



SISTERS *of* CHARITY
FOUNDATION
OF CANTON

Intentional Giving

Annual Report
to the Community
2012

Dear Friends:



I am often asked about the philosophy behind the grantmaking at the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton.

Our strategic goals and objectives guide our actions when we consider the many requests put before us. These defined strategies keep us focused on our mission and on making an impact in the long term while giving us the flexibility to accommodate short-term needs.

Take a few moments and review our approach on page 2 before reading examples of how our strategies take life in the programs we support and, ultimately, the people we touch.

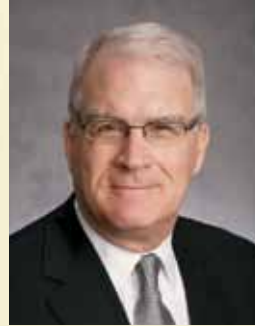
It is a privilege to be a steward of these funds, work with the impressive array of community leaders on our board, lead a team of highly skilled program officers and support staff, and witness the power of improving our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joni T. Close".

Joni T. Close
President

Dear Friends:



When the Board of Directors of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton was formed, we were novices. Most of the board members had served on nonprofit boards where we were always asking for money versus giving money. Thankfully, we had the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine's mission to guide us and strong leaders at the helm.

Over the years, I believe we've been extremely successful in staying focused and finding ways to make short-term and long-term improvements in our community. We've developed niches, including early childhood and health access programs, and it's been gratifying to see those initiatives flourish in and beyond Stark County. The Foundation is a strong collaborator and a vested community asset.

I'm confident that the Foundation will continue to be an important player in improving the quality of life in this community, particularly for those in the greatest of need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert F. Belden".

Robert F. Belden
Chairman of the Board

Our Vision

To improve the quality of life of the poor and underserved so they can live to their fullest potential, by initiating systemic change, enhancing community connections, serving as a community change agent to advocate for the poor, and promoting innovative strategies to impact the root causes of poverty.

Intentional Giving

The Motivation Behind our Grantmaking

Each year, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton receives dozens of requests. While each has merit, our Foundation is strategic in its giving, directing funds to three categories of need. This report provides examples of the programs we fund. Here's how we evaluate applications and programs.

Foundation-led Initiatives

The goal: Develop and hone programs focused on systemic change.

These long-term programs are initiated, led by, and managed by the Foundation. Programs in this category target policy changes and public funding at the local, state, and federal levels. Our board and staff remain involved in these programs and our outcomes are evaluated by independent evaluators.

Examples:

- SPARK Ohio kindergarten readiness program
- Bethlehem Project for Oral Health

Strategic Collaborations

The goal: Join with others to launch programs that enhance efficiency in community services.

Programs in this category are led by a collaborative group, including the Foundation. Together, we seek ways to improve or streamline community services. Because these programs may take a few years to get off the ground, they may be funded for multiple years, but are designed to run on their own. Processes are evaluated and refined over time.

Examples:

- Olweus Bullying Prevention Program
- Prescription Assistance Network of Stark County, Inc.

Responsive Efforts

The goal: Address short-term human needs in our community.

Led by community members or nonprofits, these programs have defined life cycles and address a variety of needs. The Foundation is not the sole funder for these programs and has limited involvement in their implementation and evaluation processes. Responsive Efforts may require funding, technical assistance, capacity building, and the staff's community involvement.

Examples:

- Meals for area homeless shelters
- Educational programs for kids during the summer



FOUNDATION-LED INITIATIVES

\$1.17 million
50.9%

Evaluation Based



A Decade of Partnership Brings Progress

SPARK Ohio celebrates a milestone with continued expansion and state recognition

This year marks the 10-year anniversary of SPARK Ohio (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids), a highly effective, family-focused intervention program that helps get children ready for kindergarten. The Foundation's collaborations with schools and community partners have led to a combined \$13 million investment, which has helped more than 3,500 Ohio families to date.

Reaching a 10-year milestone is quite exciting for the program, because it was originally designed as only a five-year initiative. "What began in two communities in Stark County has grown to 12 targeted neighborhoods in six counties," says SPARK Ohio Director Shana Rozier. "We certainly exceeded the original plans, and now we have increasing interest from libraries, too!" New replication sites are also underway in Columbus and in three rural Ohio communities.

One reason for the continued growth is the compelling results. Research found that SPARK children entering kindergarten outperformed their peers, and they retained that advantage through the third grade. Recent Ohio Department of Education results indicate the effects last through fifth grade. "We're very proud of the fact that the state is paying attention to SPARK and willing to study the program to see how it can help more Ohio children," added Rozier.

It turns out SPARK is getting more than just attention from our legislators. Earlier this year, the state allocated \$1.1 million from its federal Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant to expand SPARK programming into three high-need rural Ohio communities. Each participating district will receive funding over two-and-a-half years, along with professional development opportunities and administrative and technical assistance over the grant period. Because of this funding, 300 additional four-year-old children will be more prepared for kindergarten. The selected schools will also become part of the Ohio Ready Schools Initiative, which aims to develop enduring ties between public school districts, early childhood educators, and the community.

Following a late January request for proposals, the Foundation received 15 grant applications and used an open and competitive selection process in choosing these three communities:

- A partnership between Franklin Monroe Local and Mississinawa Valley School Districts (Darke County)
- Logan Elm Local School District (Hocking County)
- Sandy Valley Local School District (Stark County)

The SPARK and Ready Schools model has consistently demonstrated positive outcomes among high-need populations in geographically diverse communities. With this state funding, we will increase access to high-quality early learning and development programming and help educators improve their credentials, knowledge and skills.

"We have a significant body of evidence demonstrating that this works," says Rozier. "Now we need to sustain it."

Find out how you can help sustain SPARK Ohio programming at sparkohio.org.

**"What began in two communities in Stark County has grown to 12 targeted neighborhoods in six counties."
— SPARK Ohio Director Shana Rozier**



FOUNDATION-LED INITIATIVES



Serving Patients with Special Needs

Mercy Dental Clinic Special Needs/Pediatric Suite

Established in 2007, the Dental Clinic is part of Mercy Medical Center's mission of providing high-quality, compassionate, and accessible care for the whole person. The clinic's 1,500-square-foot special needs/pediatric suite furthers this mission. Many disabled, elderly, and pediatric patients now consider Mercy Dental Clinic their primary source for dental care. When the clinic needed a specially designed chair to treat special needs patients, we were able to help.

The Clinic purchased the Diaco® dental chair. It is a fully mobile unit designed specifically for patients in wheelchairs. A patient remains comfortably in his or her personal wheelchair, eliminating all manual handling, lifting, and hoisting, for a safer and more dignified treatment experience.

"We're so thankful for it," says Lisa Shannon, Director of Dental Services. "It's much safer than picking patients up out of their chairs, which has a much greater risk of harm to the patient or the technician."

Controlled by a joystick, the new dental chair positions the patient at the optimal height and angle for the best possible care. The unit safely holds more than 1,100 pounds, allowing dental care access regardless of a patient's weight or size.

Users say the Diaco® dental chair offers a smooth ride and that they don't even feel the movement as it brings them into proper positioning.

The new equipment enhances the dental experience for patients with medical conditions that require them to be in a wheelchair, including scoliosis, Alzheimer's disease, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), paralysis, spinal cord injuries, multiple sclerosis, amputations, and others. This is the only unit of its kind available in a five-county area.

"We've experienced the pure joy of patients who have not seen a dentist for years because they hadn't been able to find one with the capacity to treat them," adds Shannon.

The new equipment gives the clinic the ability to work with a greater range of patients with special needs, supporting Mercy's mission of offering accessible patient care.

"We use it daily," says Shannon. "It's been vital to increasing the accessibility of the dental care we offer."

The Mercy Dental Clinic and General Practice Residency in Dentistry began as part of the Foundation's Bethlehem Project for Oral Health.

"We've experienced the pure joy of patients who have not seen a dentist for years because they hadn't been able to find one with the capacity to treat them."

— Lisa Shannon, Director of Dental Services

STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS

\$.40 million
17.4%

Self-Sustaining

Improving Systems

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program

*Self-sustaining, evaluation-based programming
to help Stark County schools*

In recent years, the impact of bullying has become more understood and widely publicized. Several schools have implemented anti-bullying campaigns and held all-school assemblies; however, the degree of effectiveness of these efforts was not always apparent.

The Stark County Educational Service Center and Stark County parochial schools began to research a best-practice model to curb bullying and found the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. The Olweus Program (pronounced Ol-VEY-us) is a comprehensive, school-wide program designed and evaluated for use in elementary, middle, junior high, and high schools. The program reduces bullying among children, improves the social climate of classrooms, and decreases related anti-social behaviors such as vandalism and truancy.

In August 2011, the Foundation committed \$89,460 over three years to help the Educational Service Center and the parochial schools implement the Olweus Program. Additional contributions from the Service Center and participating schools (both public and parochial) provided a total project budget of \$198,460.

The Service Center and parochial schools continue to use these funds to develop a team of 16 trainers to assist in program implementation. Each trainer is responsible for coordinating a committee of 10-12 staff members at their schools to lead the program efforts.

The grant targeted 10, 20, and 30 schools respectively each year, beginning in 2011-12. The total of 60 schools – including 11 of 12 parochial elementaries – represents half of all Stark County schools.

The self-sustaining nature of the program is one of the strategic selling points of the collaboration. After year three, the materials and trainers will be in place with long-term support, and the hope is that a non-bullying culture will have been established in each school. In subsequent years, the Service Center's bullying prevention program will be offered to all schools.

“We're proud to invest in a program that's collaborative in nature, especially because it will eventually impact every school in Stark County,” says Joni Close, Foundation President. “The program's main goal was to reduce student reports of being bullied or bullying others by 50 percent or more. Although we don't have that data available quite yet, I know we're well on our way to making a difference in the lives of hundreds of students throughout the county,” adds Close.





STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS

Intake and Referral Software

Increased Efficiency

Goodwill Industries Leads the Charge for Collaboration

Community agencies increase efficiency and services with intake and referral software

Basic aid and emergency assistance providers like Goodwill Industries can attest to the steady need for food, clothing, and shelter for individuals in Stark County. When the economy worsens and unemployment rises, naturally, this need skyrockets.

In many recent cases, individuals who sought assistance had never before been in the system, and likely waited until they were so far behind to find help that their immediate needs exceeded the resources of a single agency. The staff from various agencies – including Catholic Charities, Community Services, Salvation Army of Canton and Massillon, and United Way’s 2-1-1 – were forced to call each other to solicit a portion of the needed funds or services, and then respond to each crisis with a complete package for each client.

After many years of discussion and debate in the community, a formal group of nonprofits (including the Sisters of Charity Foundation) began meeting in October 2009 to improve the efficiency of providing emergency assistance to individuals in Stark County. The group’s ultimate goal was to develop and implement a common intake form (software database) that allowed the sharing of client information and could facilitate individual referrals between agencies in a more efficient manner.

The Foundation asked the group – led by Goodwill Industries – to continue meeting, agree upon a software package that would meet their needs, and put together a proposal for software infrastructure funding and the necessary support to get the system up and running.

In May 2010, the Foundation approved funding of \$217,500 over three years to develop the common intake and referral system. After extensive research and live demonstrations, ReferNET, a web-based model, was selected for its ease of use, referral tracking components, low annual cost, ability to construct custom modules and reports, and interface between assistance providers’ existing databases.

Sisters of Charity Foundation President Joni Close says, “These agencies are invested in the people they serve, but they were consumed with paperwork. We helped them streamline the administrative components so they can focus more energy and funding back on serving and assisting people with immediate needs.”

After the software was in place, the Foundation approved another \$85,000 (over three years, starting in November 2012) to implement the intake and referral system at the Goodwill Community Campus in Canton. The Campus houses 17 nonprofits on site, many of which meet a very specific need (food, medication, etc.), but don’t have the staff, time, or expertise to do a full needs assessment on a client and make an appropriate referral.



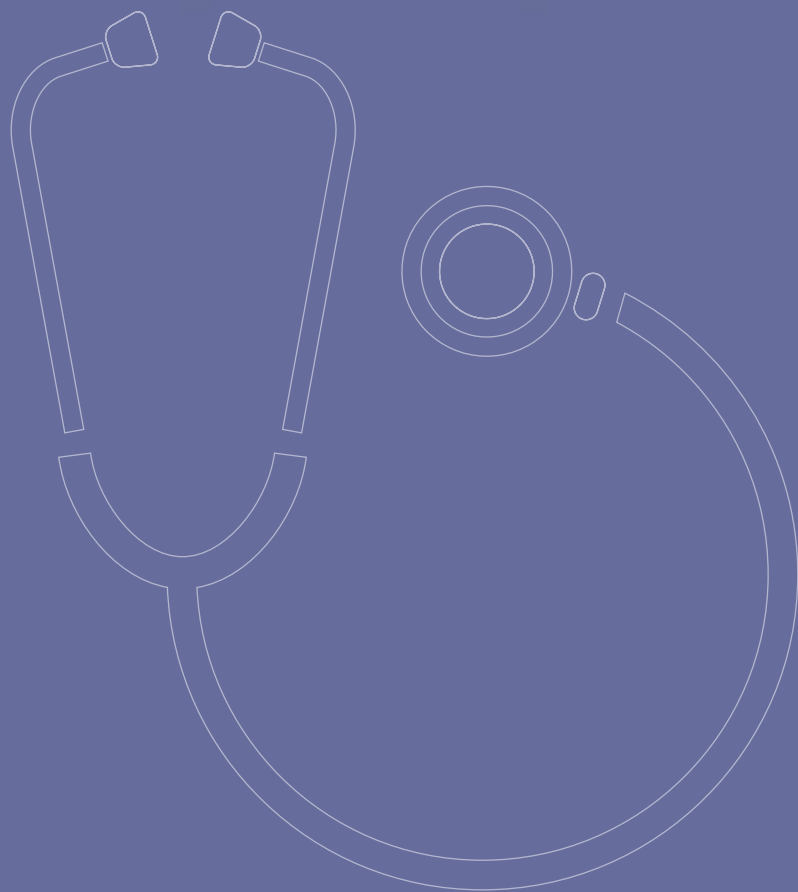
This “phase two” funding will allow Goodwill to hire a full-time coordinator/licensed social worker with the necessary skills to assess clients’ needs and refer them to appropriate service providers. This individual will serve as the Campus’ first point of contact for clients and will also travel to Goodwill’s locations in Alliance and Massillon. It is estimated that this coordinator will assist between 12 and 24 individuals each day. If successful, Goodwill will build this expense into its budget going forward.

This two-phase collaboration will continue to help the organizations operate efficiently and will ultimately increase the number of clients served.



RESPONSIVE EFFORTS

\$.73 million
31.7%



Short-Term Needs



Led by Community

Boys & Girls Club of Massillon

The Boys & Girls Club of Massillon's summer "KidStop" program provides varied activities for children from elementary to high school age five days a week throughout the summer months. Programming is available from 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. each day; however, kids can stay from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The children are served breakfast, lunch, and snacks throughout the day.



Approximately 500 children are served during the summer. Just as in school, each group has a daily schedule of activities that promote educational and recreational goals. KidStop's educational programs focus on nutrition and fitness, character and social development, art and photography, computer skills, and reinforcement of reading and other academic skills to prevent the summer learning loss that is common among underprivileged children.

Alliance Area Habitat for Humanity

We helped Alliance Area Habitat for Humanity build a new home for a family in need. The 1,200-square-foot, three-bedroom home was for a family of four. To qualify for home ownership through Habitat, the family must meet federal low-income guidelines, have a need for safe housing, have an acceptable debt-to-income ratio, and must have been employed for at least six months. After a homeowner is approved, a volunteer advocate is assigned to guide them through the building process, for up to a year after they begin living in the home.

From start to finish, it typically takes six to 18 months for a family to be placed in a home. The family is required to put in 500 sweat-equity hours working on the project. The homeowners' average monthly mortgage is \$400, including escrow taxes and insurance, based on a 20-year term. The average finished home costs \$70,000 and has an appraised value around \$100,000.

Western Stark Free Clinic

For nearly 14 years, the Western Stark Free Clinic has provided free health care to the community's low-income and uninsured. We helped fund ear, nose, and throat medical equipment for the clinic. Medical and dental services are provided free of charge and include standard examinations, outpatient treatment, and prescription services. Dental services include preventive care, x-rays, basic extractions, and restorative fillings. Medications for short-term needs can be dispensed on site, at no cost to the client. Clients receiving services are 18 to 64 years old, uninsured and have an income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.



RESPONSIVE EFFORTS

Defined Life Cycles

Adult Education

Greater Stark County Urban League

The Greater Stark County Urban League's Adult Education Program helps adults receive a General Educational Development (GED) diploma or pass the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) so that they can earn a high school diploma. The program serves approximately 75 adults per year by offering education and test preparation services in Canton and Alliance. Program participants typically come to the Urban League seeking employment services; it's through the Urban League's intake process that they are linked to GED/OGT support services. The education program is critical to the Urban League's mission, in that it helps individuals upgrade their skills to earn a living wage.

Refuge of Hope

Refuge of Hope sought support to offset expenses for its meal program. All meals are served in the dining room of their facility at Third Street and Walnut Avenue in downtown Canton. The facility also houses a men's shelter, which provides emergency and transitional dormitory-style housing for up to 34 residents at a time. In addition to feeding the residents of its shelter, Refuge's meal program serves all men, women, and children who drop in for any of the six meals it serves each week, including dinner from Monday through Thursday and lunch on Friday and Saturday. Although its dining room seats 110, two seatings are often necessary to accommodate the scores of individuals seeking a hot meal. In addition to the requested meal funding, we also awarded \$15,000 for marketing and donor development over a two-year period.

Therapeutic Equestrian



Pegasus Farm

For 27 years, Pegasus Farm has provided therapeutic equestrian services to people with special needs. The program serves 192 riders each week. To expand and diversify operations, we helped fund a self-administered website, computer hardware and software, a phone system, and a security system. With this more sophisticated technology in place, Pegasus is able to pursue partnerships that provide more holistic services to the disabled individuals it serves and earn revenue to pay for its cornerstone therapeutic riding programs.

Pegasus has become one of the largest therapeutic equestrian organizations in the country. Operating with the help of seven full-time and 25 part-time staff and about 250 volunteers, the organization now serves adults as well as children and adolescents. Pegasus opens its programs to individuals with a wide range of emotional, behavioral, and mental disabilities, in addition to those with physical handicaps.

2012 Foundation-Led Initiatives

Early Childhood Initiatives

Canton City Schools

To support Ready School activities at Clarendon Elementary . . . 1,500

Clinton Global Initiative America

To support the Early Childhood Education Working Group 2,350

Community Services of Stark County, Inc.

To support parent partners for the Canton and Minerva SPARK programs. 303,175

Early Childhood Resource Center

For operating support. 269,000

Third Sector New England

To support the national Early Childhood Funders Collaborative, over three years. 15,000

YMCA of Central Stark County

To support the Carroll County YMCA Child Care Project 4,000

YWCA of Canton

Operating support for Canton Preschool, over eight months . . . 47,000

Other

Early Childhood program-related expenses 84,277

Subtotal **\$726,302**

Health Care Access Initiatives

Canton City Health Department

To support the Stark Public Health Study Commission 75,000

Mercy Medical Center

For general operating and equipment needs of the Dental Clinic and General Practice Residency Program, over two years 105,000

Prescription Assistance Network of Stark County, Inc.

For operating support, over two years 125,000

Stark County Health Department

For operating support for the dental clinic 67,000

Other

Health Care Access program-related expenses. 70,004

Subtotal **\$442,004**

2012 Strategic Collaborations

Proactive Grantmaking

Early Childhood Resource Center

To support new and enhance existing parenting education programs to serve the developmental needs of young children, over eighteen months. 84,000

Goodwill Industries of East Central Ohio, Inc.

To support a central intake coordinator in phase 2 of an effort to implement a common intake and electronic referral system for area nonprofit organizations, over three years 85,000

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County

To support phase 2 of a project to strengthen the information technology infrastructure of community behavioral health providers in Stark, Wayne, and Holmes counties, over two years 200,000

Stark County Regional Planning Commission

To support the hiring of a continuum of care planner 30,000

Subtotal **\$399,000**

2012 Grants in Response to Community Needs

Responsive Grants

Alliance Area Habitat for Humanity

For partial support of one home 22,500

Alliance Family YMCA

To support phase 2 of the capital campaign project 25,000

Association for Better Community Development

To support the Green-Tech Job Training Center 10,000

Boys & Girls Club of Massillon, Inc.

To support the KidStop Summer Program 35,000

Community Building Partnership of Stark County, Inc.

For operating support. 20,000

Guidestone

To support technology expenses associated with the merger of Personal and Family Counseling Services and Guidestone 20,000

Hammer & Nails

For operating support, over two years 65,000

Mercy Medical Center

To support construction costs and educational materials for Mercy Primary Care at Saint Paul Square. 100,000

2012 Grants in Response to Community Needs (continued)

Mercy Medical Center To support the Immigrant Health Outreach program, over three years	115,000
P. A. L. Mission To support the Exodus Scattered Site Apartment program	10,000
Pegasus Farm To support technology infrastructure	31,500
Refuge of Hope To support the meal ministry and marketing and donor development, over two years.	23,000
Stark Development Board, Inc. For operating support for economic development in Stark County, over two years	38,333
The Golden Key for Exceptional Children To support purchase of facility.	150,000
Western Stark Free Clinic To support equipment and supplies related to ear, nose, and throat services	9,000
Subtotal	\$674,333

Good Samaritan Grants

Arlington Avenue Church of God To support Book Bags of Blessings, over two years	3,500
Faith House Program, Inc. To support the Transitional Housing Program	6,000
Greater Stark County Urban League To support the Adult Education Program	14,500
Liberty Center Connections, Inc. To support the coalition coordinator for the Rittman and Chippewa coalitions	12,430
Massillon Public Library To support the library's Ready to Read early childhood literacy training program	3,700
Men's Challenge of Alliance To support start-up for training and employment program.	7,800
Stark County Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Addiction Outreach Project To support systems navigation.	1,500
W. A. T. O. E. S. (We Are Troubled On Every Side) To support the Keeping It Real weekly youth program	6,000
Subtotal	\$55,430

2012 Other

Special Projects

Catholic Charities Serving Portage and Stark Counties To support the purchase of a refrigerator and freezer for the food pantry	1,500
Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio To honor 2012 Humanitarian Award recipient Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA	2,500
Hammer and Nails For operating support, in lieu of a holiday gift for the Foundation Board of Directors	2,500
Multi-Development Services of Stark County To support the Career Club Program	5,000
Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church For the purchase of tables for the Samaritan's Table	2,500
Subtotal	\$14,000

Board Honorariums

Early Childhood Resource Center Gift on behalf of retiring officer Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell.	250
SPARK Ohio Gift on behalf of retiring director Patricia Gramoy.	500
Stark County Hunger Task Force Gift on behalf of retiring director Michael H. Linz, M.D.	500
Stark State College Foundation Gift on behalf of retiring director John J. McGrath, Ed. D.	500
Still Point Theater Collective Gift on behalf of retiring director Sr. Catherine Walsh, CSA.	500
Subtotal	\$2,250

2012
TOTAL
\$2,313,319



**Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
Board of Directors**

Front Row (from left):

Ronald Becker, *Vice Chair*
 George T. Williams, DDS
 Lynne Dragomier
 Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell, *Secretary*
 Ronald J. Manse, CPA
 Fendrich R. Clark, Ph.D.
 Daniel J. Fuline

Second Row (from left):

Msgr. Lewis Gaetano
 Susanna H. Krey (*ex officio*)
 Robert F. Belden, *Chair*
 Geraldine Radcliffe, RN, MS
 David C. Kaminski
 Sister Mary Denis Maher, CSA, Ph.D.
 Ronald S. Young, CPA
 Susan M. Kunkle, Ph.D
 David Cornet, *Treasurer*

Not pictured:

Judge Sara Lioi
 Kathleen M. Poporad



**Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
Staff**

Front Row (from left):

Joni T. Close, *President*
 Dawn Miller, *Bethlehem Project Director/Program Officer*
 Jean Van Ness, *Senior Program Officer*
 Liz Ford, *Office Manager/Administrative Assistant*

Second Row (from left):

Anne G. Savastano, *Grants Manager*
 Trudy Brown, *Office Assistant*
 Shana Rozier, *SPARK Ohio Director/Program Officer*
 Jennifer Haude, *Communications Coordinator/Grant Writer*



SISTERS *of* CHARITY FOUNDATION
OF CANTON

Our Mission

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton

supports and furthers the mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. The principal components of their ministry are health, education, and social services.

The Foundation's focus is on issues of social justice relating to the poor and underserved in the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System



**SISTERS of CHARITY
FOUNDATION
OF CANTON**

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