

Sisters Postpone March 12 Hunger Fundraiser

Placing the health and safety of sisters and guests above all other considerations, the School Sisters of St. Francis have postponed their Joseph Bowls Supper fundraiser scheduled for this Thursday, March 12.

While the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control indicates that for most people, the immediate risk of being exposed to coronavirus (COVID-19) is thought to be low, the congregation decided that an abundance of caution is in the best interest of their sisters and other potential event participants.

“For the School Sisters of St. Francis, the safety and health of our sisters, staff, and the guests who visit our facilities are always paramount,” the congregation announced. “St. Joseph Center, our international headquarters on Milwaukee’s south side, is home to a number of our retired sisters; a place of business for dozens of our own staff as well as our tenants; and houses our landmark St. Joseph Chapel, a sacred place of worship.

“The School Sisters of St. Francis are actively promoting the everyday preventive actions recommended by the CDC to prevent the spread of COVID-19,” the sisters noted. “We also take seriously our responsibility to limit the potential of exposure to coronavirus. Given the large number of guests we expected at St. Joseph Center for this event, and the fact that older adults like our retired sisters are considered by the CDC to be at increased risk for severe illness and complications from COVID-19, we have decided to postpone this year’s gathering.”

The community said they will continue to monitor guidance from the CDC and local public health officials as they consider rescheduling the event. Religious services and other events currently scheduled to be held at St. Joseph Center are not affected by the decision.

The Joseph Bowls Supper raises much-needed funds to fight hunger in the Milwaukee area and at the sisters’ mission on the El Paso-Juarez border. In Milwaukee, funds raised are used to provide meals to women served by Sisters Program South, which provides a public health-based approach to help women victimized by the street-based sex trade and sex trafficking. Since 2013, more than \$60,000 has been raised to serve families and individuals who struggle with hunger.

Those interested in supporting the sisters’ hunger ministry with a monetary contribution may direct their donations to the School Sisters of St. Francis’ International Office of Mission Advancement using this link :
<https://supportoursssfmission21669.thankyou4caring.org>