

Ladies of Charity

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA®

AIC USA

Providing Vincentian Leadership to Women Acting Together Against All Forms of Poverty

November 1, 2014

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CONSTANCE O'Brien Catholic Charities Rep., Birmingham, AL Dear Ladies of Charity and Friends of LCUSA,

The month of November begins the Ladies of Charity of the United States of America (LCUSA) 2014 Annual Appeal. Each year we ask you to join with us on the journey of our ministry to those living in poverty, whether it be spiritual, physical or material.

Donations enable LCUSA to respond to the needs of the marginalized and disenfranchised whom we serve, primarily through grants to our local associations and to advocate for them through our association with the Catholic Social Ministry of the United States Conference of Bishops, Catholic Charities USA, the Vincentian Family, and the Coalition of Catholic Agencies Against Human Trafficking.

In the past year we used the Annual Appeal to send funds to the Philippines devastated by the typhoon. We directed our funds to Imelda Torres, president of AIC-Philippines. Our monies were used to rebuild the hospital chapel and meeting rooms where the Ladies conduct their ministry with recently released prisoners. We also sent funds to aid a project involving a Daughter of Charity and Ladies of Charity in the Ukraine to provide a shelter for street children and after school support.

The appeal has enabled us to create a database so that communication among our associations and with the national office is more efficient. You will also note that we have added a face book page and redesigned website. Our webmaster Monica Watson handles both for us. The past year saw the creation of our first "apps" to provide spiritual reflections to our members.

Please support us in your prayers as we continue to serve and seek to bring systemic change to those living in poverty. It is through your love and compassion for persons living in poverty that we are able to fulfill our mission. We walk with persons on the margins, transforming both of us, as they regain their dignity and build sustainable futures for themselves.

Your prayers and generous participation in the 2014 Annual Appeal will enable us to meet the challenges we face in today's world as Ladies of Charity and members of the Vincentian Family worldwide.

In the spirit of St. Vincent, St. Louise, and St. Elizabeth Ann,

Gayle Johnson

Gayle Johnson President, LCUSA

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