

THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.



*40 Years
of Hope & Charity*

ANNUAL REPORT



Hello 2017 from the littlest members of the community that we serve at the Child Care Center on Jackson Street.

ON THE COVER

This annual report draws its title from that of our book, “40 Years of Hope & Charity: Serving the Poor with Respect & Dignity – The Story of the Ministry of Caring.” Publishing the book, which documents our decades of service to the homeless and poor, was one of our milestone accomplishments. For this project, the ministry recruited award-winning writer robin brown, who covered the ministry during her 40 years with The News Journal, Delaware’s only statewide newspaper. She also designed the book, including the cover with her favorite ministry photo – the hand of Founder/Executive Director Brother Ronald Giannone giving bread to an outstretched hand. More than a decade earlier, the photo appeared as a blurry black-and-white silhouette on our 2006 annual report. After an extensive search found the more detailed original photo, the picture now takes its rightful place as the iconic cover image of our book that is both a detailed documentation and a fundraiser with 100 percent of proceeds going to the ministry. The book – \$30 per copy, \$5 additional for postal delivery – is available at ministryofcaring.org and (302) 652-5523.

OUR MISSION

We are committed to serving the ongoing needs of the poor by providing food for the hungry, emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing for the homeless, job assistance for the unemployed, clothing and furniture for the needy, child care, residential services for people living with HIV/AIDS, medical and dental services for the poor, and advocacy and outreach for the disenfranchised. It is our belief that the poor should never be treated poorly, but with love, dignity and respect. All Ministry of Caring programs offer hospitality and friendship while striving to meet basic needs and helping the poor attain self-sufficiency. Our staff and volunteers minister to the poor not only by offering the necessities of life – food, shelter and employment – but also by helping restore their sense of self-worth and hope for the future.

THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

How time has flown since the Ministry of Caring was incorporated April 27, 1977!

We were founded to fill a crucial need, opening Mary Mother of Hope House as the Delmarva Peninsula's first emergency shelter for homeless women.

Since then, we have worked tirelessly to provide food, shelter, clothing, jobs, medical and dental care, and other help for the poor as simple as hot showers.

Passing years have seen our efforts grow to 19 programs at 39 sites, helping tens of thousands of people toward self-sufficiency.

This has been possible — and sustainable — only with support from city, county, state and federal governments as well as generous foundations, businesses, nonprofit groups, clubs, families and individuals. Donors are as vital as our volunteers, whether serving on our Board of Directors, raising funds in the Ministry of Caring Guild or feeding the hungry at Emmanuel Dining Room as they improve others' lives.

I am deeply grateful, too, for our dedicated staff, ever-faithful Capuchin Poor Clares and all whose monthly commitments, memorial donations and bequeathals support our programs.

In our 40th year, we celebrated groundbreaking on the biggest project in our history. Our Village of St. John is converting the former Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. John into desperately needed housing for low-income seniors — a massive undertaking with daily progress bringing its 2019 completion ever closer.

Also this year, we distributed the Ministry of Caring 40th Anniversary Medallion to individuals and couples for their outstanding caring, dedication and service that, in many if not most cases, spanned decades. The medallions, including several awarded posthumously, were presented at a celebration dinner that generated significant sponsorships to support our programs. Thanks to Barbra Frank Andrisani and Marilyn Monahan for chairing the event.

The celebration, the Village of St. John project and our earlier years' efforts were chronicled in another special project this year — publication of "40 Years of Hope & Charity: Serving the Poor with Respect & Dignity, The Story of the Ministry of Caring."

This engaging book was created for us by Robin Brown, who covered the ministry over decades as a News Journal reporter. With all proceeds going to our programs, our book names hundreds of supporters, traces community needs and shows our responding services from child care to affordable housing. Sadly, the book also documented homelessness rising in Delaware, but details myriad ways individuals and organizations can help us ease the miseries of poverty.

As I look back over 40 years serving the poor — and ahead to work yet to be done — I give thanks to God for all the help we have provided to the needy.

Still, I cannot help but remain shamed by our rich country's scandalous poverty leaving millions in despair.

So as the ministry begins its fifth decade, I continue to appeal for your compassion, prayers and support to help end poverty, to lift the hearts and lives of men, women and especially children struggling to survive without life's necessities.

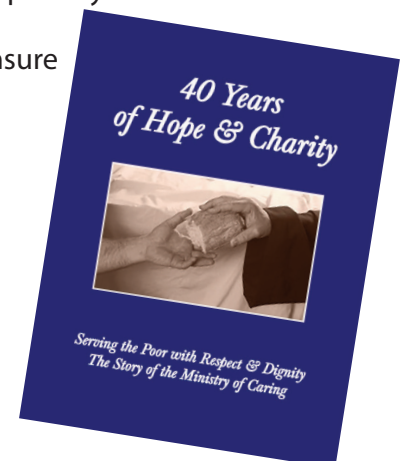
We must do all we can, individually and together, to restore their hope and ensure that the poor are never treated poorly.

And for your kindness to the poor, may the Lord bless and reward you.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Br. Ronald".

Brother Ronald Giannone, OFM Cap.



DEDICATION

This annual report is dedicated to two incredibly faithful supporters, Mary and Rocco Abessinio, who have shown unfailing generosity in our unexpected times of great need.

We have honored the Abessinios for their past benevolence including, but not limited to, rescuing the renovation of the former St. Patrick's Convent into the current Ministry of Caring Building at 14th and French streets in Wilmington. Renovating the old convent, built in 1927, would let the ministry consolidate administrative functions that were spread across the city at four separate locations. But renovation costs soared far past projections, due to interior and exterior architectural detail requirements by Delaware's State Historic Preservation Office.

Facing the possibility that project funding would fall short and idle the plan, we appealed to the Abessinios. They graciously and immediately provided all the funds needed to complete the project. This year, we were grateful to dedicate the haven-like garden next to the building in honor of Rocco's parents – his mother Dolores Abessinio, (now deceased), and in memory of his late father Pio Abessinio.

After that, the Abessinios' generosity again came to our rescue in a way that left us indebted to their kindness but, moreover, awed by their boundless hearts.

We were converting the Benedictine Order's closed Sacred Heart Church and School in Wilmington into housing for very low-income seniors, changing its old convent into Il Bambino for infant care and using its social hall to create the Francis X. Norton Center. The project had major expenses such as a new HVAC system and restoration of stained glass windows from the 1800s, with no funds to spare.

Soon, neighbors started contacting us about the steeple. Hit by lightning in the 1960s and awkwardly rebuilt, the steeple was falling apart. Fundraising began to replace it with a replica of the simple, elegant original steeple. When donations fell \$250,000 short, the Abessinios generously covered the difference.

Then, during the steeple replacement, workers discovered that the roof, first thought to have many years left, needed replacement, but the ministry had no funds for that half-million-dollar project. Again, the Abessinios came to the rescue and we could not be more grateful.

Time and again, their support has come in the saving grace of giving that truly comes from the heart.

We dedicate this report to them as a reflection of our gratitude and appreciation, as their generosity serves our community with respect for the past, service to current and the promise of endurance for generations to come.



Rocco Abessinio and his wife, Mary, attend the dedication of a garden next to the Ministry of Caring Building, created in honor of his mother, Dolores Abessinio, who was present on that day and in memory of her late husband, Pio.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

JANUARY 4 – Ministry receives 800+ coats for the homeless and poor from Operation Overcoat

JANUARY 8 – Ministry of Caring Guild's Millennials Committee gears up for second annual Crab Fest & guest bartender benefit

JANUARY 23 – Delaware Governor John Carney and staff visit Emmanuel Dining Room West to serve noonday meal, plan to send volunteers to help twice a month

FEBRUARY 8 – Ministry of Caring Guild celebrates 27th anniversary

FEBRUARY 10 – Delaware Public Media publishes story about Vernell Brown, who struggled with addiction and homelessness but got help from the ministry at House of Joseph I and Padre Pio House, then went on to study public health at University of Pennsylvania

FEBRUARY 25 – Mardi Gras fundraiser with live music, Cajun cuisine, supports House of Joseph II for formerly homeless people living with HIV/AIDS



Mardi Gras Party

FEBRUARY 26 – Chef Xavier Teixido and family for 30th year present Spanish International Night Dinner benefit for Emmanuel Dining Room; News Journal reporter Patricia Talorico later raves over the paella

FEBRUARY 26 – Beloved Sacred Heart Village

resident Marion Wynder, who turned 104 on February 8, passes peacefully in her sleep

MARCH 26 – Currie Salons in Wilmington hosts "Beauty & the Blessed" fundraiser with donations to the ministry that top \$6,000



Bob McAvoy performing at the 2017 Appreciation Dinner.

APRIL 13 – St. John the Beloved Parish provides 200 Easter baskets for the ministry to distribute at Emmanuel Dining Room, child care centers, shelters and housing

APRIL 27 – For the ministry's 40th anniversary, Delaware Business Times publishes a retrospective of the ministry's four decades of accomplishments

MAY 6 – Teams in the Delaware Charity Challenge raise more than \$3,200, shared among local nonprofit organizations including the ministry

MAY 11 – Ministry of Caring holds Recognition Banquet at Francis X. Norton Center to distribute The Caring Bowl to outstanding supporters

MAY 12 – Sacred Heart Village II opens, dedicated to the late Charles Cawley, MBNA Bank founder, and Julie Cawley, whose donation of the Sacred Heart Village I site got the ministry started creating affordable housing for low-income elderly

MAY 13 – In pouring rain, 90+ runners join

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

the 5K Milk Run/Walk, hosted by New Castle County Farm Bureau and Delaware State Farm Bureau to raise money to buy milk for children in ministry shelters

MAY 13 – Linda White of Il Bambino receives her bachelor's degree in pastoral studies from Neumann College and plans to work on her master's degree

MAY 18 – Immaculate Heart of Mary School Honor Society surpasses \$400 fundraising goal to help the ministry, donates more than five times that amount

JUNE 12 – Sacred Heart Village II welcomes the community for facility tours during neighborhood open house

JULY 20 – Ovation Dinner Theatre hosts "Joey & Gina's Italian Comedy Wedding" at Rehoboth Beach Country Club to benefit ministry services

AUGUST 9– Guardian Angel Child Care achieves top five-star rating from Delaware Stars, becoming the ministry's second child care site to gain that recognition

AUGUST 18 – Top Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield officials visit the Child Care Center to assess early results of the Early Childhood Resiliency Project, funded by a 2016 Highmark grant of \$48,000

AUGUST 27 – International Night features Delaware favorite Buckley's Tavern, with proceeds to support Emmanuel Dining Room

AUGUST 29 – Million Dollar Round Table Foundation gives \$5,000 grant to ministry toward the purchase of a box truck with mechanical lift for use transporting food, furniture, clothing, other supplies

SEPTEMBER 9 – Crab Fest held by Ministry of



At the 2017 Emmanuel Dining Room Auction, Brother Ronald, center, is joined by Brother Rudolph Pieretti, OFM Cap., at left, and longtime ministry supporter John Sweeney, at right.

Caring Guild's Millennials offers a day of food, music and fun, raising funds to support the ministry's three child-care programs

SEPTEMBER 11 – AmeriCorps volunteers from the ministry and Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County assemble hygiene kits, prepare Distribution Center donations in 9/11 Day of Service

SEPTEMBER 23 – Ministry sponsors “BBQ for Badges” in appreciation of Delaware’s first responders, as event features Wilmington, New Castle County and Delaware State Police

SEPTEMBER 24 – Ramsey’s Farm hosts its annual Pumpkin Run to benefit charities, including the ministry

SEPTEMBER 24 – International Night features a taste of the Philippines, with cuisine by Chef Ning DeRoxas, as longstanding benefit supports Emmanuel Dining Room’s operation

SEPTEMBER 27 – Ministry of Caring Guild presents *Eleganza*, its annual luncheon fashion show at Wilmington Country Club, featuring designer Beth Buccini’s boutique line, Kirna Zabete

OCTOBER 1 – New Balance stores in New Castle County start monthlong collection for the ministry in the stores’ annual “Socktober” fundraiser

OCTOBER 4 – Emmanuel Dining Room is honored at the Wilmington Awards for its Adopt-A-Child program that provides holiday gifts for poor children

OCTOBER 5 – As Saul Ewing merges with Arnstein Lehr Chicago, apparel with their old logo becomes obsolete, so the law firm gives the ministry 16 boxes of new, hooded jackets, file cabinets, and artwork

OCTOBER 5 – Joanna, a Tatnall School parent, delivers 300 sandwiches to Emmanuel Dining Room West

OCTOBER 6 – Ministry’s 13 AmeriCorps

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017



Eleganza shares fun, fashion and fundraising.

members are sworn in at ceremony at Legislative Hall, Dover, with AmeriCorps program members from throughout the state

OCTOBER 7 – Ministry recognizes the 40th anniversary of its first program, Mary Mother of Hope House, the Delmarva Peninsula’s only emergency shelter for women

OCTOBER 12 – Residents of Sacred Heart Village II plan their own fun game day with tables of snacks and beverages alongside games such as Bingo, Pokeno and Spades

OCTOBER 25 – Dedicated ministry volunteer Elaine Vignola is recognized at the 2017 Governor’s Outstanding Service Award Ceremony in Dover, honored for 22 years of behind-the-scenes service

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

OCTOBER 26 – *As a gift to the community, Delaware Shakespeare theater troupe performs “As You Like It” for ministry’s low-income seniors and shelter residents*

OCTOBER 26 – *Ministry employees and volunteers join St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church “Empty Bowl Dinner,” benefiting programs that help feed those in need, including the ministry*

OCTOBER 31 – *Ramsey’s Farm delivers a surprise gift of hundreds of pumpkins, distributed to families at Emmanuel Dining Room*

NOVEMBER 15 – *40th Anniversary Dinner, hosted by Barbra Andrisani and Marilyn Monahan, celebrates Ministry of Caring’s four decades of service, honors many who have served the nonprofit with distinction and raises funds to support ministry programs*

NOVEMBER 20 – *Ministry partners with 99.5 WJBR and Hockessin ACME for annual Turkey-Thon, collecting donations of turkeys and nonperishable foods for distribution to the homeless and poor*

NOVEMBER 24 – *BlackRock employees serve Thanksgiving meals to guests at Emmanuel Dining Room South, offering warm hospitality*

NOVEMBER 29 – *Wilmington Fire Department Inspector Frank Maule drops by Ministry of Caring Building to talk about fire safety, help develop the ministry’s preparedness plan*

NOVEMBER 29 – *Out & About Magazine article features ministry’s planned Village of St. John senior housing in Wilmington’s Old Brandywine Village*

DECEMBER 3 – *Planned Giving and Donor Base Manager Cindy Gamble is featured on Comcast Channel 28’s “In the Upper Room,” speaking about ministry programs and events*

DECEMBER 4 – *Following longstanding tradition, volunteers gather to wrap 47 Christmas gifts of slippers, robes and toiletries for women in the ministry’s Mary Mother of*

Hope House I, II & III

DECEMBER 4-9 – *Ministry hosts fundraising holiday bus trip to the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina*

DECEMBER 7 – *Tatnall Lower School students donate 372 sandwiches to Emmanuel Dining Room*

DECEMBER 15 – *On a cold, blustery day, ministry hosts groundbreaking ceremony for new Village of St. John senior housing with speakers including Wilmington Mayor Mike Purzycki*

DECEMBER 16 – *In a beloved community fundraiser, Wilmington Rowing Center members don costumes for “Santa Row” in boats on the Christina River, and raising \$10,000 for the ministry*

DECEMBER 18 – *Ministry supporters at Brandywine Realty host children from the ministry’s emergency shelters for a visit with Santa, complete with gifts*

DECEMBER 20 – *Ministry staff members from all sites gather at Francis X. Norton Center for annual Christmas breakfast, following the tasty meal with the team portrait*

DECEMBER 21 – *New Castle County Emergency Medical Services personnel help the ministry’s Adopt-A-Child program give donors’ holiday gifts to more than 1,000 children*



Supporters provide holiday gifts in our Adopt-a-Child program.

PARTNERS IN CARING



Ministry of Caring Guild President Jimmy Harty, left, and Executive Guild Member Matt Simeone, right, enjoy interacting with children at an event hosted by the Guild's Millennials Committee.

Partners from small clubs to federal programs support the Ministry of Caring, including an interfaith coalition of churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and other groups that provide meals to the hungry at Emmanuel Dining Room. These deeply appreciated partnerships – also providing staff members and volunteers throughout various ministry programs – include these groups.

Capuchin Friars, an order of “little brothers” inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, living in community and providing support for ministry programs.

AmeriCorps, a federal program, begun in 1994, that lets members work directly with ministry clients.

Capuchin Poor Clares, cloistered nuns who came from Mexico in 1986, support the ministry mainly through the power of their prayers, but also help with tasks from cooking for the shelters to laundry and mailings.

Foster Grandparent Program of Delaware, a federal mentoring program through the state Office of Volunteerism for adults age 55+ who serve in our child care program.

Jewish Family Services of Delaware, which

provides vital assistance in the form of counseling and case management for our clients.

Lutheran Volunteer Corps, a national program for young adults exploring their spirituality and working for social justice, bringing wonderful dimension to many ministry roles serving the poor.

Methodist Action Program, one of the ministry's oldest partners, which makes Old Asbury Methodist Church in Wilmington available rent-free to Emmanuel Dining Room East.

Ministry of Caring Guild, an all-volunteer organization of dedicated volunteers, who plan and host events throughout the year in crucial fundraising for ministry programs.

St. Francis Hospital, our medical partner helping the sick and poor through St. Clare Medical Outreach's care van for the uninsured and House of Joseph II for those living with HIV/AIDS.

National Able Network, a federal Title V program for employment of low-income seniors 55 and over, providing staff throughout ministry programs.

Our 40th Anniversary

One of the Ministry of Caring's highlights of 2017 came in November as we celebrated our 40th Anniversary with a fundraising dinner where we recognized the outstanding contributions of those who have made our four decades of service possible.

After months of planning and sponsorship development, the gala evening chaired by Barbra Andrisani and Marilyn Monahan — complete with the entertainment of an uplifting youth chorus performance — included presentation of the Ministry of Caring 40th Anniversary Medallion.

While no contribution to help the disadvantaged ever is too small and every bit of support is appreciated daily throughout the ministry, the medallion was created as a special commemoration to recognize and honor individuals and couples for their outstanding dedication and longterm generosity that have been of incredible significance and impact throughout our years of service to the poor.

Those honored with the Ministry of Caring 40th Anniversary Medallion — listed here — received much-deserved cheers, applause and a standing ovation. This night was to thank them on behalf of the ministry and the thousands of people whose lives they improved.

We recognize the recipients in this annual report, including several beloved supporters honored posthumously, not only because of the unparalleled extent of their efforts, but also because, as Brother Ronald Giannone said so succinctly during the anniversary celebration, "We couldn't have done it without them."

Tom Abel
 Rocco Abessino & Mary Abessinio
 Davida Alladin
 Barbra Frank Andrisani
 & in memory of Paul Andrisani
 Ruth Balick & in memory of Dave Balick
 Bill Bradley
 Sue Canning
 Julie Cawley & in memory of Charlie Cawley
 John Cochran & Pat Cochran
 Chip Connolly
 Charlie Gallagher, Lisa Stewart
 & in memory of Lee Gallagher
 Rick Giacco & Lisa Giacco
 Victoria Hackett
 Annie Halverson, Rocky Halverson
 & in memory of James P. Collins Sr.
 Jimmy Horty
 Dr. Gary Isaacs
 Ziggy Karas
 Sister Pat Kerezsi, OSF
 Paul C. King & Dr. Thomas C. Scott
 Barbara Kreuer & in memory of Jack Kreuer
 Maureen Lesutis & Paul Lesutis
 Sister Bernadette McGoldrick, OSF
 Rosemary McManus
 Frank Modesto & Michelle Modesto
 Anne Mountain
 Corinne Murphy
 Danielle Nowaczyk
 Valerie Biden Owens
 Debbe Philips
 Capuchin Poor Clares
 Liz Ramsoram
 Marian Ramunno & Lee Ramunno
 Mark L. Reardon
 Linda Richardson
 Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia
 Louisa Teoli
 & in memory of Mary Teoli & Jim Teoli
 Rev. Denton Valentine
 Gregory Varallo & Catherine Varallo
 Elaine Vignola
 Helen Wilmer



Brother Ronald Giannone accepts a symbolic gift - representing his role as the light of the Ministry of Caring - from Board of Directors President Gregory Varallo, at left, at the 40th Anniversary Dinner

Historic Groundbreaking

As 2017 was coming to a close, hearts were warm on the blustery and bitter-cold morning of December 15, scores of supporters gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Ministry of Caring's largest project in its 40-year history.

With hard hats and shiny shovels, construction ceremonially began on the Village of St. John, a \$22.5 million dollar project to transform a former Wilmington church complex into 53 apartments for low- and moderate-income seniors.

"This will truly be a village," Brother Ronald Giannone said.

A prominent landmark in the city's Old Brandywine Village neighborhood since the 1800s, the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John was closed in 2012 as the congregation

dwindled. The Episcopal Diocese of Delaware listed the property, nearly 3 acres at Concord Avenue and North Market Street, for sale at \$1.6 million.

But its stone structures stood vacant as months became years and its future remained uncertain. Meanwhile, rumors of razing and possible commercial development worried neighborhood residents.

But in 2015, a joint announcement by Brother Ronald and the Right Reverend Wayne P. Wright, then bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware, changed all that.

Their revelation of the plan for the ministry's Village of St. John followed months of research, including a study documenting the need for such housing as well as exploration of how the project could be funded.



Community and project leaders join Brother Ronald, at center, for the Village of St. John groundbreaking. Village of St. John will create affordable housing for seniors and save the historic church neighbors feared might be razed.

Trustees of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John cut the sale price to \$651,800, which the Longwood Foundation agreed to provide as a grant. Sale of low-income housing tax credits through the Delaware State Housing Authority and historic preservation tax credits through the State Office of Historic Preservation were projected to cover much of the cost and Delaware lawmakers allocated \$2.5 million from housing settlement funds.

Over many months that followed, numerous grants were awarded for the project from private foundations and corporations, with the city also supporting the project.

Every space of the existing complex became part of the plan, with architect Kevin Wilson of Architectural Alliance designing single- and double-occupancy apartments from former classrooms and offices. A new three-story building was designed for an open area where the Episcopal Diocese many decades earlier intended to add another church building.

The cathedral's stained-glass windowed nave, however, will be kept as community space for residents and special events, while the small St. Mary's Chapel built off the sanctuary in 1919 will be restored as an interfaith sacred space where all may worship as they choose.

Domus Inc. was selected as the construction contractor and the National Council on Agricultural Life and Labor Research Fund (NCALL) is serving as a consultant on the project. Separately incorporated as a ministry-sponsored organization, the Village of St. John was organized to have its own Board of Directors, with former Wilmington

Mayor James M. Baker agreeing to serve as its president.

In announcing the site plan, Bishop Wright said, "the sacredness of this place, which gave honor and glory to God, will continue to serve Him in its ministry to the poor. We see this as a great use for this facility and a way to continue serving the needs of the community. We're very happy about it."

Wilmington Mayor Mike Purzycki was among many other Delaware leaders to support not only the project but also the ministry's long history of caring.

"For the past four decades," Purzycki said, "Brother Ronald and his legion of volunteers have worked diligently and tirelessly to help alleviate poverty in Delaware's largest city, taking to heart Jesus' directive to feed, clothe and look after the 'least of our brothers and sisters'... Brother Ronald represents the very best of our citizens — those who see an unmet need and roll up their sleeves and get to work."

The mayor also lauded the ministry's creativity behind its largest project along with its positive community impact.

"The preservation and conversion of the historic Cathedral Church of St. John into much-needed housing for moderate- and low-income seniors will not only benefit more than 100 elderly residents, but will transform the entire neighborhood," Purzycki said, adding that "like every ministry project before it, the 'Village of St. John' is yet one more example of Brother Ronald's guiding principle, that 'the poor should not be treated poorly.'"

RESPONDING TO HOMELESSNESS

In 2017, the Ministry of Caring responded to the plight of the homeless and poor by providing a variety of services with the generous support of our donors and volunteers.

FOOD & LODGING

The ministry provided 24,039 nights of emergency shelter lodging, 9,325 nights of housing with support services toward self-sufficiency and 23,972 nights of long-term lodging including housing specialized for those with disabilities, as well as men and women living with HIV/AIDS.

Our three Emmanuel Dining Room sites served a total of 163,585 meals to the hungry, with no restrictions and no questions asked, bringing their 38-year total to more than 7 million meals.

CRUCIAL CHILD CARE

To meet another great need of the homeless and working poor, our Child Care Center, Guardian Angel Child Care and Il Bambino for infants provided 24,920 days of care.

Our child care programs have all attained the top five-star rating from the State of Delaware and University of Delaware, making ours one of the only early education programs in the state achieving this top-quality designation. Caring for hundreds of children as young as 6 weeks – with the added loving attention of volunteers from the Foster Grandparent Program of Delaware – we help the homeless and poor be able to work, look for employment or attend job training.

REASON TO SMILE

The Pierre Toussaint Dental Office in 2017 provided 1,916 patient visits with 234 new patients.

For many of those seen here, a simple extraction that takes only minutes can ease years of pain from care that was put off simply because of their poverty.

DIGNITY OF WORK

The ministry's Job Placement Center provided help to 146 unduplicated clients, with 97 jobs secured for the unemployed.

They included many returning to the community after incarceration and struggling to attain the dignity of work and self-sufficiency.

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress – from a "point-in-time" national count conducted one January night – showed overall homelessness up 1 percent nationwide but down 7.1 percent in Delaware.

However, that came after the previous year's report showed our state had a 25-percent increase in homeless individuals, the highest rate in the country, and a statewide increase in overall homelessness of 12.3 percent from 2015 to 2016, third-highest behind only Idaho and Washington, D.C., each at 14 percent.

MORE STRUGGLING FAMILIES

HUD's 2017 count of 553,742 people experiencing homelessness nationwide included 994 in Delaware – 615 individuals and 379 individuals in families with children. From the 2016 report, there were 138 or slightly more than 18 percent fewer homeless individuals but 60 or nearly 19 percent more homeless individuals in families with children.

ENCOURAGING NEWS

HUD's 2017 report provided other encouraging news for Delaware:

- Delaware had 52 or 8.5 percent of its counted homeless people living in "unsheltered locations." That was one of the lowest rates after Iowa at 6.9 percent, Nebraska at 7.1 and Maine at 8 percent. California was highest at nearly 78 percent.
- Delaware had the second-lowest rate of unaccompanied homeless youth, defined by the study as 24 or younger without shelter. Of 45 such people the study counted statewide, just two or 4.4 percent were unsheltered – between Iowa at 2.9 percent and Nebraska at 7.9 percent.
- After being cited in 2016 for the highest increase rate for homeless veterans, up 35.4 percent in a year, the new count showed a state drop of nearly 15 percent.

OTHER FINDINGS

The annual HUD report attributed the national increase to more people living without shelter programs, especially in cities. That apparent trend provided important context to Delaware's low count of unsheltered homeless people, especially children.

In other findings, HUD said 17 of every 10,000 U.S. residents are homeless, compared with 10 of every 10,000 in Delaware, which falls about in the middle of state rankings.

The new study brings change to Delaware's long-term statistics: The 2016 study calculated homelessness as being up 9 percent overall since 2010.

With 2017's reported 7.1-percent drop, the state's overall increase in homelessness since 2010 now is figured at 1.2 percent.

Staff

The Ministry of Caring ended 2017 with 215 staff members. The 164 regular staff included full- and part time employees, pool staff, resident managers, Lutheran Volunteer Corps members and AmeriCorps volunteers, House of Joseph Training Program participants along with 51 support staff. Making up the support staff were 15 members of the National Able Network, 12 Capuchin Poor Clares, 11 seniors from Foster Grandparents of Delaware, eight permanent volunteers and five St. Francis Hospital employees.



Staff gather for our annual photo after the 2017 Christmas breakfast. (Photo courtesy of Brad Glazier Photography)

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For 40 years, the Ministry of Caring has been blessed with the generosity of volunteer board members who have lent their time, talent, energy, vision and leadership to help the homeless and poor. Their dedicated efforts have helped us to be increasingly responsive to the needs of those without life's necessities. In this anniversary year, we remember, honor and are especially grateful for each and every board member's service over these four decades.

Gregory Varallo, Esq., President

William LaFond

The Hon. James M. Baker, Vice President

Constance McCarthy

Maureen Rhodes, Secretary

Frank Modesto

Richard Gessner Jr., Treasurer

Marilyn Monahan

Anthony Alfieri, CPA

Fr. Nick Mormando, OFM Cap.

Barbra Frank Andrisani

Valerie Biden Owens

Mati Bonetti Buccini

Br. Rudolph Pieretti, OFM Cap.

Arthur G. Connolly III, Esq.

William Popeo, Esq.

Colm F. Connolly, Esq.

Tara Quinn

The Hon. Bob Gilligan

Mark L. Reardon, Esq.

Christopher Griffiths, Esq.

Michael Rickert

The Hon. Kent A. Jordan

Alonzo Wells

The Hon. Ted Kaufman

Joseph Yacyshyn

Paul C. King Jr., Ed.D.

SPONSORED ORGANIZATIONS

SACRED HEART VILLAGE I INC.

Subsidized housing for low-income seniors

920 North Monroe Street

Wilmington, DE 19801-1337

(302) 654-5407 • TDD (302) 428-0801

Sacredheartvillage.org

SACRED HEART VILLAGE II INC.

Subsidized housing for low-income seniors

625 East 10th Street

Wilmington, DE 19801-4039

(302) 300-3771 • TDD (302) 428-0801

Sacredheartvillage2.org

MOTHER TERESA HOUSE INC.

Subsidized housing for men and women living with HIV/AIDS

829 North Church Street

Wilmington, DE 19801-4311

(302) 428-3183

SACRED HEART HOUSING INC.

Affordable housing development

115 East 14th Street

Wilmington, DE 19801-3209

(302) 652-5523

Fax (302) 652-1919



The ministry's early learning centers – the Child Care Center, Guardian Angel Child Care and Il Bambino – have earned five stars from the State of Delaware and the University of Delaware.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,161,149	\$ 1,346,186
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Restricted for Investment in Capital	722,298	1,040,984
Grants Receivable	754,429	950,910
Developer Fee Receivable	200,000	-
Promises to Give - Net	569,275	563,244
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	215,141	145,617
Due from Affiliated Organizations	455,693	170,061
Mortgage Escrow Accounts	369,393	347,652
Qualified Affordable Housing Project Escrow	165,000	-
Investments	11,967,271	13,764,284
Investment in Qualified Affordable Housing Project	3,258,711	-
Property and Equipment - Net	16,352,999	17,305,301
Beneficial Interest in Split-Interest Agreements	1,207,610	1,107,330
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 38,398,969	\$ 36,741,569
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 333,196	\$ 142,183
Accrued Expenses	137,984	131,989
Accrued Construction Costs Payable	-	149,484
Security and Other Deposits	34,905	30,514
Lease Deposit Liability	22,625	51,071
Due to Affiliated Organizations	21,870	93,168
Line of Credit	-	2,231,920
Accrued Credit Losses (Loan Guarantee)	-	171,099
Mortgage Payable - Bank	457,362	500,000
Mortgages Payable - Delaware State Housing Authority	944,446	944,446
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,952,388	4,445,874
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	32,481,283	27,096,863
Temporarily Restricted	3,014,582	4,312,572
Permanently Restricted	950,716	886,260
TOTAL NET ASSETS	36,446,581	32,295,695
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 38,398,969	\$ 36,741,569

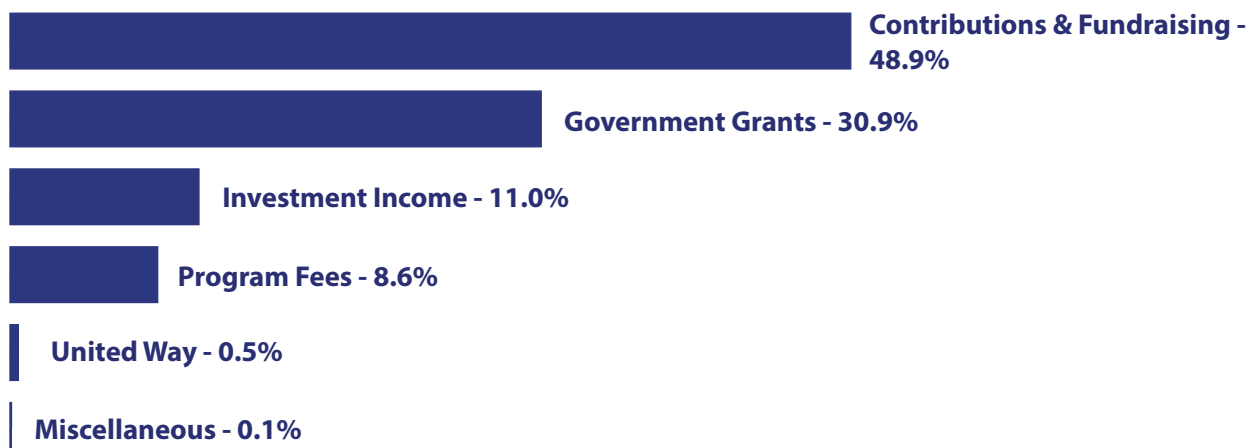
This is a summary balance sheet that reflects the financial status of the Ministry of Caring as of December 31, 2017, but is not a complete financial statement. Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, PA, have completed the audit of the financial statements. Copies of the audited financial statements and IRS Form 990 are available online.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

	Operating Revenue	Investment Income	Capital Support and Other Revenue	Total Income	Total Expenses	Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses
Ministry of Caring Guild	276,816			276,816	93,075	183,741
Bethany House I & II	97,187			97,187	109,013	(11,826)
Child Care Fund	1,275,030	723,378		1,998,408	1,744,315	254,093
Emmanuel Dining Room	372,862	52,297	50,000	475,159	550,194	(75,035)
House of Joseph I	234,601	4,221		238,822	292,255	(53,433)
House of Joseph II	934,131	22,783		956,914	854,368	102,546
House of Joseph Transitional Residence	328,508			328,508	264,032	64,476
Job Placement Center	246,024	26,816		272,840	264,302	8,538
Mary Mother of Hope House I	339,877	26,655		366,532	429,022	(62,490)
Mary Mother of Hope House II & III	503,535	7,157		510,692	623,933	(113,241)
Mary Mother of Hope House Transitional Residence	53,664	5,317		58,981	86,176	(27,195)
Nazareth House Transitional Residence	168,438	720		169,158	134,816	34,342
Pierre Toussaint Dental Office	516,243	10,712	10,000	536,955	558,600	(21,645)
Samaritan Outreach	445,223			445,223	425,256	19,967
St. Francis Transitional Residence	196,638	15,838		212,476	169,858	42,618
Francis X. Norton Center	73,698			73,698	255,861	(182,163)
Maria Lorenza Longo House	20,047			20,047	41,719	(21,672)
Sacred Heart Residence	98,599			98,599	97,120	1,479
Padre Pio House	11,185			11,185	35,913	(24,728)
Administration	3,765,890	728,202	3,062,264	7,556,356	3,523,835	4,032,521
Subtotal	9,958,196	1,624,096	3,122,264	14,704,556	10,553,663	4,150,893

* Operating transactions between Ministry of Caring programs are excluded from this schedule

FUNDING SOURCES



THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.

115 East 14th Street • Wilmington, DE 19801-3209 • (302) 652-5523 • Fax (302) 652-1919 • Ministryofcaring.org

ANDRISANI BUILDING

Counseling services
1803 W. Sixth Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3005
(302) 428-3702

BETHANY HOUSE I

Residence for women with special needs
601 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3241
(302) 656-8391

BETHANY HOUSE II

Residence for women with special needs
615 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3241
(302) 656-8391

CHILD CARE CENTER

Early learning center
221 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3649
(302) 652-8992 • Fax: (302) 652-8945

DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Clothing, furniture, supplies for the needy
1410 North Claymont Street
Wilmington, DE 19802-5227
(302) 652-0969 • Fax: (302) 594-9478

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM EAST

Feeding facility for the hungry
226 North Walnut Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-3934
(302) 652-2577

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM SOUTH

Feeding facility for the hungry
500 Rogers Road
New Castle, DE 19720-1398
(302) 577-2951

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM WEST

Feeding facility for the hungry
121 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3670
(302) 652-3228 • Fax: (302) 652-2576

FRANCIS X. NORTON CENTER

Multi-purpose facility
917 North Madison Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-1497
(302) 594-9455 • Fax: (302) 428-3655

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHILD CARE

Early learning center
1000 Wilson Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-3432
(302) 428-3620 • Fax: (302) 428-3622

HOUSE OF JOSEPH I

Emergency shelter for single men
1328 West Third Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3662
(302) 652-0904 • Fax: (302) 594-9472

HOUSE OF JOSEPH II

Residence for men and women living with HIV/AIDS
9 West 18th Street
Wilmington, DE 19802-4833
(302) 594-9473 • Fax: (302) 594-9494

HOUSE OF JOSEPH TRANSITIONAL RESIDENCE

For single, employable men and women
704 West Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-1524

II BAMBINO

Infant care for working parents' children
903 North Madison Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-1439
(302) 594-9449 • Fax: (302) 594-9450

JOB PLACEMENT CENTER

Employment service for the disadvantaged
1100 Lancaster Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19805-4009
(302) 652-5522 • Fax: (302) 594-9434

MARGARET NUSBAUM HOUSE

Permanent housing for single women
207 South Van Buren Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-4020

MARIA LORENZA LONGO HOUSE

Permanent supportive housing for single women
822 Jefferson Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-1432
(302) 652-1758 • Fax: (302) 652-1759

MARY MOTHER OF HOPE HOUSE I

Emergency shelter for women
1103 West Eighth Street
Wilmington, DE 19806-4605
(302) 652-8532 • Fax: (302) 594-9434

MARY MOTHER OF HOPE HOUSE II

Emergency shelter for women with children
121 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3670
(302) 652-1935 • Fax: (302) 594-9475

MARY MOTHER OF HOPE HOUSE III

Emergency shelter for women with children
515 North Broom Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3114
(302) 652-0970 • Fax: (302) 594-9496

MARY MOTHER OF HOPE PERMANENT RESIDENCE

For single women
818 Jefferson Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-1432

NAZARETH PERMANENT HOUSING

For couples / families
898 Linden Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-4423
106 North Broom Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-4241

PADRE PIO HOUSE

For men with special needs
213 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3649
(302) 658-6123

PIERRE TOUSSAINT DENTAL OFFICE

Dental care for the poor
830 Spruce Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-4205
(302) 652-8947 • Fax: (302) 652-8994

SAMARITAN OUTREACH

Assistance for the unsheltered homeless
1410 North Claymont Street
Wilmington, DE 19802-5227
(302) 594-9476 • Fax: (302) 594-9478

ST. FRANCIS TRANSITIONAL RESIDENCE

For women with children
103-107 North Jackson Street
Wilmington, DE 19805-3648
830 Spruce Street
Wilmington, DE 19801-4205