

THE ASC FOUNDATION

A Ministry of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ

Annual Report

2007–2008

*Our work is to create “that beautiful order of things
which the great Son of God came to establish in his blood.”*

—**St. Maria De Mattias, foundress of the
Adorers of the Blood of Christ**

Our Mission

The ASC Foundation provides assistance to promote justice and the principles and practice of social change, striving towards establishing “that beautiful order of things.” The Foundation is a ministry of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, supporting projects within the United States and ASC-affiliated international projects.

Our Vision

Founded to extend the charism of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, the ASC Foundation will act as a partner, catalyst, and advocate to effect positive change with long-term impact.

The ASC Foundation believes that social change occurs through innovation, risk-taking, and reconciliation, all done with the dignity of the person in mind. The Foundation envisions communities where the poor and marginalized are empowered to help themselves and their neighbors to create more holistic lives and livelihoods.

Mission of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ

The United States Adorers of the Blood of Christ, rooted in the Gospel of Jesus, are ecclesial women, living in community, witnessing God’s love in Mission to empower others, foster oneness, celebrate life, form right relationships, and walk as compassionate companions.

A Message from the Executive Director

Due to the work of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, the ASC Foundation was established to extend the mission of the Adorers through awarding grants to organizations that protect and work for the rights of the disenfranchised.

In 2007, the ASC Foundation made contributions and grant awards totaling \$1,393,000 through our five giving arms. Seventy percent of that money was allocated to 29 grants through two of the funding arms, the De Mattias and Marciana awards, all of which are highlighted in this report.

The De Mattias and Marciana grant awards strive to reduce inequities by going beyond registering a critique; by providing support and becoming partners, we sign on to be part of the solution. The grants outlined in this report are works in which the Adorers believe, improving the quality of life for many persons and effecting social change where we can. We are honored to support agencies that utilize varied approaches in pushing boundaries, working so that the marginalized might attain equal footing in a more just world. I am humbled to act as a steward of the Adorers' fruits and to work with our stellar partners, our grantees.

Ann Haubrich
Executive Director

Our Background

The Adorers of the Blood of Christ (ASC) are an international congregation of women religious founded by St. Maria De Mattias in 1834. The ASC/US Region ministers in fifteen states and four foreign countries – Italy, Bolivia, Guatemala, and Korea. The United States Region was formed in 2000, combining the former North American provinces in Columbia, Pennsylvania; Ruma, Illinois; and Wichita, Kansas.

Established in 2003, the ASC Foundation supports and funds agencies, programs and initiatives that effect positive change with long-term impact and reflect the ASC commitment to serve others.

Prior to the formation of the ASC Foundation, three ASC funding resources existed, each reflecting the charism of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ: Leaven International focused on the poor, environmental initiatives, and multicultural projects; Zerr Care, Fund for the Underserved provided assistance to organizations providing direct healthcare and health education to people at risk; Foundation for Mission offered grants to innovative ministries which promoted healing or an improved quality of life for communities.

The ASC Foundation represents monies transferred from the aforementioned funds and from the transfer of various sponsored ministries where the Adorers of the Blood of Christ met the needs of those St. Maria De Mattias referred to as the “dear neighbor.”

De Mattias and Marciana Funds' Focus Areas

The focus areas of the ASC Foundation's De Mattias and Marciana funds demonstrate our commitment to the whole person, the community and nurturing and supporting a community's resilience:

Giving Voice To Those In Need

Organizations and projects implementing solutions for the poor and marginalized that have long-term impact.

Reconciliation and Peace

Organizations and projects that build solid local and global relations and work to establish just relationships and a sustainable peace, promoting reconciliation between groups polarized by mutual distrust, hostility, and violence.

Liberation

Organizations and projects that promote learning, workforce preparation, civic engagement, cultural dialogue and social and economic development thereby fostering liberation through education, reform and human rights campaigns, and alternatives to incarceration.

Earth's Resources

Organizations and projects that promote habits and practices of good stewardship of Earth, promoting the respectful use of our planet's resources.

2007 De Mattias Grantees

Center of Hope Wichita, Kansas

Support for the ***Case Management for Homelessness Prevention*** program, a pilot program offering long-term support based on setting goals with individual families, with the purpose of empowering clients to be self-sufficient, thereby decreasing recidivism and providing them skills to become productive members of their community.

Kentucky Coalition London, Kentucky

Support for the ***Canary Project***, a multi-year organizing campaign to end mountaintop removal mining and building a future beyond coal by offering economic and energy alternatives to coal.

La Posada Providencia San Benito, Texas

General ***operating support*** for La Posada, an agency that advocates for and provides shelter, education, and health care access for documented refugees who are in the legal process of seeking asylum or other legal residency in the United States.

*“Injustice anywhere
is a threat to justice
everywhere. We are
caught in an inescapable
network of mutuality, tied
in a single garment of
destiny. Whatever affects
one directly, affects all
directly.”*

Martin Luther King, Jr.
from Letter from a Birmingham
Jail, April 1963

Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation

East St. Louis, Illinois

Support for the ***Law & Health Project***, a collaborative effort between Land of Lincoln and Southern Illinois Healthcare that assists low-income, uninsured adults by providing them with free legal services at hospitals and clinics.

Migrant Whole Health Outreach

Kennett, Missouri

Support for ***Healthy Housing Initiatives***, addressing, through advocacy, education, and service, rent-to-buy agreements for undeveloped land or sub-standard housing units offered to migrant families ready to establish homes while at the same time heightening awareness of the positive contributions migrants make in their communities.

Northern Plains Resource Council

Billings, Montana

General ***operating support*** for Northern Plains Resource Council, a grassroots conservation and family agriculture agency that organizes Montana citizens to protect water quality and family farms and ranches through programs such as bio-fuels advocacy, a good neighbor agreement with rural communities/watersheds and a mining company, and civic engagement activities.

Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation

Chicago, Illinois

General ***operating support*** for the Ministry of Reconciliation, which responds to the violence and conflict of its inner-city community by implementing a restorative justice program that works with the three groups affected by crime and violence: community, victims, and offenders.

Project WISE

Denver, Colorado

Support for the ***Women’s Leadership Program***, a forum for financially vulnerable women to build leadership and advocacy skills; a mentoring program that links participants with community volunteers; and a leadership council that plans and facilitates an annual retreat.

St. Elizabeth’s Health Center

Tucson, Arizona

Support for the ***Buena Vida Program***, which focuses on providing education, support and advocacy to improve the health literacy and self-management skills of low-income women.

San Lucas Workers Center

Chicago, Illinois

Support for ***The Day Labor Accountability and Publicity Project***, an initiative advancing a more just day labor industry by creating better work opportunities and working conditions for day laborers at companies and agencies that are accountable to workers and the community.

Sangre de Cristo Health Care Project

Guatemala City, Guatemala

General ***operating support*** for the Health Care Project, which provides the only primary health care services in the villages surrounding the hills of Guatemala City, ranging from dental health education to environmental health and sanitation.

***“And for all this,
nature is never
spent...”***

Gerard
Manley Hopkins
from
God’s Grandeur, 1918

Southern Mutual Help Association

New Iberia, Louisiana

General ***operating support*** for Southern Mutual Help Association, a community development agency, which has a special focus on women, low-income families, and people of color in addition to having a proven track record in affordable housing development and comprehensive family and community development in rural Louisiana.

StepStone

Wichita, Kansas

General ***operating support*** for StepStone, which assists in increasing the number of women and children served in their transitional housing and services to survivors of domestic violence and their children.

Students at the Center

New Orleans, Louisiana

Support for the ***Students at the Center*** program, an intensive writing and media project enabling youth in New Orleans' high schools to participate significantly in developing post-Katrina public education while maintaining the core literacy and civic skills programs.

Wichita Women's Initiative Network

Wichita, Kansas

General ***operating support*** for Wichita Women's Initiative Network (WIN), which helps disadvantaged women escape the cycle of poverty, homelessness, abuse and addiction through a program of employment and social services.

2007 Marciana Grantees

Cabrini Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation New York, New York

Support for ***Compassionate Care for the Forgotten: A Planning Process for Aging Prisoners***, which is the development of a plan to implement a comprehensive program for geriatric and older prisoners in New York.

Catholic Charities USA Alexandria, Virginia

Support for ***Stop the Sexual Exploitation of U.S. Children*** program in the state of Arkansas and in Lansing, Michigan, creating strong and competent local coalitions to increase awareness of human trafficking, advocate for the victims, train frontline responders to identify and treat victims and to provide services to sexually-exploited children.

Citizens for Missouri's Children St. Louis, Missouri

Support for the ***Child Protection Program***, which impacts more than 18,000 children who are working to rebound from abuse, abandonment, and neglect.

*“it starts when you care
to act, it starts when you do
it again and they said no,
it starts when you say We
and know who you mean, and each
day you mean one more.”*

Marge Piercy
from *The Low Road*,
1980

Corporate Accountability International

Boston, Massachusetts

Support for the *Water Industry Campaign*, which organizes across the United States and around the world to secure the human right to water, preserve and protect democratic control over water resources and systems, and prevent corporate interference in water policy.

Crime Victim Advocacy Center

St. Louis, Missouri

Support for *Restorative Justice Facilitation*, which focuses on activities bringing together those who have been polarized by violence with activities that promote mutual understanding, (victim) empowerment, (offender) accountability, and conflict resolution for sustainable personal and community well-being.

Interfaith Legal Services for Immigrants

St. Louis, Missouri

Support for the *Family Reunification Project*, which assists low-income undocumented immigrants eligible for legal status through family reunification.

Interfaith Refugee Action Team—Elizabeth

Elizabeth, New Jersey

Support for *The Community-Based Detention Assessment Program of North Jersey*, a public education program that will conduct and compile interviews with detainees, the families of detainees, and other community members for the purpose of clarifying the profile and needs of the detained.

Jubilee USA Network
Washington, DC

Support for the ***Sabbath Year Initiative***, a year-long campaign to bring the call for debt cancellation and a sustainable peace to decision makers, seven years after the historic global campaign which won commitments of life-saving debt relief from world leaders.

Metro Theater Company
St. Louis, Missouri

Support for ***A Place for Everyone: Building Community Through Drama***, which builds on Metro's capability to teach tolerance and confront oppression as it occurs in communities through partnering with schools and community agencies.

National Catholic Rural Life Conference
Des Moines, Iowa

Support for the ***Agribusiness Accountability Initiative***, a collaboration with Center of Concern, in a global forum and platform for sharing research, advocacy ideas and public education strategies, linking farms, environmentalists, workers, consumer groups, church and development agencies to address problems associated with corporate control of the food system.

National Farm Workers Ministry
Orlando, Florida

Support for the ***Florida Enforcement Project***, a collaborative effort of the National Farm Workers Ministry and the Farm Worker Association, which systemically links farm workers with local residents and statewide advocates, ultimately protecting farm workers, who suffer from the lack of enforcement of laws created to protect workers.

Save Our Cumberland Mountains

Lake City, Tennessee

Support for the ***Mountaintop Removal Organizing Program***, building the agency's capacity to address the threat to the safety and environmental quality of coalfield communities in east and middle Tennessee posed by a coal mining method that blasts off hundreds of feet of mountaintops, increasing the threat of massive erosion, landslides, and flooding.

Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School

East St. Louis, Illinois

Support for the ***Holistic Learning Program***, which strengthens academics and creates an excitement for learning through the arts and utilizes a discipline approach based on respect and responsibility, whereby students participate in a conflict resolution program.

Witness for Peace

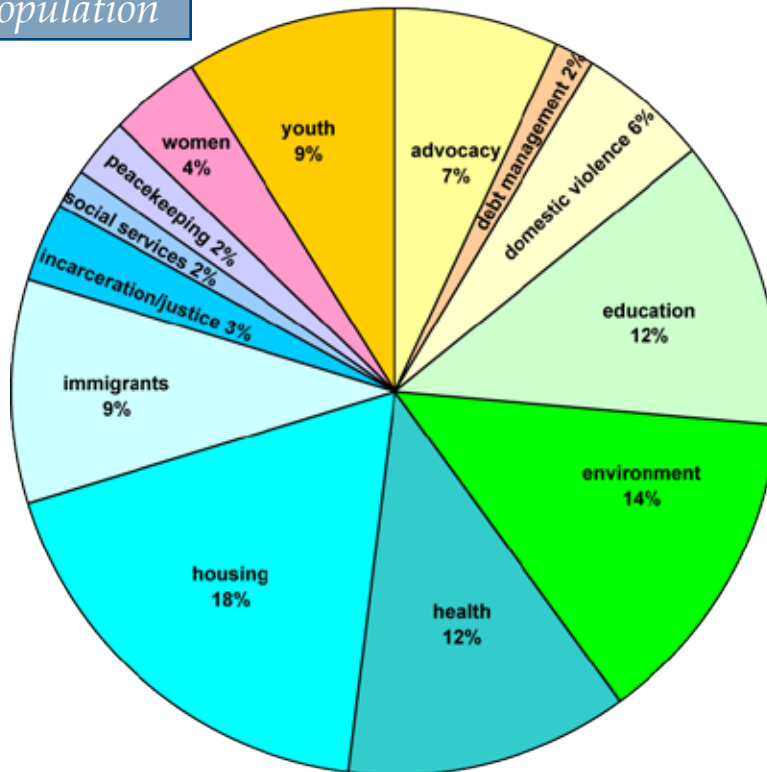
Washington, DC

Support for ***Peace is Possible!***, a program educating US citizens on the detrimental effects of our government's foreign policy on and military aid to Colombia, through transformative delegations, nationwide speaker tours, formal documentation, and media outreach.

*“This is a world of action,
and not for moping and
groaning in.”*

—Charles Dickens

Target Issues & Population



Our Other Funding Arms

Approximately 50 percent of the ASC Foundation's disbursed funds went to the De Mattias Fund, 20 percent to the Marciana Fund, 20 percent to the discretionary fund of the Leadership of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, and the remaining 10 percent to regional charitable contributions in areas which are of importance to the Adorers of the Blood of Christ and the ASC Office of Justice and Peace.

Leadership Discretionary Fund

The Leadership Discretionary Fund is administered by the Regional Council of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ/US Region. They make decisions regarding the use of the funds based on needs determined by the Council, including but not limited to requests from ASC sponsored ministries, national nonprofit agencies, religious communities, capital campaigns, and unforeseen opportunities/emergencies.

Charitable Giving Fund

The Charitable Giving Fund is administered by three committees in areas which are of importance to the Adorers of the Blood of Christ: the former U.S. provinces of Columbia, Pennsylvania; Ruma, Illinois; and Wichita, Kansas. These committees meet requests from local and regional diocesan, civic, Catholic or ecumenical groups, service agencies, and individuals/families in crisis referred to the Committee by an ASC. Priority is typically given to agencies where an ASC is currently in ministry or where there is a history of ASC involvement.

ASC Justice and Peace Fund

The Justice and Peace Fund is administered by the Coordinator of the Office, in conjunction with the Justice and Peace Committee. Recipients of these funds work in harmony with the ASC commitment to concern for women, children, poverty, human rights, nonviolence, peace, care for the Earth, and opposition to racism.

2007 FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

De Mattias Fund	\$630,000	
Marciana Fund	\$245,999	
Leadership Discretionary Fund	\$380,900	
ASC Justice & Peace Fund	\$20,000	
Charitable Giving Funds.....	\$116,093	
TOTAL Grants and Contributions 07-08		\$1,393,000

2007 ASC Foundation Board

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Fanny Glasper Everette
Maureen Farrar, ASC
Mary Herman, Chair
Sharon Neumeister, Secretary/
Treasurer
Jan Renz, ASC, Ex-Officio
Angela Schrage, ASC
Tom Westrick

2007 Marciana Committee

Becky Balthazor, ASC
Mary Catherine Clark, ASC
Mary Matthew Janciar, ASC
Janet McCann, ASC
Esperanza Razura Villarreal, ASC
Joann Steuer, ASC
Marsha Wilson, ASC

2007 Charitable Giving Committees

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Justice and Peace Committee

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Cecilia Hellmann, ASC
Stephanie Mertens, ASC
Kate Reid, ASC
Rita Robl, ASC

ASC Leadership Council

Jan Renz, ASC
Mary Catherine Clark, ASC
Barbara Hudock, ASC
Fran Schumer, ASC
Barb Smith, ASC
George Ann Biscan, ASC

ASC Foundation Staff

Ann Haubrich, Executive Director
Kathy Renner, Foundation Assistant

Affiliations

Association of Small Foundations
Assembly of Catholic Foundations

Information

For more information or to obtain grant guidelines,
please contact:

The ASC Foundation
4233 Sulphur Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63109

314.351.6294 extension 124

EMAIL: ascfoundation@adorers.org

www.adorers.org/ascfoundation.aspx