

September 9, 2020

Sojourner Truth House sojournertruthhouse.org is a ministry initiated and sustained by the Ancilla Domini Sisters in the person of Sister Peg Spindler. Located in Gary, it is an effort to help women and children deal with, sometimes escape from, and, hopefully heal from domestic violence and abuse.

Sister receives no direct help or funding from the diocese or the CSA and did not get PPP funds as we did to help cover her minimal salaries.

In these days of concern about Covid 19, their ability to help these women and children is complicated and compromised by the virus itself with the concerns for testing and contact tracing and the stress of quarantine compounds the reality of violence and abuse across all socio-economic sectors but, as you can imagine, this is compounded by the effects of poverty.

So, Sojourner Truth House is left with little that they can do but offer food and some household necessities to women and children who are quite often in desperate situations.

Their cupboard is running bare and we are going to help them. In the past we supported them on a monthly basis of \$1000 per month but we have not done that in a few years.

Given the fact that the people of our parish are, as always, extraordinary and exceptionally generous, we have funds on hand that exceed our immediate needs in part because your response to requests for food products has been over the top as I knew it would.

We are going to send Sojourner Truth House a check for \$10,000 so that Sister can use their regular sources of food supply to restock their pantry for the time being. It is too complicated and potentially a source of Covid 19 transmission to try and gather and deliver food and other supplies, but we need to help where we can and our long- standing relationship with Sister Peg in a manner of speaking, I feel, obligates us.

If you want to make a special gift in addition to the \$10,000 you can get that to the office or mail it directly to:

Sojourner truth House
% Sister Peg Spindler
410 W 13th Avenue
Gary, Indiana
46407

Once again I want to tell you that Karen Boyle is doing a wonderful job in carefully and respectfully helping the people we serve get necessary food and household items not able to be purchased with food stamps.

Every day over the phone she shops for people patiently going over their needs and wants and the availability of those after which she packs the bags and arranges for them to be picked up by our clients safely and without contact.