



The Mustard Seed

Social Apostolate of Savannah

Fall 2015
Volume 2, Issue 2



From the Desk of the Director

"I am so blessed."

On November 21, the Metropolitan Savannah Hispanic Chamber of Commerce held its first Awards Banquet. I was honored to be a nominee for one of the eight awards. I attended the banquet with Sister Georgette, with whom I live. Much to my surprise I was awarded the "Hispanic Community Champion" award. I gratefully accepted the beautiful award on behalf of all at the Social Apostolate who have reached out to the Hispanic Community in Savannah.

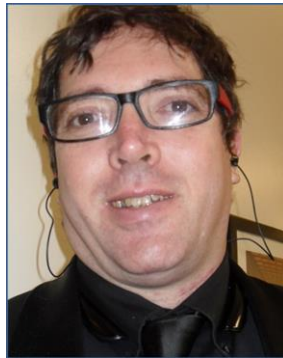
It is the vision of all my predecessors, especially Sister Pauline O'Brien, which continues to inspire us today in our work. It is the dedicated staff who serves our Hispanic clients directly who share in this award, especially Latacia Avila. At the Social Apostolate we serve, as much as we are able, each person who comes to us in need without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, legal status, or sexual orientation. So, I accept this award humbly and proudly on behalf of the Social Apostolate, aware of the many people on whose shoulders I have the honor to stand.

I also accept this award proudly as a Missionary Franciscan Sister. I am one in a long line of Franciscan Sisters who for many years have served with and among Hispanics in foreign missions and at home.

Certainly, leading the Social Apostolate and being a Missionary Franciscan Sisters are among my many blessings!

Sincerely,
Sr. Julie Franchi, Director

Meet our Clients



Most days Stephen DeVald volunteers at the Apostolate in the soup kitchen. A little over a year ago he was one of our homeless clients who ate in the soup kitchen, used our shower, received help filling prescriptions and writing a resume, and got clothing from the thrift store. He arrived in Savannah because he had an aunt here, after being homeless for almost 20 years. Now Steven has housing, a car, a job, friends, including all of us at the Social Apostolate who marvel at his transformation. Steven is dependable, hard-working, honest, a deep thinker with a clever sense of humor and is disabled due to mental illness. We chatted one afternoon after he had finished cleaning in the kitchen. "The hardest part of being homeless is being stigmatized by society," he told me. He believes "If society would pour a

percentage of the money it spends on sports into resolving the problem of homelessness, we could eliminate homelessness."

He is also concerned about the environment, and believes that it's important to, "live simply that others may simply live."

He is grateful for his health, and for the fact that he is now making healthy choices in his life – no drugs or alcohol, eating better, exercising at a gym regularly. At Easter, 2015, after completing the RCIA Program, he joined the Catholic Church, which was always part of his life, though he wasn't Catholic. He's especially thrilled that he also had his feet washed by Bishop Hartmayer on Holy Thursday. He enjoys volunteering at the Social Apostolate because he feels it's a way he can give back to society. He's also happy with his life now and happy too that his aunt isn't worried about him anymore. We are thrilled to have such a dedicated volunteer, to see first-hand the huge strides he has made in his life, and to know we had a role in helping him on his journey.

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2 15th Annual Golf Open

A GREAT DAY! THANK YOU!

October 19, the day of the 15th Annual Social Apostolate Golf Open, was a great day! The hard work of the committee, the generosity of many donors, and the happy players resulted in wonderful memories, and a net profit of \$31,335.83. Thank you to everyone who helped make our biggest fundraiser such a success!



In Memory ...

As we thank God for our many blessings, we remember the good people who have been part of the life of the Social Apostolate as donors, volunteers, friends and clients who have left this earth recently. Please pray for them and for their families as they mourn the loss in their lives.

Maria Kenney Buckhaults
Chris Colson
Josephine Lindsay Groover
Raymond James
Fred L. Lindsay
John Roszkowiak
Jimmy Temple
Anthony "Bernie" Purdy

Lippu Ching
Linda Friedman
Otto Hohnerlein
Larry Lee
Mary Joyce Michael Porter
Raymond Simmons
Randy Weller

Did You Know?

During the year 2014, we served 1,625 individuals in the soup kitchen.



Hungry

In the first 10 months of 2015, we have already served 1,702 individuals.

PLEASE CONSIDER US IN YOUR YEAR-END GIVING

As we approach this holiday season, please consider making a year-end financial contribution to the Social Apostolate to support us in our work! We are so grateful for all the help we receive. Donations may be made through the Pay Pal account on our webpage: www.socialapostolate.org or by completing the form below and mailing a check to: Social Apostolate, P. O. Box 8703, Savannah, GA 31412

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other \$ _____ |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

- ..

Make your check out to: Social Apostolate of Savannah
 Mail to: P. O. Box 8703
 Savannah, GA 31412-8703

Thank you for helping

The Social Apostolate is a [501 (c) (3)] charity recognized by the IRS

Feed My Lambs

Ms. Edna Jackson, the soup kitchen manager and cook, has served at the Social Apostolate for four years. She sees her work here as a mission, and feels that God brought her here to "feed my lambs". With dedication, love and incredible patience she serves about 400 meals a week. Most of the soup kitchen diners are



homeless, but anyone who comes hungry gets a meal. Some who come are the elderly who eat in the soup

kitchen to stretch their meager monthly income. In 2014 we served 18,614 delicious, hot, nutritious meals. We have never run out of food, though we never know for sure how many people will come each day, one of Ms. Edna's miracles!

Besides Ms. Edna and her assistant, Steven DeVald, about 20 volunteers assist each week. They set up, serve the meal and clean-up after, and treat each client with great respect. On Tuesday and Thursday when we serve soup and sandwiches, the sandwiches are usually made and brought in by teams of women or youth from church groups. We also receive many donations of fresh salad, fruit, dessert and bread - from stores, church events, and individuals. Many generous people make it all possible, and at a minimum cost to us. It's an awesome experience of "the multiplication of the loaves and fishes."

Ms. Edna is the heart of the soup kitchen. She reflects, "its hard cleaning up at the end of the day when you're tired, but it's a good feeling too. I am happy that I have done a service, and I am proud to be able to do it. The people we feed are very grateful."





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 Savannah, GA 31412-8703

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Return Service Requested



What's Going on at the SA?

Regular Schedule:

The Crisis Intervention Office (to help people with groceries, prescriptions, birth certificates, IDs, baby needs, school uniforms, interview clothes, work shoes, eye glasses) is open Mon - Fri 9:00-12:30 and Mon - Thurs 1:30-3:00.

The Soup Kitchen serves a delicious hot meal Tuesday - Friday 11:00-12:15

Showers Tuesday - Friday 9:45-12:30

Thrift Store - "The Boutique on Liberty Street" Tuesday - Friday 10:00-12:30 & 1:30-3:00

Year-End Needs:

Diapers - all sizes, Baby Wipes,
Food for the food pantry: Non-perishable food (especially canned meat and fish, pasta, rice, soup, peanut butter and jelly)

Volunteer Needs:

An expert in Microsoft Access 2010
 Volunteers for the Thrift Store
 If you're interested, please call Sr. Julie at 912-233-1877 X 104.

Newsletter Committee:

Sister Julie, Melanie Brooks, Peter Koch, Peter Paolucci

Special Events



NOVEMBER

24 Thanksgiving dinner served to 153 delighted clients. Many thanks to the friends who made our Thanksgiving celebration fabulous: the turkey roasters, dessert bakers, those who supplied the festive paper ware, servers, and those who helped in the kitchen! It was a wonderful experience of many hands working together to serve others! Thank you to each of you! You brought some joy into the world.



DECEMBER

22 Christmas meal for clients. Provided by the Daughters of Ireland

23 - Jan 3 Closed for holidays



We wish you a Christmas season of family and friends and God's richest blessings in the new year.