

October 2014

The Saint Joseph Worker News



Community

Forming small intentional communities, the women focus on living simply and building respectful, just relationships.

From the Director's desk:



You've probably heard the adage, "It takes a village to raise a child".

I would like to put a spin on that: It takes a community to have a St. Joseph Worker (SJW) Program. I reflected on this as we prepared for our two workers – Ashley Park and Kerry Ryan and then it echoed throughout the orientation week! So many sisters, associates, partners in ministry, friends and family came together to welcome and to share with our women!

We did have some challenges with the SJW apartment! The generosity and creativity of many people worked to overcome these. Special thanks to Srs. Clare Pelkey, Pattie Allen, and Ann Christi for helping to clean; to Sr. Betsy van Deusen for orchestrating the furniture move from the Provincial House (PH) to 10 Union St. and for driving the truck! Also helping with the furniture were Betsy's two nieces, Olivia and Mary and our former SJW, Sarah Feeney. On the PH end, Susan Szczerbacki, Dave Bousquet and crew made sure we could get the furniture loaded onto the moving truck. My friends Kathy, Ed, Sharyn and Fred helped get all the other household essentials over to the apartment and set things up. Our landlord, Paul and his brother Jim, have worked very hard to get the place ready in a week. Srs. Mary Lou Delany and Pat Newell let us use to their apartment on Swiss Court for the week so the women wouldn't be homeless!

For orientation at the PH we had a big crew! Susan Szczerbacki, Tina Duffy, Tracy Needham, Jennifer Martin, Srs. Jeanne Marie Gocha, Anne Tranelli, Jean Keating, Chris Partisano, Joanne St. Hilarie and Lucille Theoroux had important information to share with Kerry and Ashley. Srs. Mary Anne Heenan, Eileen McCann and many other sisters and partners in ministry welcomed the women and helped them to feel at home.

Of course none of this happened without behind-the-scenes support – thanks to Linda Birochik and Dawn Evans for assistance with budget and finances; Sr. Mary Rose Fox who ran off all the orientation materials; Eileen Davenport who did the gift bags. There were others like Srs. Margie Tierney, Char Bloom, Lamese Farhart and Cathy Kruegler who donated books and the "anonymous" sister who gifted SJW Program with a very generous Amazon gift card. Sr. Betsy prepared a delicious welcome dinner for us on Sunday evening.

Sr. Rose Casaleno hosted us for a day in Cazenovia; she prepared a scrumptious lunch and shared tips on cooking and dining together. Sr. Sean Peters began the leadership course with the women. Sr. Joan Mary Hartigan joined us for lunch at St. Mary's Hospital. Sr. Jeanne Marie Gocha co-facilitated the retreat at Pyramid Life Center. Sr. Monica Murphy extended hospitality to us. Our SJW Advisory Council lent support wherever they could.

At the risk of leaving someone out, I thought it was important to mention all those who have been involved in getting the SJW Program going this year. I want to thank everyone for all these contributions. I would like to especially thank all who prayed, called, sent emails or extended your support. It takes a community to have a St. Joseph Worker Program!

Community

Saint Joseph Worker

Caring

Now accepting women 21-30, for the 2014 - 2015 year who desire to lead, are committed to social change, seek to grow in spirituality, and who will live in community.
For more information and an application please visit our website: www.sjworkers.org
or call to speak to the director, Sr. Lin Neil at: 518-393-0528



THIS MONTH WE DEDICATE THIS NEWSLETTER TO THESE KEY AREAS OF COMMITMENT:

Community

Forming small intentional communities, the women focus on living simply and building respectful relationships.

Leadership

Women develop their own style of leadership.

Introducing our St. Joseph Workers for 2014-2015

Dedicated

Ashley Park

Hello, my name is Ashley Park and I am delighted to be here in beautiful Albany for the St. Joseph Worker Program. I was born and raised in Southern California, in the city of La Mirada which is located at the Los Angeles & Orange County border. I graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara majoring in Global Studies. Living in California my whole life, I have been fortunate to have been surrounded by family and friends. But before I have to grow up anymore, I yearned to go out into the world on my own. A couple years ago, I started my first full time office job to gain some professional experience. However, I quickly realized the office route wasn't for me. And although I am still in search of my calling, the one thing I do know is that I wish to help others in the name of God. Being so, when I heard about the St. Joseph Worker program I thought it was a perfect fit. I feel incredibly blessed to be living and working in the very scenic upstate New York. As a St. Joseph Worker, I wish to serve and work with others without the noise of my city life. I also hope to learn more about myself and perhaps recognize the path I am to take in this world.

Kerry Ryan

My name is Kerry Ryan. I am from Michigan, and I recently graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in biology. I will be working in Amsterdam at St. Mary's Hospital as a psychiatric rehabilitation assistant in a wellness program that improves participants' mental health in a classroom setting.

For some time I have been uncertain about the direction of my future, but since discovering the St. Joseph Worker Program, I believe I can turn this uncertainty into an amazing opportunity for personal and spiritual growth. Throughout this year, with the help and guidance of the Sisters of St. Joseph, I hope to have many invaluable learning experiences that I can carry with me far into the future.

Affiliated with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Albany

www.sjworkers.org

Leadership

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This newsletter is published three times/year by The St. Joseph Worker Program located in Albany, NY. Send comments or information to: eileen davenport at: edavenport04@gmail.com