

Minutes of the Gabriel Project Meeting of July 9, 2020

Attendees: Aleyda, Alicia, Anne, Carly, Debra, Kathy, Nancy, Peggy, Roseann, Rosemary, Yolanda

Meeting Held via Lifesize On-Line Meeting Application

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Aleyda (Mother and Child)

- **Angel Update (Roseann)**

Roseann's client and "mom" welcomed her baby, Nicholas, on June 23rd, he weighed 8 lbs. at birth and mother and baby are doing well. Roseann gifted the new family with a bassinet and the TGP group presented the new mom with a welcome basket, filled with baby items and clothing, etc. As soon as the pandemic crisis has passed and social distancing requirements have eased, we will have a chance to meet little Nicholas.

- **TGP Finances (Yolanda)**

- For mom and baby needs, Yolanda reported that \$273.00 has been raised to date via the Parish's on-line giving option and that TGP has also recently received \$285.00 in "other donations". Yolanda indicated that she requested a current account balance from Terri, the bookkeeper in the Rectory Office, but has not received that information as yet, as Terri has been unavailable. Yolanda should have the information by the next meeting and will report the account balance to the group at that time. Father has also agreed to provide some financial help for TGP clients in the event it is needed.
- Alicia in the Parish Rectory Office has also agreed to provide Yolanda and Aleyda with a list of donors to The Gabriel Project, so thank you notes can be sent for contributions received.

- **Fundraising (Yolanda and Roseann)**

Roseann offered to sell some items on-line that would normally be donated to us for our annual August yard sale fundraiser. The proceeds from the sold items would then be submitted to the TGP group for mom and baby needs, via the on-line "Give Now" option for the Parish.

- **The Gabriel Project Volunteer Handbook (Aleyda)**

Aleyda updated the handbook on 3/20/20 and is distributing the revisions to group members now. Each member of the group needs to remove the old pages 7 – 18 and replace them with the newly revised ones.

- **Our TGP Group Resources (Aleyda)**

When all members have finished updating the resources for our work with moms, Debra will consolidate the resources and provide the consolidated information (via the Diocesan Moms in Need Initiative Inventory Tool) to Jackelin Aguilar, Respect Life Coordinator at the Sacramento Diocese Office. Jackelin will make the consolidated resources available on the Diocesan web-site as well.

- **Training (Yolanda and Aleyda)**

- Our group needs to choose a date and time for our members, particularly our newest ones, to participate in training to be Angels or Assistant Angels. A Saturday in September between 11:00 a.m. and noon has been floated as a possible time for the training which will take place in the Parish Hall if we get approval to do so, or via the Life Size videoconferencing platform if not. Yolanda suggested that September 12th (a Saturday) might be good and that the training would take place then in lieu of the regular TGP meeting scheduled for the Thursday of that week. Yolanda will see if this date will work for all and let everyone know the consensus shortly.

- **Other Items (Aleyda, Yolanda and Debra)**

- The TGP Chapter in Sacramento has decided to change the way they refer to those seeking assistance from The Gabriel Project. Instead of referring to them as "clients", they are referring to them as "new moms" instead. We can decide if we will make this change within our group, or not.

- We had been utilizing a closet in the Parish Hall to store mom and baby items for clients. Our storage area for these items has been moved to the garage across from the Parish Hall and we will be sharing that garage space with the Our Lady of Guadalupe group.
- Our in-person tour of the Opportunity House Shelter, to be conducted by Colleen Berumen (the Executive Director) is scheduled for 7/23. (Update at 8/3/20: Per changing requirements due to the Covid crisis, the Shelter tour has been re-scheduled from 7/23 to 8/13, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- Debra mentioned that she checked with Terri Brawner regarding a tour of the Alpha Pregnancy Clinic. Terri indicated that the clinic had not yet moved from their current location on North Orchard Street, but when the clinic has moved, a tour of the facility will be scheduled for our group. (Update at 8/3/20: The clinic has still not moved, but is expected to do so sometime during the month of August.)

Closing Remarks and Prayer (Mary, Help of Those in Need) – Aleyda & Yolanda

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.