

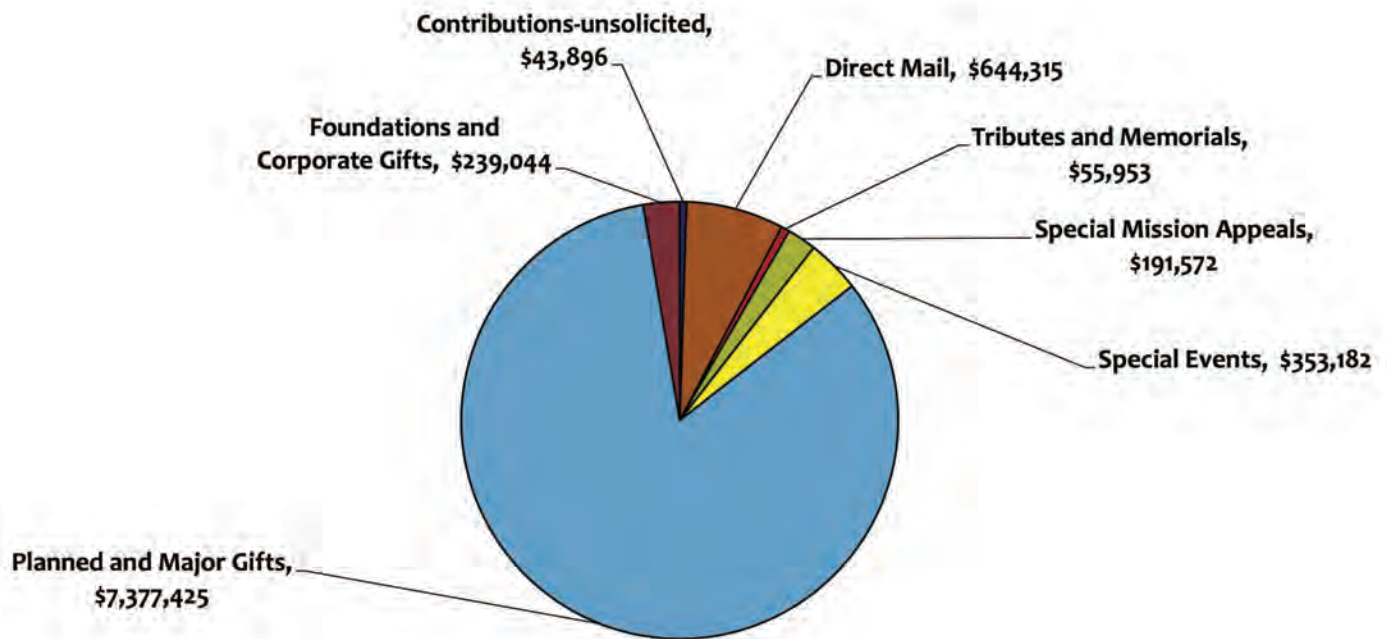
Partners in Franciscan Mission

Gratitude Report 2024 - 2025

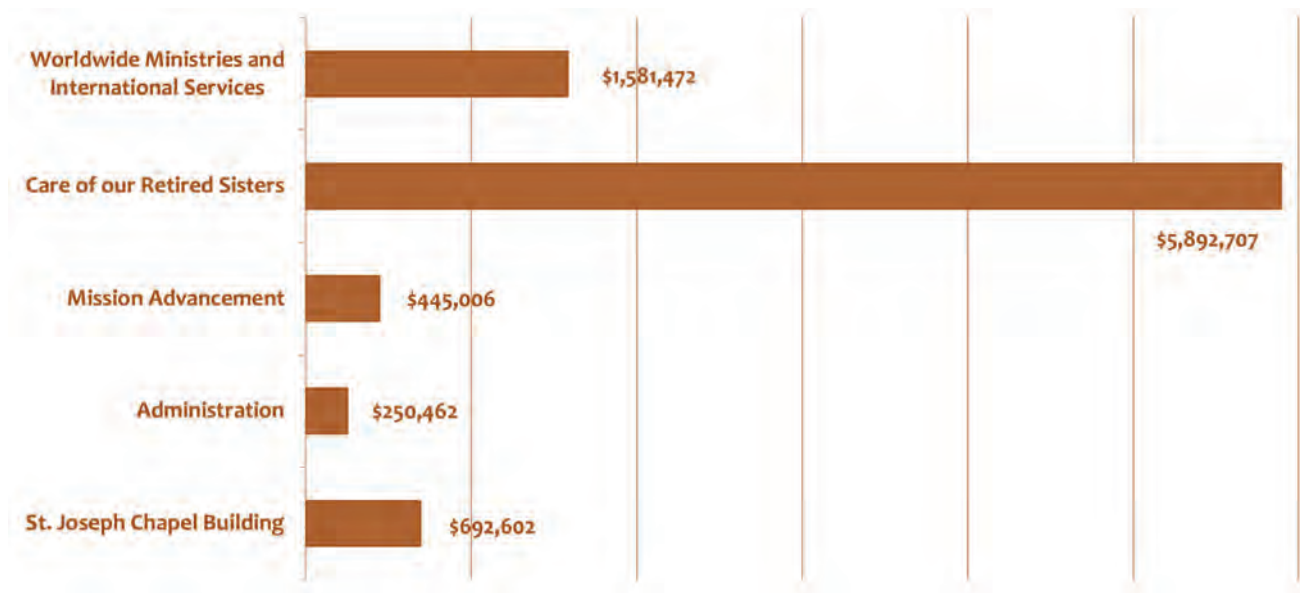


Funding Our Mission

SOURCE OF FUNDS - \$8,905,387
(\$6,582,232 donor restricted; \$2,323,155 unrestricted)



USE OF FUNDS



This bar graph represents distributed monies through June 30, 2025.
The financial statements of the School Sisters of St. Francis for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, were audited by Kerber, Eck & Braeckel LLP and include an unmodified opinion.

A Growing Community for Retired Sisters

Pope Leo XIV's motto, *In illo uno unum* – “In the One, we are one” – calls for a unity within the Church that transcends congregations and traditions. This past year, Our Lady of the Angels Convent in Greenfield, Wisconsin, has embraced that spirit in a new way, welcoming sisters from three additional religious orders into their community.

Founded in 2011, Our Lady of the Angels (OLA) was established as a co-sponsored ministry of the School Sisters of St. Francis and the School Sisters of Notre Dame to provide specialized services for retired sisters who could benefit from memory care. The convent fosters comfort and dignity with single occupancy rooms, a chapel, gardens, courtyards, and a figure-eight layout that is easy for sisters of all abilities to navigate. Sisters can maintain individual daily routines while also being encouraged to join activities such as attending Mass, exercise, card games, afternoon tea, and musical performances.

This year, space became available for sisters from the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis, and the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa to move to OLA.

Sister Kathleen Kluthe (right), a past president of our congregation, enjoys conversation with resident Sister Clare Korte at OLA's summer ice cream social.

“The opportunity for the sisters to share meals with sisters from different orders has helped establish new friendships,” observed Associate Denise Ryan, one of our congregation's community coordinators. “Some sisters have happily taken on the task of helping new residents get to activities and tour the building.”

Pam McGroaty, another community coordinator, is focused on making sure all the sisters feel welcome. “We reach out and personally invite sisters to activities,” she said. “It is important to make sure they feel comforted in their new home.”

Pam recalled encouraging a hesitant newcomer to join a musical activity. “She and I talked about how God has the sisters from different communities all together at OLA for a reason. Many of the sisters from the new orders are now coming to activities and joining in with other sisters.”

Sisters from the new communities have brought with them their own traditions, talents, and songs of blessing, enriching life at OLA. Whether sharing a meal, playing bingo, or enjoying conversation in the visiting area, our retired sisters are truly living out Pope Leo's vision.

“*In the* **ONE,**
we are ONE.”





Sister Enelly makes home visits to address residents' spiritual and physical needs.

One Clinic, Thousands of Lives Touched

Access to quality health care has always been a challenge in La Libertad, Honduras, a rural community amid mountainous terrain. Recognizing this need, our sisters established the Santa Ana Clinic in 1963 to serve a community of nearly 27,000 people living about 85 miles from Honduras' capital city of Tegucigalpa.

The clinic has grown alongside the community, providing compassionate care that addresses both urgent and long-term needs. Each year, between 1,500 and 2,000 people visit the clinic, many traveling from nearby municipalities such as San Jerónimo, Ojos de Agua, and Las Lajas. Without public transportation, families often rely on paid pickup trucks to cross the rough mountain terrain.

"Some people come to purchase medicine, and others come for consultation, but what many truly seek is someone to listen," said Sister Enelly Ortiz, the clinic administrator.

Over the years, the clinic's mission has evolved to meet the community's changing needs. Today, the clinic maintains a wide supply of medications, including treatments for cancer, tuberculosis, asthma, and arthritis. It has also begun offering complementary therapies with the support of specialists. These efforts ensure that

even patients with complex conditions can find help close to home.

One patient's story reflects the clinic's profound impact. A 43-year-old man arrived seeking medication for leg pain that had troubled him for nearly a decade.

"He shared that his wife had left him with three children, and his mother had to help care for them because he was unable to move due to the swelling in his legs and arms," Sister Enelly recalled.

After evaluation and treatment at the clinic, the man regained his mobility. "Two months later, he was riding a horse again and able to work and support his children," Sister Enelly said. Today, he continues to visit the clinic, sharing his testimony and encouraging others to seek care.

This life-changing ministry is made possible through the generosity of our donors. "I want to thank each person who shares what they have with us, making it possible for our projects to truly support those who need it most," Sister Enelly said. "Your generosity allows God's love to reach the most remote communities, where life is incredibly difficult. You are a pillar of strength for our people, and your impact is truly significant."

Smart Classrooms, Bright Futures

Since 2008, St. Francis Convent School in Budni, India, has provided its students with outstanding academics, character formation, and holistic development, beginning with children at age 3. The school is now preparing to expand its offerings, and it will add a 12th grade class for the first time in 2026.

“Thanks to the generous support of our donors, St. Francis Convent School is undergoing a transformation that will have lasting benefits for generations of students,” said Sister Archana Akkarapattiekkal, the school’s principal. “As we introduce smart classroom technology and expand our science lab, we are embracing a future of learning that is innovative, interactive, and inclusive.”

Sister Archana explained that a “smart classroom” is an innovative learning environment enhanced by digital tools and technology that support interactive, engaging, and efficient education.

“At St. Francis Convent School, we are incorporating educational software platforms that support live quizzes, presentations, digital textbooks, and real-time collaboration between students and teachers,” Sister Archana said. “This technology allows lessons to be more visual and interactive, which helps improve student understanding and retention.

“These tools also transform passive listening into active learning,” Sister Archana continued. “For example, science concepts can be brought to life with animations, like a biology lesson that might include a virtual tour of the human circulatory system.”

Sister Archana said the school plans to introduce smart classroom technology across all grade levels, from the youngest learners to the senior students.

“Primary students will use smart boards for literacy games, interactive storytelling, and foundational math skills,” she explained. “High school students will conduct research, participate in virtual experiments, and prepare for university-level academics.”

Sister Archana said the support the school receives from our generous donors is the foundation of the school’s transformation.

“With your continued partnership, we are building a brighter future for every student we serve,” she said. “You are helping students – many from underprivileged backgrounds – to access tools that were once unimaginable in their world. Your gifts are making an extraordinary difference in their academic lives, and in their confidence, creativity, and dreams for the future.”

St. Francis Convent Co-Ed School, Budni, India



Blessed by Our Partners in Ministry

These ministries were made possible by your prayers and the more than 5,400 generous gifts to our congregation in 2024-2025.

- Medical and living expenses to care for destitute people at Assisi Care Home, Kanjikode, India.
- Replacement of aging HVAC system, elevator, and commercial kitchen stove at Sacred Heart, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Psychologist salary and adaptations for students with special needs at Santa Clara School, Païta, Peru.
- Food, scholarships, medical clinic, and Christian formation through Mission San Jose, San Jose El Tesoro, Guatemala.
- Undergraduate scholarships for Guadalupe Homes alumni, Santa Apolonia, Guatemala.
- Medical and nutritional care for low-income people at Santa Ana Clinic, La Libertad, Honduras.
- Borewells and tree planting at two formation houses in Tanzania.
- Restoration and preservation of St. Joseph Chapel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Food, medicine, nurse's salary, and spiritual care for abandoned women living at Asha Bhavan, Bangalore, India.
- Care for retired sisters around the world.
- Books for our sisters who benefit from memory care, through the Albert Whitman Trust.
- Borewell to replace flood-damaged well at St. Clare Nursery School, Koratty, India.
- Upgraded lighting and TVs for sisters living at Sacred Heart, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Support for the congregation's archives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Mission San Jose, San Jose El Tesoro, Guatemala

- Peace and social justice initiatives around the world.
- Salary and expenses for the music ministry archives, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- New electrical wiring and a reliable vehicle for Asha Bhavan care home, Bangalore, India.
- Street outreach, counseling services, and food for survivors of the street-based sex trade in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, through the Sisters Program South Collaborative.
- Education and student boarding expenses for girls ages 5 -15 at the St. Francis Convent Hostel, Kharkutta, India.
- Holistic health, therapy, and medical treatments at Franciscan Oasis Rieti Mission, San Marcos, Guatemala.

- Food for the hungry in Tezpur and Goreghat, India.
- Construction of formation house kitchen and a laundry room, Dar Es Salam, Tanzania.
- Borewell and security wall to protect crops for formation house in Barasia, India.
- Library books, textbooks, and bilingual educational materials for Catholic schools, through the Albert Whitman Trust.
- Ongoing construction of new formation house in Chengena, Tanzania.
- Furnishings for St. Joseph Convent, Azara, India.
- Collaborative archive program between U.S. Province and Alverno College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Borewell to provide fresh water at Mother Alexia School, Chayoth, India.
- New windows for Maryhill Convent, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Scholarships for sisters to become qualified nurses and midwives, Bangalore, India.
- Pastoral care and spiritual counseling for detained immigrants on the U.S.-Mexico border.
- Furnishings for new St. Francis Nilaya formation house, Ranchi, India.
- Housing for missionary sisters beginning ministry in Maumere, Indonesia.
- Purchase of land and boundary wall for sisters residing in Carmelaram, India.
- Solar panels for reliable electricity at Assisi Formation House, Chengena, Tanzania.
- Education, personal development, and family nutrition programs at the Center for Alternative Programs, Santa Apolonia, Guatemala.
- Borewell for fresh water at our convent in Palaana, Palakkad, India.
- Support for Associate Relationship in the U.S. Province.
- Reclining chairs for elderly sisters at Sacred Heart, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Water source repair and maintenance at Assisi Farm, Walayar, India.
- New PA system, and a borewell for reliable fresh water at Assisi CBSE School, Bangalore, India.
- Wild elephant fencing to protect sisters' residence at Assisi Convent, Kanjikode, India
- Food for the hungry in Juárez, Mexico.
- Furnishings, connected learning devices, and water coolers for St. Francis Convent Co-Ed School, Budni, India.
- Furnishings for retired sisters in Guatemala City, Guatemala.
- Scholarships, school bus, physiotherapy equipment, vocational training materials, and teacher and staff salaries to serve children with special needs at Assisi Special School, Bangalore, India.
- Water treatment system at Santa Clara School, Paíta, Peru.



St. Francis Convent Co-Ed School, Budni, India

Thank you!

Through your generous support for our international congregation, you are partnering with our sisters in living the Good News of Jesus, witnessing to the presence of God, and entering into the lives of people around the world, especially those who are poor. We invite you to continue that partnership with us through...

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They sustain us in our ministries every day!

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EVENT ATTENDANCE

Visit www.sssf.org to learn about liturgies and events where you can connect with our sisters in person.



For more information about the impact you can make through our global ministries please contact:

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