



Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation  
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 Rapid City, SD 57709-0678

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Photo by Rev. Tony Grossenburg

# WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

## WSDCF Grants Assist St. Vincent de Paul in Rapid City and Piedmont

Imagine having your phone ring 25 times a day with someone on the other end asking for help to pay for rent, utilities, car repairs, groceries or other emergency needs.

That is often a daily reality for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul members at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral whose mission is to serve the poor and suffering in Rapid City, said Nancy Gwaltney, president of the SVdP Conference at OLPH.

"We help where other organizations aren't able and we tend to be in the forefront of phone numbers to call when people are in need," said Gwaltney.

The society's ministry is to help feed, clothe, house and heal their neighbors in need. But SVdP members seek to do more than just meet the physical needs of people living in poverty. They pray for and with the people they help, and Vincentians strive to grow spiritually themselves by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need. "This personalized involvement makes the work of the Society unique," Gwaltney said. "We conduct home visits so that we can visualize their home life situation and truly assess their needs. It allows us to bond with them spiritually as we pray with each family."

There are three St. Vincent de Paul conferences operating in the Diocese of Rapid City (Rapid City, Piedmont and Spearfish). Two of them applied for and will receive a total of \$25,000 in grant funds from the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation in fiscal year 2018. A

SVdP thrift store also operates in Box Elder.

"We are so thankful for the award," said Suzanne Wilhelmi, president of the Our Lady of the Black Hills Conference in Piedmont.

In the first 12 months of operation in 2016-17, the OLPH Conference provided approximately \$100,000 in emergency funding to more than 2,100 people and took 2,500 requests for help. "The need for financial support is immense," Gwaltney said. Grant funds from WSDCF will be used for rent, car repairs, home repairs, utilities and transportation needs. "The need is great and allocating this grant to the Society helps ease the burdens that so many feel," Gwaltney said.

It was the magnitude of poverty in the Black Hills area that led Bishop Robert Gruss to encourage the formation of SVdP Conferences in this diocese. In 2016, 16.1 percent of Pennington County residents lived below the national poverty level, compared to 12.9 percent of South Dakotans statewide. Single women with children were more than twice as likely to live in poverty than other household groups. Last year, more than 38 percent of South Dakota's single-mother families were living in poverty, meaning an annual household income of less than \$24,600 for a family of four.

To get involved with a SVdP Conference, contact one of the following:



Nathan Spencer, Leon Lunders, Katie Banaszak (Secretary), Daryl Gwaltney, Heidie Cotey (Treasurer) Theresa Teinen, Nancy Gwaltney (President) and Rene Brand (Jenny Spencer (Vice President, not pictured))



### SAVE THE DATE

**Bishop's Fishing  
 Tournament**  
 May 19, 2018

**Bishop's Golf  
 Classic**  
 August 13, 2018

**Bishop's  
 Hunt**  
 October 2-3, 2018

*Estate Planning Seminars  
 To be held in your area soon  
 Contact Tim Henderson  
 thenderson@diorc.org  
 or 605-343-3541*

Rapid City  
 Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Conference serves Rapid City, Hermosa, and Box Elder.  
 (605) 718-5896

Foothills  
 Our Lady of the Black Hills Conference serves Piedmont, Summerset, and Black Hawk.  
 (605) 389-6739

Northern Hills  
 St. Mary/St. Joseph/St. Paul Conference serves Newell, Spearfish, Sturgis, Belle Fourche, Deadwood, and Lead.  
 (605) 269-0676

More than \$2 million in grant funding was awarded to 20 Catholic ministries during the 2017 annual meeting of the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation held Nov. 28.

Grant funds totaling \$2,082,111 were awarded to the following programs, parishes and non-profits across the diocese: Diocese of Rapid City Operations, Diocese of Rapid City Terra Sancta, Rapid City Catholic School System, Office of Vocations, St. Francis Mission, Priests Retirement & Aid Association, Cheyenne River Ministries, Red Cloud Indian School, Standing Rock Ministry, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Fund, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul chapters at Our Lady of the Black Hills and at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Holy Cross Church in Timber Lake, Immaculate Conception Church in Rapid City, Our Lady of the Black Hills Church in Piedmont, OLPH Cathedral in Rapid City, Sioux Spiritual Center, and Casa Maria Retirement Home.

The WSDCF board of directors also approved major amendments to its bylaws and committee structure during the meeting. One of the most significant amendments changed the size of the board of directors from 50 members to a maximum of 15 members. However, the mission of the WSDCF remains the same. It is committed to promoting and strengthening the Catholic Church by providing people an opportunity to contribute to a permanent endowment fund and make other types of gifts that will provide financial resources for meeting the spiritual needs of future generations of Catholics in the Diocese of Rapid City.

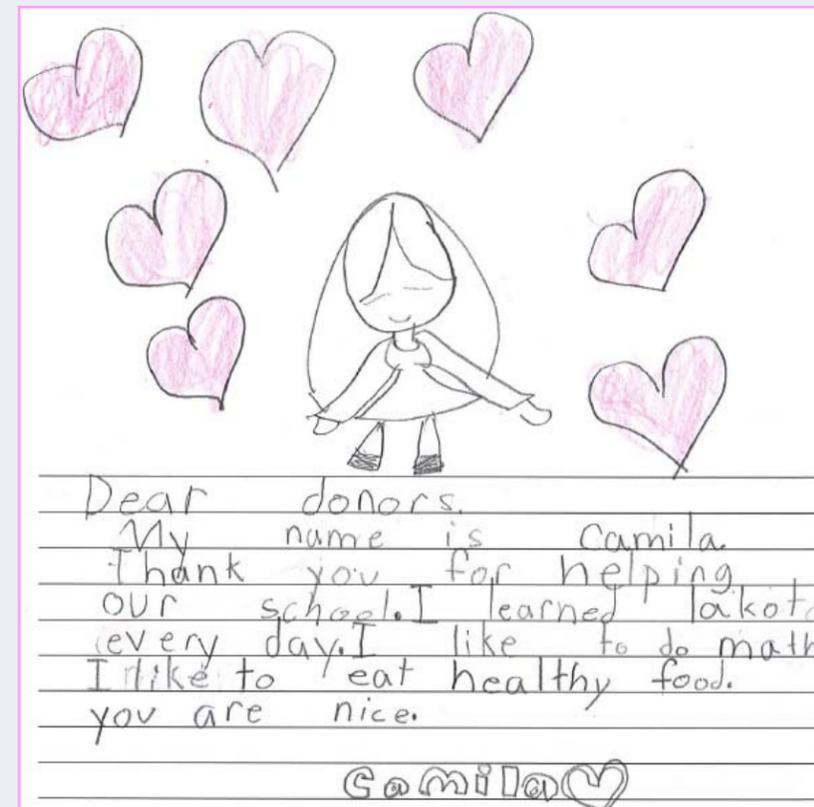
The chart to the right shows the members appointed to one-year terms beginning January 1, 2018.

Three subcommittees of the Envisioning our Future Task Force reported on the outcomes of their discussions and an action plan for 2018.

"I am grateful for all the hard work that went into the re-envisioning of the structure and strategies of the Foundation in the last 18 months. I am confident that with this new focus and energy, the WSDCF will wonderfully serve the needs of the diocese and its institutions for generations to come," said Msgr. Michael Woster, president of WSDCF.



2018 Board Members	
Name	City
Tom Ackerman	Rapid City
Tony Berendse (VP)	Rapid City
Dodie Brown	Rapid City
Patrick Goetzinger	Rapid City
Most Rev. Bishop Gruss	Rapid City
Bonnie Hilt (S)	Rapid City
Very Rev. Timothy Hoag	Wall
Jim Hulm	Timber Lake
Timothy Johns	Lead
Harvey Krautschun (T)	Spearfish
Greg Schweiss	Rapid City
Rev. Bryan Sorensen	Timber Lake
Rev. John Paul Trask	Spearfish
Rev. Msgr. Michael Woster (P)	Spearfish



A letter from Camila, a Sapa Un Academy Student. The Jesuit St. Francis Mission's faith based, dual language school on the Rosebud Reservation was awarded \$75,000 during this grant cycle.

**CATHOLIC HERITAGE SOCIETY**  
 Masses are offered each year for the deceased and living Foundation "planned giving" donors. Please consider becoming a member of the Catholic Heritage Society by making a deferred gift to the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation.

2018 Mass Schedule			
PARISH	CITY	DATE	TIME
St. John the Baptist	Custer	2/5/18	8:00 AM
St. John the Evangelist	Ft. Pierre	2/28/18	7:00 AM
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Rapid City	3/6/18	5:30 PM
Our Lady of the Black Hills	Piedmont	4/19/18	8:00 AM
Holy Cross	Timber Lake	5/6/18	10:00 AM
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart	Martin	6/1/18	7:30 AM
St. Ambrose	Deadwood	7/22/18	8:00 AM
St. Paul	Belle Fourche	8/5/18	10:30 AM
St. Martin of Tours	Murdo	9/15/18	6:00 PM
St. Joseph	Gregory	10/7/18	10:30 AM
St. Francis	Sturgis	11/11/18	9:00 AM
St. Therese the Little Flower	Rapid City	12/3/18	7:00 AM



Hot Springs attorney Jane Farrell left the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation board of directors recently after four years of dedicated service.

"The work of the Foundation is truly worthwhile and is changing lives," Farrell said, noting grant distributions from the foundation which range from supporting parish building needs to supporting families in times of crisis all across the diocese. "I was honored to have been part of it."

Farrell was first inspired to join WSDCF by other faith-filled board members she met who were dedicated to providing support for many activities throughout the diocese. During her tenure she strived to grow unrestricted gifts to the foundation.

"Although the foundation's bottom line shows a total fund balance in excess of \$20 million, most of those funds are restricted. To fully carry out its vision and function, the foundation needs to grow its unrestricted funds by inviting all those in the diocese to provide support primarily through planned gifts. Every gift is important!" says Farrell.

"When I first met Jane, her caring attitude, strong faith and willingness to help were just as impressive as her professional credentials." says Tim Henderson, Executive Director of WSDCF. "She has done a great job for us and her recent role as chair of our strategies and objectives envisioning subcommittee has been very valuable to me, personally, and the board as a whole. I know she will be successful as she moves on as a volunteer leading the Alumni Association for the University of Wyoming."

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 We are delighted to make available to you our weekly e-newsletter. It features news from Washington, Savvy Living, gift stories, finance news and timely articles. You may receive our regular updates at no cost or obligation. Just go to the planned giving page of our website, [wsdcf.org](http://wsdcf.org) and find the E-Newsletter Sign Up link on the right.