants in conflict resolution/mediation skills and to provide trained participants with "PeaceWorks" curricula to implement the program in their local schools and communities. The grant will provide support for staff training and program materials.

PREPARES

(Pregnancy and Parenting Support)

Yakima, Washington

Sharon Park, OP, PREPARES Liaison for Diocese of Yakima

PREPARES offers a wide range of free support to pregnant women and to families with children up to the age of 5. The program is open to people of all faiths and backgrounds. PREPARES is parish-based program composed of a collaborative network of volunteers. The grant will provide support for staff and training program materials

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in Spanish. This will facilitate PREPARES' goal: to expand outreach by recruiting and supporting the development of 25 new volunteers, in Español, through a nine-country region to ensure the care and support to families in rural and predominantly Spanish-speaking locations. Parishes will continue to offer support groups for teen mothers and help marginalized households become more resilient through direct service and vital support.

River Raisin Institute

Monroe, Michigan

Patricia Benson, OP, Board Member

The River Raisin Institute (RRI) sponsors educational workshops to help participants respect, nurture, and promote the well-being of all creation. The institute collaborates with others to promote transformational learning and a sustainable community for the 21st century and beyond. RRI is committed to implementing the Climate Literacy program within 10 schools in Monroe and Lenawee counties during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The environmental education programs engage students, teachers, and families in increasing awareness of caring for our incredible planet. The grant will provide support for staff and development of program materials.

St. Ann Place

West Palm Beach, Florida

Mary Ann Caulfield, OP, Board Member/Volunteer

St. Ann Place's mission is to witness Gospel values by providing a comfortable, clean, safe place where clients receive services in a dignified and respectful manner, regardless of race, religion, or gender. The grant will support a case manager, who will work with current clients for participation in programs for housing, transportation, health care, mental health services, substance abuse services, and benefits such as social security and

disability. The case manager will enroll clients in relevant programs and ensure initiation of and participation in service programs.

St. Rose Dominican Health Foundation/ Senior Peer Counseling

Henderson, Nevada

Kathleen McGrail, OP, Program Coordinator

St. Rose Dominican Hospitals outreach serves seniors in the Las Vegas Valley by providing peer counseling. This program offers confidential, personal, and supportive one-on-one counseling to people older than 50 who are facing the challenges and concerns of aging, including loss and bereavement, retirement, health issues, relationships, housing, and loneliness. The grant supports staff in training new peer counselors and retaining current peer counselors.

St. Kateri Center of Chicago

Chicago, Illinois

JoAnn Fleischaker, OP, Leadership Circle Member

The St. Kateri Center is the voice, presence, and identity for spirituality and prayer of the American Indian community within the Archdiocese of Chicago. The center embodies and preserves the spiritual practices and traditional cultures of the Native people within the Catholic Church. The center's Urban Native American Youth Program will expand on the previous year's efforts to build leadership among the youth and help them learn about their Native American culture, traditions, and faith in Christ. The goal is for the youth to have the confidence to co-facilitate leadership roles in the 2024 St. Kateri Annual Pow Wow honoring youth. The grant will support a youth mentor, workshops, speakers, and program materials.

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St. Margaret Mary Parish

Winter Park, Florida

Rosemary Finnegan, OP, Staff Member

Sustainable Initiatives for Haiti is a project of St. Margaret Mary Parish, which partners with other non-profit organizations to train and equip Haitian educators through professional development.

This grant cycle supports the last academic year of the three-year cycle of teacher training for 35 teachers in two parish schools in Haiti. The partnership with the non-profit Project for Haiti (P4H) will continue to work with 45 teachers from five Catholic schools, offering a year-long teacher training program. The grant will support staffing, training, and a peace conference.

St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Resource Center

Detroit, Michigan

Cheryl Liske, OP, Board Member

The St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Resource Center's Social Enterprise that improves Economic, Educational, Employment, and Environmental Resiliency (5E's Project) is a place-based approach focused on green infrastructure workforce development. The 5E's program offers on-site, wrap-around services, such as child care, tutoring, and other social services and community connections. The grant supports staffing to educate and employ 12-15 low-income Cody Rouge residents in green stormwater skills and jobs and provide 18 middle school students from low-income ZIP Codes in the Cody Rouge, Warrendale, and Brightmoor areas with Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) programs, supporting green infrastructure and stormwater impacts on the environment.