



# MAKING AN IMPACT

*“Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love” – Mother Teresa*

## Members Grant Funds to Six Nonprofits Amidst Pandemic

As we embarked on our 2020 Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle, ladies from across the diocese celebrated mass with Bishop Fabre and enjoyed a beautiful brunch at Christ the Redeemer with Ms. Phyllis Taylor as our guest speaker. We were set to have a fantastic year, never imagining that a global Pandemic would change our lives so quickly. In a matter of days, our hospitals were bombarded, masses were cancelled, people experienced a loss of employment, schools were cancelled and we had to quickly adapt, ensuring that the people of our local communities received support during this difficult time.

Despite having to cancel our Sip and Learn, our steering committee quickly took action asking our 10 nonprofits to provide presentations virtually so that our members could learn about their mission and continue to vote on their top 5 nonprofits. Over the course of one week, members watched video presentations and voted on their top 5 nonprofits. The steering committee evaluated the members votes, took the nonprofits with the highest votes and discussed grants for the 2020 year based on impact within the community.



It was very clear that the members of the Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle were very mindful that due to the pandemic, the need locally had grown drastically and that women and children needed support. Nonprofits have seen an increase in needed and requested support, thus making it important for our efforts to continue. Together with the support of over 115 members this year, six nonprofits were able to receive the support they so desperately needed. Several of these nonprofits had to cancel their fundraising efforts this spring which were their primary sources of revenue. With \$83,000 in grant funds distributed this year, we are certain that our local community will continue to have the support they need during this difficult time. We look forward to being able to celebrate in person with all of our members hopefully soon. We also want to thank you 115+ members for their great generosity and support throughout this difficult time.





Members of the Women's Giving Circle celebrating Valentine's Day

## Grants Distributed

Despite COVID19, over 115 women came together and joined the Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle this year. Members took their efforts virtually and \$83,000 was granted to six local nonprofits via a ZOOM Conference Call with Bishop Fabre on Monday, May 11th. 100% of members' contributions were granted out and all with the direct intent of making a difference in the lives of women, children and families within the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux:

**Individual and Family Assistance** (\$20,500 for family assistance needs such as rent, utilities and gas)

**The Haven** (\$20,000 for women and their children to have safe transportation to appointments as well as funding emergency placements in safe secure locations)

**CASA of Lafourche** (\$12,500 to assist in bringing awareness to the community regarding child abuse and neglect in order to recruit additional child advocates as well as updating necessary equipment)

**CASA of Terrebonne** (\$12,500 to assist in bringing awareness to the community regarding child abuse and neglect in order to recruit additional child advocates as well as for a traveling tutor program)

**Children's Advocacy Center** (\$12,500 to assist with ensuring that victims and families have one place to go for their forensic interviews to reduce trauma to children)

**Catholic Community Center** (\$5,000 to assist in purchasing a generator to aid in becoming a Second Harvest distribution site ensuring the people of lower Lafourche are able to get the food needed at the food bank)

A very special thank you to the members of the Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle for making these gifts possible and for taking an active role in making a difference in the lives of women, children and families.

## Saint Teresa of Calcutta Prayer

People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centered; forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies; succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you; be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight; create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous; be happy anyway.

The good you do today will often be forgotten; do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough; give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.



*“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across waters and create many ripples”*

*-Mother Teresa*



Members at the February Women's Giving Circle Valentine's Tea!

## NONPROFIT TOURS ~ Fall 2020

We look forward to visiting the nonprofits who received grant funding this coming September around the Feast of Saint Teresa of Calcutta. While we are unable to set a definitive date at this time, we will keep all of our members in the loop as things unfold. Let us continue to pray for those affected by COVID19 and for our local community as we begin to recover. Please know we miss you and can not wait to see you very soon.



Members visit with St. Lucy's students at nonprofit visits during Fall 2019!

## SAVE THE DATE

### Catholic Foundation of South Louisiana's Annual Dinner

Thursday, October 29th at Nicholls State University Ballroom

Women's Giving Circle will be featured at the annual dinner and tickets will go on sale July 1st at [catholicfoundationsl.org](http://catholicfoundationsl.org)!

# Members of Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle

A very special thank you to all of the women who joined the Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle in 2020. Your gifts together have made an impact on the lives of women, children and families across the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. Thank you for sharing your voice and coming together as a group of women to share our Catholic values and make a difference. We hope you will continue to join us in the future and bring your friends and family along!

Marla Abel	Karen David	Catherine Morvant
Sarah Adams	Rene David	Leah Naquin
Jean Ayo	Jeanette Duet	Katherine Ougel
Pat Babin	Denise Duplantis	Robin Page
Brenda Babin	Mary Duplantis	Charlene Picciola
Bonnie Brady Babin	Kendall Duplantis	Carolyn Picciola
Michelle Beary	Marie Falgoust	Lacie Picou
Antoinette Benton	Alice Fanguy	Deanie Pitre
Antoinette Benton	Debbie Fournet	Tammy Pitre
Wanda Birdsall	Carmen Gachassin	Nicole Pitre
Catherine Block	Angelle Marie Galjour	Barbara Plaisance
Charlotte Bollinger	Carol Gaudet	Melanie Ponson
Mary Bond	Renee Gautreaux	Amy Ponson
Alice Bonneval	Susan Gilbert	Nicole Prosperie
Gemi Bordelon	Kathleen Gros	Debbie Rebstock
Carol Boudreaux	Erica Guidry	Sharell Rebstock
Sheila Boudreaux	Lorraine Guilbeau	Starr Remont
Gina Brady	Melanie Harang	Elizabeth Riviere
Jolie Brady	Colleen Hunger	Mary Riviere
Naomi Brady	Kathy Johnson	Brenda Riviere
Clara Brady	Margerite Knight	Connie Rodrigue
Glenny Lee Buquet	Elizabeth Kolwe	Lillie Romano
Pat Caillouet	Renee Lafont	Alice Roth
Gloria Callais	Kimberly Lafont	Kim Sanvi
Ms. Rita Candies	Carol LeBlanc	Selena Shannon
Andree' Casey	Tyre' LeBlanc	Erika Smith
Beverly Cazayoux	Laurie LeBlanc	Luci Sposito
Danielle Cheramie	Dottee LeCompte	Phyllis Taylor
Emelie Cheramie	Susan Ledet	Dianne Terrebonne
Mary Chiasson	Toni Ledet	Veronica Theriot
Roxanne Chiasson	Joyce Leonard	Mary Thibodaux
Jeanne Chiasson	Berndaette Mabile	Bonnie Thibodeaux
Sandra Clement	Katherine Manceaux	Kelly Thibodeaux
Mary Lou Conrad	Paige Marmande	Brandie Touns
Ginny Corte	Ginger St. Martin	Madonna Viguerie
Elizabeth Corte	Gail Martin	Clarisse Waguespack
Ginny Corte	Kathy Mayberry	Vanessa Walker
Monique Crochet	Ann Meche	Dot Weidel
Susan David	Angel Moreaux	Kate Wood
	Dana Morvant	

## Contact Us

For more information about the Catholic Foundation or the Mother Teresa Women's Giving Circle please contact us today!

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Visit us on the web at  
[catholicfoundationsl.org](http://catholicfoundationsl.org).

*Special Thanks to our steering committee:*

*Bonnie Brady Babin, Wanda Birdsall, Andree Casey, Ginny Corte, Rene Danos David, Karen David, Lillie Romano, Renee Gautreaux, Clarisse Waguespack, Charlotte Bollinger, Emelie Cheramie, Mary Duplantis, Susan David, Brenda Riviere, Kelly Thibodaux, and Amy Ponson.*