



# Dominican Sisters of Peace

Sisters and Associates in Mission

# Justice Committees

## Annual Report 2017

4 Justice Committees

Ministering in 19 cities

40+ Hours of committee work and collaboration

52 Sister and Associate members

Present in 8 states

*Immeasurable impact*

### Eco-Justice Committee

working to reduce the impact of global climate change.

- Members in 3 states;
- Co-sponsored the Heartland Center for Spirituality Theology Workshop by Linda Gibler, OP in Kansas;
- Distributed planet-friendly, healthy cleaning alternatives;
- Wrote to Congresspersons on climate topics;



- Researched Congregational lands & preservation and created a Land Analysis document;
- Studied better ways to utilize green energy, such as solar panels and wind turbines;
- Wrote blogs and contributed to Just Reflecting articles on Earth and climate change issues;
- Provided environmental & legislative updates via OPPeace News; and
- Distributed the Earth Day Prayer.

*"The Eco-Justice Committee members have worked conjointly in various ways to show the community that Land can be a platform for our preaching and Nature, as part of Creation, is part of us."*

*-Sr. Roberta Miller, OP*



- Members in 4 states;
- Members participated in the S.O.A.P. outreach project & contacted hotels throughout the country;
- Members visited tattoo parlors, hair salons, and nail salons to educate about human trafficking;
- Members helped to organize a workshop on human trafficking in Akron, Ohio;

- Provided prayer cards against human trafficking and a prayer for Feast of St. Bakhita;
- Provided legislative updates via OPPeace News and blogs;
- Members sent e-mail blasts to Catholic parishes with information on human trafficking to be included in Sunday bulletins;
- Participated in the White Ribbon Campaign for National Human Trafficking Awareness Day;
- Attended the Human Trafficking Summit at the Ohio Statehouse;
- Members participated in the Human Trafficking Survivors Retreat;
- Congregational membership in, as well as board service for, U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking; and
- Members advocated & gave presentations throughout the country on human trafficking and circulated petitions regarding human trafficking.

### Human Trafficking Committee

advocating against Human Trafficking & on behalf of victims of trafficking.

"The Immigration Reform Committee members join and promote national and local actions in an effort to be present as Dominicans of Peace fostering just immigration reform."

-Conni Dubick, OPA



- Members in 6 states;
- Conducted local immigration research;
- Provided a Dominican Ministry of Presence through actions, i.e., conversations, guidance, prayer, and offering transportation and accompaniment to legal, medical, and other appointments and services;
- Participated in Justice for Immigrants (JFI) national calls from the USCCB offices;
- Hosted "Pizza and Ponder" events at colleges to facilitate discussions about immigration;
- Facilitated postcard letter writing days to legislators;
- Created 7 quilts and blankets for the national Welcome Blanket Project to be sent to immigrants and refugees;
- Visited detention centers and welcome centers for immigrants in various states;
- Provided legislative updates via OPPeace News & blogs resulting in ongoing calls/letters to legislators;
- Participated in *Welcoming American* national webinars supporting DACA youth;
- Joined an interfaith *Seder of Refuge* at Temple Israel symbolizing the Exodus image in immigration reform;
- Participated in Motherhouse viewings of movies related to immigration; and
- Gave various presentations on immigration and refugees and attended prayer services.

## Immigration Reform Committee

working toward compassionate & comprehensive Immigration Reform.

## Peace & Nonviolence Committee

working to make the world a less violent & more welcoming place especially in regards to sensible gun control.

- Members in 4 states;
- Studied *Thomas Merton, Peacemaker* by John Dear;
- Collaborated with the Win Without War Coalition;
- Hosted a "Circle the City with Love" event on Inauguration Day;
- Wrote 24 letters to Ohio colleges regarding the "Guns Everywhere Bill" legislation in Ohio;
- Facilitated postcard letter writing days to legislators concerning the federal budget, gun safety, and the death penalty;
- Presented & facilitated Peace Leadership Workshops;
- Participated in Akron speaker series on racism;
- Composed & distributed a prayer service for the International Day of Peace;
- Completed a second year of First Friday Fasts;
- Provided legislative updates via OPPeace News & blogs;
- Attended events and meetings organized by Moms Demand Action;
- Provided a prayer service against gun violence for the December Sabbath;
- Created a banner against gun violence to promote awareness and action;
- Called legislators about gun safety bills; and
- Participated in the Peace Center's peace walks, prayer services, & other events in New Orleans, LA.



"The Peace and Nonviolence Committee studies, prays, and acts on building peace and justice and encourages and involves our OPPeace community to do the same."

-Marybeth Auletto, OPA

For questions regarding the Justice Committees or for more information on how to get involved, contact Kelly Litt, Justice Promoter, at [klitt@oppeace.org](mailto:klitt@oppeace.org).

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