

MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 26 February 2024

Call to Order/Opening Prayer: Father Greg

Time: 5:01

Minutes of Previous Meeting: (X) Read/Approved; Approved with Changes

Motion by: Ann L Seconded by: Larry

Attendance: Total Active Members (36) LOA (3) Present (23) Absent (10) Quorum (17)

MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS		Associate Member	
Al	A	Janet	A	Pauline	X	Maria	
Ann F.	A	Jerry	X	Sandra	A	Barbara S	
Ann L.	X	JoAnn	LOA	Scotty	X	Ann Fellrath	
Colleen	X	Jose	A	Stephen	X	Michaela	
Dennis	X	Kathy	X	Toni	A		
Diane	A	Larry	X	Yolanda	A		
Dotti	X	Margaret	X			Visitors	
Estela	X	Marianne	A				
Francisca	X	Marge	X				
George	LOA	Martha G	LOA				
Gini	X	Mary Ellen	X				
Glenn	X	Mary	X			Training	
Gloria	X	Michael C	X	Father Greg *	X		
Hilary	X	Norm	A	Stan *	A		
Ilona	X	Pat	X				

*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

Guest Speaker, Michelle Rutherford-Absalon, from Lori's Place. Michelle gave us the following information on Lori's Place:

1. Since 2016, Lori's Place has been the Cochise Family Advocacy Center for Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee Counties.
2. Their mission is to provide compassionate support to all victims in a safe, neutral, friendly environment.
3. Their vision is to be a resource facilitator for best practices in the fields of abuse treatment, investigation, and prosecution.
4. Their staff consists of a forensic interviewer/scientist, a sexual assault nurse, and several victim advocates to provide help to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse. Their facility provides examinations, showers, clothing and peer-to-peer counseling for victims from the start of their visit to the end of their case. All victims need to be medically cleared before being referred to Lori's Place.
5. Lori's Place is a non-residential facility. Once a victim has been seen, evidence collected, and interviews conducted, they are provided shelter in a local hotel until a safe place is found.
6. Funding for Lori's Place is received from grants, donations and fund raisers. Some funds are received from the Victims of Crimes Acts (VOCA).
7. Phone number for Lori's Place is 520-458-4052; email is: www.lorisplaceaz.org; hours are Monday-Thursday – 9:00–5:00 and Friday – 9:00-12:00 and they are always on call. The 24-hour crisis line phone number is 520-515-4444.

8. If a Vincentian believes that a friend is a victim of abuse, it is Dioecian Policy to call the Police. The Police will then refer the victim to Lori's Place or the appropriate organization.

Upcoming Events:

- Pauline will be gone for the next 10 days. Please call Ann Lund with any issues you may have.

Old Business:

1. Special Case Guidelines. For any and all cases, the special case form must be filled out. It helps the Vincentian check off all the required boxes. The cap on the amount is the same and it's never to exceed \$300. Use this fund when rent and utility funds are at \$0 and CANNOT be used in addition to utility or rent fund.

2. Here is the recap from previous minutes on the use of Good Shepherd funding and how funds are to be used: Rent - \$300: \$200 from Good Shepherd and \$100 from our fund; Utilities: \$150: \$75 from Good Shepherd and \$75 from our utilities fund. We can combine that with Fernandez, Single Moms, and/or help from St. Andrews for up to \$450, if the situation arises. The amount for the next 6 months is \$2,850 per month. Use discretion when determining the friend's need.

3. Dakota Project. We received 155 boxes of items and since the weather is warming up, we should not be handing out the coats. Use a clothing voucher if a friend needs clothes. Larry is working with the Knights of Columbus to take some of the received items to SVDP Conferences in colder climates.

4. Marianne McWilliams gave us a single cup Keurig and Pat bought some K-ups. Thanks to both.

NEW Business:

1. James Harper from the Sierra Vista United Methodist Church operates a community assistance fund. They have set-up a monthly deposit of \$300 from the church to SVDP that is to be used for RENT only. This amount will be added to our rent fund. They will also direct their people to come to us for help. This will impact our traffic and the food bank. Please follow our guidelines.

2. March 1st is on Friday. Each month donations vary and currently our donations have been low this last month and thus we need to be frugal. As you know, Blanca reconciles the checkbook. She cross-references your notes in the checkbook with the notes in the friend's file. If the notes in the fund folder are sketchy as well as incomplete notes in the friends file, it takes a lot of time to reconcile the accounts. Please make good notes and put your name or initials on the checkbook stub as well as in the friend's file.

3. A group of tattoo artists have united in an effort to promote a safer standard of practice focused on supporting survivors of sexual violence. They have raised over one million dollars since 2015. For more information see their website: STILLNOTASKINGFORIT.com. More information to come.

4. Kathy Reibeck is doing a fundraiser for SVDP. For every set of peanut butter and jelly donated, she puts the person's name in a raffle for a gift basket; winner will be drawn in May.

5. Mary Ellen brought up an issue with skunk weed. A couple showed up at the conference today reeking of skunk weed which permeated the front waiting area. It was recommended that they be asked to wait outside and be helped outside.

6. Pauline said that toiletries have been ordered for the month. It is recommended that we ask the friend what they need instead of giving them some of everything we have.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Due: 4 March 2024

A: Food Bank Report:

B: Thrift Store Report

C: Finance Report:

D: The Poor Box Report:

Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:

1. Larry dealt with another case of the hospital releasing a patient and sending them to SVDP. At least the hospital called prior to releasing the individual. Larry was able to have the patient sent directly to a hotel vice being dropped off at SVDP.
2. A family of 15 is living in an apartment and came in for food. However, the friend who came only had 5 people listed in the file. They found Francisca's name and called her telling her they needed additional food. It was decided that should they come in again, a home visit is required.

Home visits: None

Special cases: Amount available: \$801.16

For the Good of the Order:

Spiritual Reading: Margaret

Conference Members Sick or in Distress: Rose Grimsley, who had a stroke; Gloria, Ann Faust, Sister JoEllen.

Prayers for others: Will be emailed separately

Vincentian Schedule: Will be emailed separately.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Food Bank Meeting:
- Finance Meeting: 21 March, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Thrift Store Meeting: 12 March 2024
- Board Meeting: 27 February 2024, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall

Closing Prayer: Ann Lund

Adjourned: 6:15 PM

Recorder: Pat