



Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
 Hermanas de la Misericordia de las Américas
 New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community
 625 Abbott Road, Buffalo, NY 14220-2092

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT ■ 2008 – 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

Sisters of Mercy are women who commit their lives to God, deepening their relationship with God and serving God’s people, especially those who are sick, poor and uneducated. In the spirit of the Gospel, our mission is to help people to overcome the obstacles that keep them from living full and dignified lives. A life of prayer and community is at the heart of our shared mission.

As we began our journey together in the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community in January 2008, we knew many challenges would meet us along the way. Over time, we met and made significant decisions that not only had an impact on our sisters, but also the ministries where our sisters serve. Because of those decisions, we are able to expand our focus in areas we never thought possible. Today, with your help, our sisters are able to reach out to people who have nowhere else to turn.

“ Our name is
Mercy
 our spirit is
Compassion”
 – Catherine McAuley,
 Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy

Donors contribute to the Sisters of Mercy for many reasons. Some give to support our many ministries that serve the poor, the sick and the uneducated. Others contribute because of the significant impact that one or more of our sisters made on their life. Whatever the reason, our service continues to grow and thrive in the communities where our sisters serve. We are blessed to have you as our good friend. You have made it possible for our sisters to continue God’s work and follow in the footsteps of our foundress, Catherine McAuley.

A Life of Gratitude



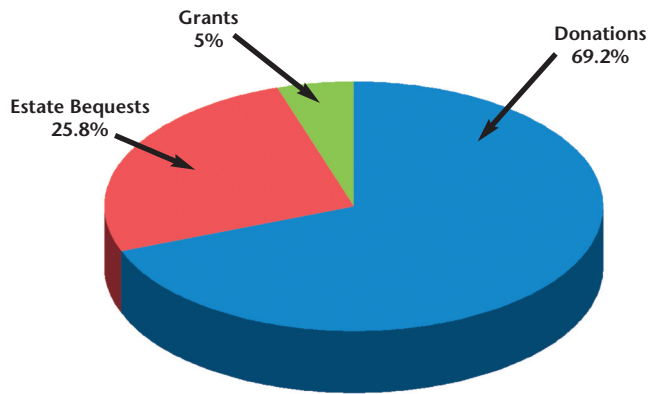
Jim and Mary Ann Baldauf have a long history with the Mercy sisters. Jim was raised in the Pittsburgh area and attended St. Justin High School. He remembers well the teachers that instructed him—Sister Mary Matthew Baltus, RSM, and Sister Maura Smith, RSM, both of whom presently reside at the Motherhouse in Erie.

When asked about his memories of those school days, Jim responded, “The Mercy Sisters taught me self-discipline and truly cared for us as students.” Jim noted that he recalls their allegiance to the other teachers and staff with whom they worked. He said, “The sisters were respectful to the people they worked with in every way. This was very noticeable to us as young people since the sisters taught us to have respect for others.”

After high school, Jim attended Gannon College in Erie, but not on his own accord. He said, “It was my home-room teacher, a Sister of Mercy, who convinced me to enroll in college. I don’t think I would have gone if it wasn’t for her! Sister raised the subject of attending college every time I saw her. Consequently, I would not be where I am today without sister’s perseverance.”

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DEVELOPMENT INCOME 2008-2009 = \$1,104,327



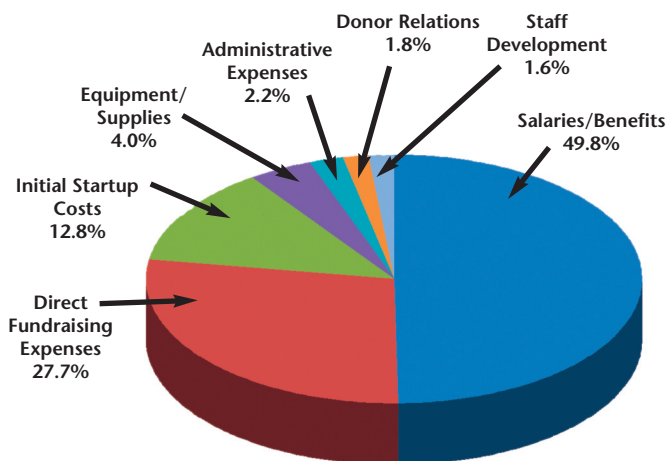
INCOME

Donations: Newsletters, Christmas appeal, Mother/Father Day appeal, Memorial cards, in-kind and general donations

Estates/Bequests: 22 estates/bequests received

Grants: 13 grant awards

DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES 2008-2009 = \$351,659



EXPENSES

Salaries/Benefits: 4 paid administrative staff; Chief Development Officer, Assistant to the Chief Development Officer, Coordinator of Annual Appeals, Database Coordinator

Direct Fundraising: Newsletters, Christmas appeal, Mothers and Fathers Day appeal, Memorial and Tribute cards, brochures, postage

Initial Start-Up Costs: Database conversion and support services, additional computer and server equipment, license and server agreements, software, initial direct mail

Equipment/Supplies: Computers, software, office supplies

Administrative Expenses: Telephone, mailing services, printing, contract services, credit card fees

Donor Relations: Travel, hospitality, gifts and benefactor reception

Staff Development: Workshops, conferences, dues and memberships, books, subscriptions

Note: Total income received does not reflect the \$201,759.19 received from the NRRO (National Religious Retirement Office).

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Mary Ann was raised in Erie and attended Villa Maria Academy where she was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph. She attended Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and received a second degree from Mercyhurst College when their oldest children were in high school.

Jim and Mary Ann's strong belief in Catholic education prompted them to enroll their children in St. Luke's School in Erie, taught by the Mercy Sisters, and as they grew, they attended Mercyhurst Prep, another Sisters of Mercy facility. Today, the Baldauf's have 13 grandchildren, many of whom are attending the same Mercy schools.

Jim and Mary Ann were so involved in their children's education that Jim became a member of the Board of Directors of Mercyhurst Prep where he served for 10 years. Mary Ann subsequently joined the Board of Directors of Mercyhurst College where she served three terms.

Jim and Mary Ann are now enjoying their retirement years and delight in the fact that their children have kept up the Mercy presence in their grandchildren's lives. They both feel they owe a life of gratitude to the Sisters of Mercy. As Jim stated, "We've supported the Sisters since we were young and will continue our support for all they have given to us and our family—that Mercy presence in our lives."