



AIC USA®

LADIES OF CHARITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

"To serve rather than to be served"



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Our 400th Anniversary!

Ladies of Charity USA: Vincentian Women in Action

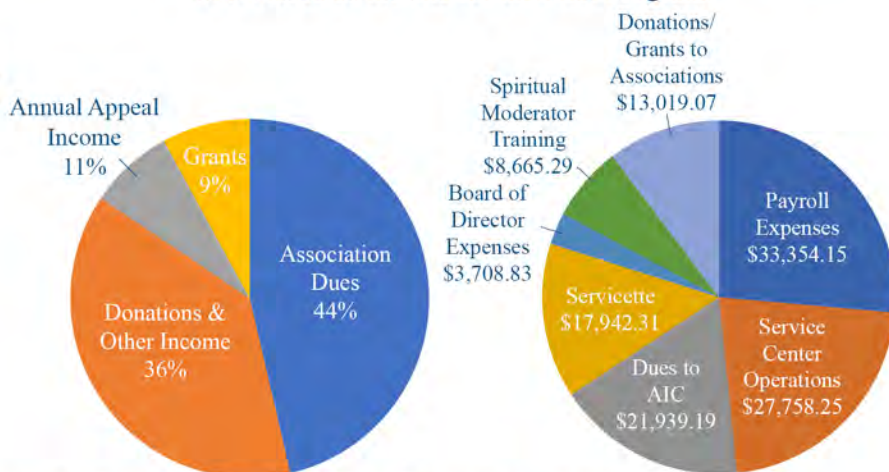
The Ladies of Charity of the United States of America (LCUSA) provides Vincentian Leadership to women acting together against all forms of poverty. LCUSA offers resources and support to a network of 54 local associations with a membership of 5417, dedicated, faith filled, hardworking and compassionate women who care deeply about people living on the margins of society. 349 young women of middle and high school age are engaged in locations as Junior Ladies of Charity. LCUSA is also connected to volunteers with the same mission in 42 other countries under the umbrella of the International Association of Charities (AIC). December 8, 2016 – December 8, 2017 marked the 400th anniversary of the founding of AIC by St. Vincent de Paul in Chatillon, France, making it the earliest organization of lay women in the Church.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

- ❧ December 8, 2016 was the “kick-off date” for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Ladies of Charity by St. Vincent de Paul. The celebratory year ended on December 8, 2017.
- ❧ In February 2017, LCUSA hired a new executive director, Ashley Larsen.
- ❧ In April 2017, the National Board of Directors held their first board meeting in Leavenworth, KS, a location which is more accessible to most of the board members and the home office in Kansas City, MO.
- ❧ In March 2017, 13 Ladies of Charity attended the AIC (Association of International Charities) celebration of the 400th anniversary in Chatillon, France. Past President Mary Ann Dantuono was elected as the United States representative to the International Board of Directors.
- ❧ The St. Vincent de Paul Society recognized LCUSA’s 400th celebration with a plaque and a donation.
- ❧ Through our Hager grants, LCUSA contributed to 17 local associations (including Junior Ladies of Charity groups) to help with ongoing or new projects.
- ❧ LCUSA National office relocated to Seton Center in Kansas City, Missouri.
- ❧ In June 2017, LCUSA participated in the Vincentian Family Gathering, “Welcome the Stranger,” in San Antonio, where the focus was on immigration issues.
- ❧ In September 2017, LCUSA held its National Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri “400 Years of ‘Yes’ to the Call of St. Vincent de Paul.” The celebration began with a reflective afternoon presented by Sr. Joyce Rupp and continued with presentations by Bishop Howard Hubbard, D.D., Bishop Emeritus of Albany, NY, and Sr. Kathleen Appler, D.C, Superioress General of the Daughters of Charity.
- ❧ In August 2017, President Suzanne Johnson and Past President Mary Ann Dantuono appeared on EWTN Live with Fr. Mitch Pacwa, S.J., telling the history of the Ladies and promoting their continuing good works. During that telecast, LCUSA website received a record number of “hits” and inquiries about how women around the country could become involved.
- ❧ Completed the “Memory Book,” a collection of stories and pictures of members and Daughters of Charity and distributed it to attendees of the Assembly.
- ❧ To mark the 400th anniversary, local associations contributed quilt squares which were assembled into a beautiful quilt by Karen Radu, Vice President of Mid-Atlantic Region.
- ❧ In October 2017, LCUSA contracted with Josiah Mooney of Care Continuum, Inc. to research and develop the Ladies of Charity Caregiving. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was chosen as the site for the Pilot Program.

LCUSA INCOME/EXPENSES FOR 2017

LCUSA supports 54 local associations, serving 167 communities. In 2017, these associations raised and distributed \$2,803,339 in cash and in-kind donations to those living in poverty in their communities. They volunteered over 983,045 hours, representing a value of over \$24,271,381.



The above amounts do not include grants and expenses for the Ladies of Charity Caregiving.



2017 Assembly Mass

photo by John Caulfield

ON THE COVER
 Stained glass windows of
 St. Andre and St. Vincent
 de Paul Church in
 Chatillon, France which
 shows Vincent and the
 first Ladies of Charity.



LOC prepare a breakfast bounty in Little Rock, AK



LOC and donated van – Perryville, MO



Ladies of Charity making Easter baskets in Elmira, NY



St. John's LOC and JLOC Service Day, Queens, NY



New LCUSA office at Seton Center in Kansas, MO



LOC who attended the France 400th celebration, 13 LCUSA members present

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Providing Vincentian Leadership

To Women Acting Together

Against All Forms of Poverty

With sincere gratitude the Ladies of Charity USA recognize the following generous contributors:

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