



knitting4peace annual report 2020

Crafting hope, healing and peace, one stitch at a time.



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Students at the Shree Mangal Dvip Boarding School with their new scarves, delivered by Laurie Mathews, Global Dental Relief, Kathmandu, Nepal, March 2020, just as pandemic shutdowns began.



A young girl poses with her new Peace Pal at a local free clinic in Arlington VA.



Children and families in villages receive Peace Pals, in our first delivery to Benin, February 2020.

our mission

Create and deliver handcrafted items to adults and children worldwide.

our vision

Everyone lives in hope, comfort, and peace.

"I'm most grateful for your vision for this ministry and the way this work touches thousands all over the world." – Katy Smith



overview

What a year! We started 2020 with a flurry of deliveries in the U.S. and internationally. By mid-March, the pandemic realities caused big changes, and like everyone around the world, we made significant adjustments to our operations for the rest of the year.

Supporters responded with great creativity, honoring our core value of compassionate service. Together, we:

- Instituted new health and safety procedures for our intake and deliveries.
- Continued to make deliveries in every month of the year, serving over 15,418 people.
- Welcomed new Peace Pods.
- Established many new community partnerships and special projects.
- Increased outreach and support to our dedicated volunteers and community partners.
- Closed for intake April-June, re-opened in July.
- Stayed connected and met with folks nationwide via Zoom meetings.
- Hosted a lively Stitch-Along and online auction for our 14th Anniversary in June.
- Initiated an ongoing comprehensive effort to expand our diversity, equity, inclusion and racial justice commitments.
- Worked diligently to expand our income sources.
- Finished the year in a much stronger financial position, with income exceeding expenses.

Our deepest thanks to everyone who makes this unique and caring network possible.

In 2021, we celebrate 15 years of Knitting4Peace!

With gratitude,

Mary Ellen Garrett

Executive Director

people served 2006-2020

190,083 people served
in **82** countries

85,750 internationally
104,333 U.S. *Community Purls*

196,440 items created



Girls at an orphanage in Tanzania are delighted with their Peace Pals, brought by Joan Stein, February 2020.



knitting4peace annual report

2020

deliveries

knitting4peace in 2020

compassion cannot be canceled



1 global pandemic

160 deliveries

15,418 people served

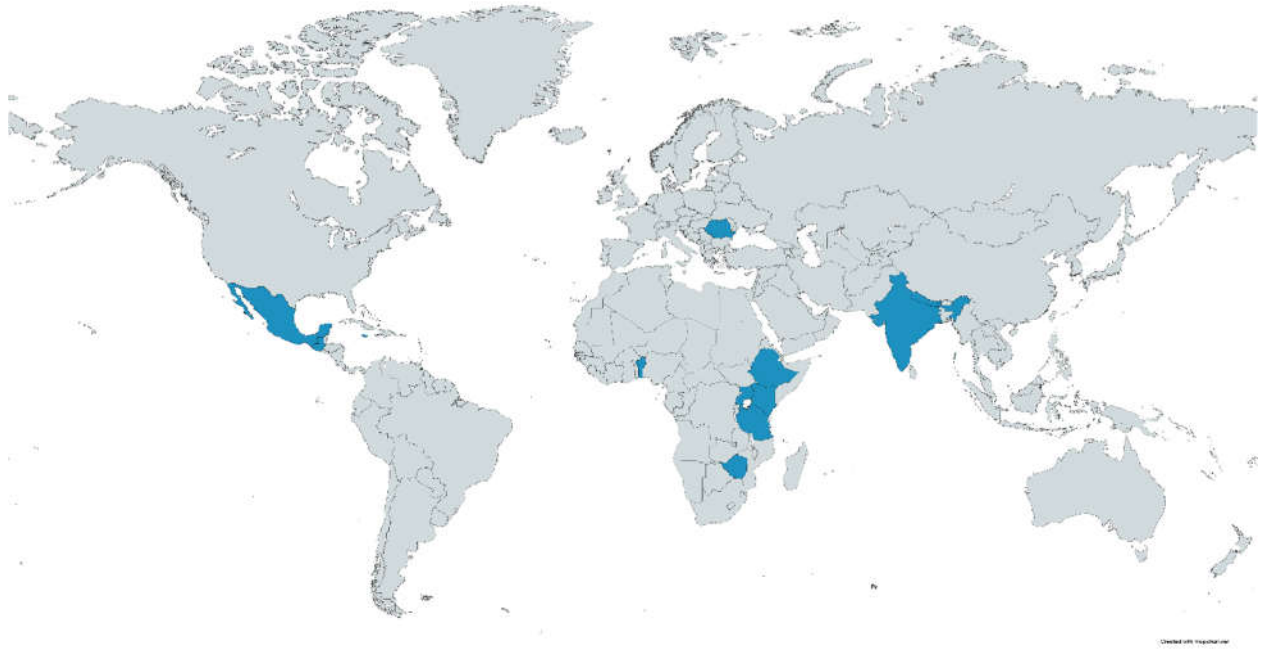
17 ^{13,016 items to} U.S. states

12 ^{2,402 items to} other countries

*Thank you for being part of this global caring network,
comforting and supporting people near and far.*



Jerome Walker at Second Chance Center, Aurora CO with a delivery of warm hats, September 2020.



Knitting4Peace deliveries in 12 countries.

14 international deliveries, in 12 countries, serving 2,042 people.

Benin*

Ethiopia

Guatemala (2)

India

Jamaica

Kenya

Mexico

Nepal

Romania (2)

Tanzania

Uganda

Zimbabwe

**New country for delivery in 2020.*



items delivered

Peace Pals: 2965

Youth Hats: 2323

Scarves: 2005

Adult Hats: 1964

Infant Hats: 1217

Washcloths: 1145

Baby Blankets: 1079

Mittens: 969

Baby Booties: 231

Premie Hats: 226

Bibs: 201

Large Blankets: 160

Shawls: 143

Quilted Sleeping Mats: 67

Miscellaneous: 723

Total: 15,418



A student at the Amiguitos School and Community Center in Veracruz, Mexico, receives a Peace Pal, January 2020.

Peace Pals are still our #1 most-requested item.

"I love knitting and find that it clears my mind and centers my soul! Thank you for providing an outlet for my creative energies." – Arlene Woodahl

highlights and adjustments

A year in crisis: our response

Like everyone across the world, K4P had to examine all aspects of our work in 2020 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Congratulations to our board, staff, volunteers, makers, and donors for responding to a rapidly shifting environment. You sustained our organization's ability to quickly adapt and assured that our services and outreach would continue.

K4P not only adapted, but we thrived.

Here are some ways we continued to serve diverse community needs with flexibility, creativity, and perseverance:

- Added many new delivery partners in the U.S.
- Filled numerous new requests to provide people with comfort, warmth and tangible support. This included several special projects:
 - “Wellness for All” Peace Pals (Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose, CA)
 - Blankets and quilts for migrant workers (United with Migrants, Greeley CO)
 - Blankets and quilts for unhoused students (Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood CO)
- Increased outreach and support to our volunteers and community partners.
- Initiated an ongoing effort to step up our diversity, equity, inclusion, and racial justice commitments.



Mini Maestra, created by K4P Board member Carrie Richardson, to use in her online classes with young students.



Students at Sable Elementary School, Aurora CO, point to their hats from Knitting4Peace.

"Every time I start a project, I remember the importance of the number 3, and when I finish, I send it off with the blessing: This Peace Pal puts together the person who creates it (me), the person who receives it (you), and the Spirit of life that unites us all - grownups and children - all creation."

– Barbara



Racial justice commitments

Knitting4Peace serves everyone equally, with no exceptions. In October 2020, in solidarity with vital racial justice movements nationwide, we issued a statement of commitment to examine privilege, racism and discrimination in our work.

We asked for volunteers to join a focused committee and for any interested members of our community (makers, community partners, donors, staff and board) to complete a racial/ethnic/demographic census. We received 247 responses and want to thank everyone who participated.

We formed our Racial Justice Committee in November 2020, comprised of 1 staff member, 3 board members and 2 other volunteers. This committee's purpose is to address privilege, racism, and discrimination in our organization and communities. This is an ongoing effort that requires participation from all board members, staff, and volunteers.

The K4P Racial Justice Committee has:

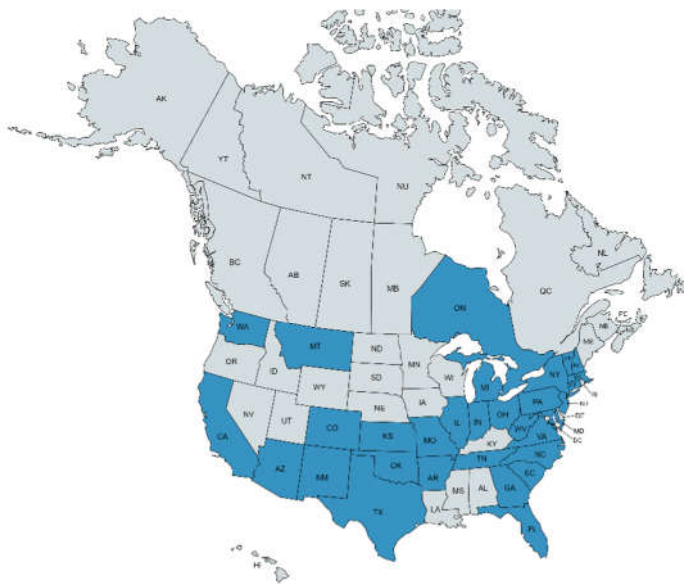
- Updated the Knitting4Peace website to reflect our values of inclusive language and representation, and not white saviorism.
- Analyzed the survey results and identified opportunities for more inclusive and diverse items and patterns.
- Revised our International Delivery request form.
- Contacted organizations who specialize in assisting nonprofit organizations in diversifying their leadership and staff, to be carried out in 2021 board recruitment efforts.
- Implemented trainings, readings, and other ongoing anti-racism work for K4P Board and staff members.

“I feel strongly about K4P’s efforts in these areas. K4P cannot serve with compassion and competence without a recognition of the larger work that needs to be done in our world. Thank you for your strength and commitment in addressing the issues of privilege, racism, and discrimination head on.”
– survey respondent

peace pods

There were 131 Peace Pods in 2020.

Arizona	Indiana (2)	New Jersey (3)	South Carolina
Arkansas (2)	Kansas	New Mexico	Tennessee
California (4)	Maryland (6)	New York (25)	Texas (4)
Colorado (18)	Massachusetts (4)	North Carolina	Vermont
Connecticut	Michigan (3)	Ohio (7)	Virginia (5)
Florida (5)	Missouri (3)	Oklahoma	Washington
Georgia	Montana (2)	Pennsylvania (14)	West Virginia
Illinois (5)	New Hampshire (2)	Rhode Island	Ontario, CAN (3)
			Ravelry (<i>online</i>)



*Welcome to the new
Peace Pods formed in
2020:*

In Stitches, Littleton and
Lakewood CO

Saratoga, Saratoga Springs NY

South Shore, Duxbury MA

*Members of South Shore Peace Pod, Duxbury MA, with coordinators
Terri Nickerson and Cindy Fiorini, meet with K4P Executive Director
Mary Ellen Garrett as their group begins, June 2020.*





volunteers

Dedicated volunteers are the heart and soul of Knitting4Peace. All supporters who make items, all members and coordinators of Peace Pods, delivery agents, delivery drivers, members of our Board of Directors and Committees, people who open packages, sort and count items, those who carefully repair items to make them usable, and those who send out thank you notes, are ALL generous and vital volunteers!

We cannot total all the hours that go into each of these tasks on a yearly basis, but each item made, inventoried, and delivered takes many hours of caring work, by many hands.

Benefits of volunteering include:

- sense of fellowship with others making or delivering items.
- being of service.
- exercising creative talents.
- learning new skills.
- pooling efforts to make a larger impact in reducing suffering and providing comfort, in the U.S. and around the world.

Members of In Stitches Peace Pod, Littleton and Lakewood CO, with coordinator Claudia Pfannenstiel (L), October 2020.



*“I love taking a ball of yarn and turning it into something useful and artistic. I love the creative use of yarn and the added benefit of being useful to someone. In the face of overwhelming need in the world, this is a way to touch the life of one person - **a tiny way to undo some of the injustice of our world.**” – Marla*

annual income and expenses

Sources of financial support:

- Individual donations are our primary financial support.
- Donors give online through our website, via Facebook, Colorado Gives, and by checks or cash included with intake or sent by mail.
- Donations from Peace Pods.
- Grants from faith communities.
- Merchandise:
 - Tote bags
 - Peace Pal kits
 - Greeting cards
 - Donation “in honor of” cards
- Special event: We held an online celebration for our 14th Anniversary, in June.
- Paycheck Protection Program: a one-time source of U.S. government funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.



Screen shots from the Guatemala Project at the Center for Global Health's video presented at the 2020 Stitch-A-Long shows items donated through Knitting4Peace.



“I love Knitting4Peace because it makes me feel good that someone will know that someone else loves and cares about them no matter what race, religion, wealth or problems they may have.” – survey respondent



annual income and expenses, by category

2020 sources of income



*A one-time source of U.S. Government funds.
Knitting4Peace does not qualify for this source of funding in 2021.



Faith Community Giving is a vital part of K4P's funding. Here Rev. David Bahr, Pastor at Park Hill Congregational UCC, which houses our offices, with K4P items in PHCC's online Sunday services, August 2020.

Nativity photo by Karen Blackwood.



K4P Board members, committee members and staff are working diligently to expand a sustainable base of financial support for our organization.



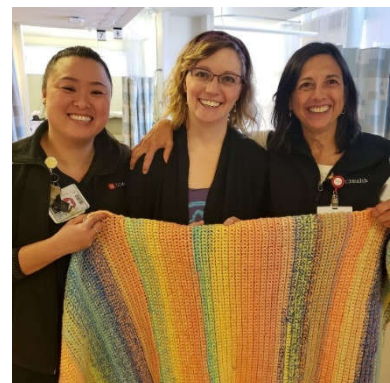
With the rollout of our **Show of Hands** monthly donor program, the number of monthly donors increased from three in 2019 (income of \$74.15/month) to twenty-five in 2020 (\$551/month).

Birthday fundraisers increased from five in 2019 (raising \$827) to nine in 2020 (raising \$3,242).

A generous \$5,000 matching donation spurred over \$11,000 of additional donations for **Colorado Gives Day**.

Our deepest gratitude to every 2020 donor!

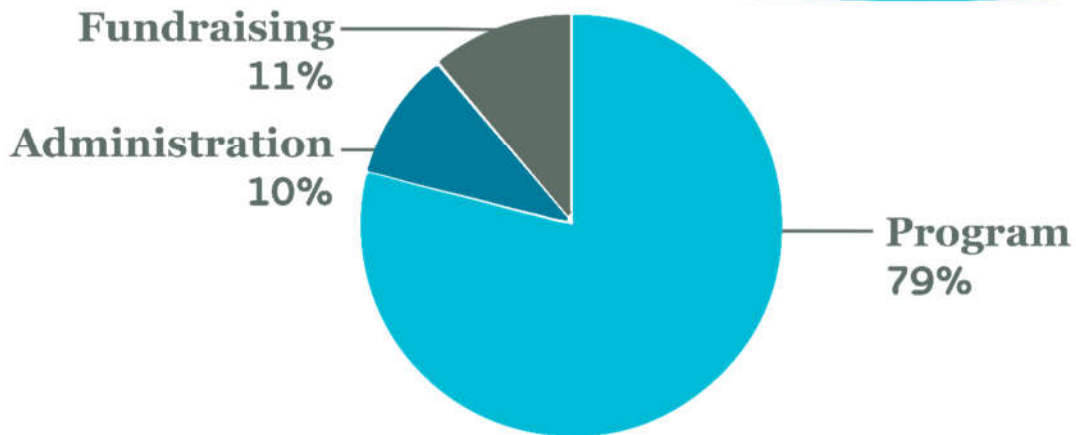
“I like knowing that the little stitches I make can turn into hats and pals for someone we’ll never meet - but they’ll be surprised and happy to know that somewhere in the world there are people who think of them. It’s as if the yarn is a long string connecting us all.” – Catherine



K4P Former Executive Director Kathleen Marsh with CU Oncology Infusion nurses Andi and Janice hold one of the shawls donated for patients’ comfort.



2020 expenses



2020 income exceeded expenses by \$13,210.

2020 income vs. expense



2020 knitting4peace staff



Executive Director: Mary Ellen Garrett

Administrative Assistant: Tammy Williamson
(through January), Erin Bell

Deliveries and Shipments Coordinator: Mary
Ellen Garrett and Erin Bell

*Administrative Assistant and Deliveries Coordinator
Erin Bell sorts items for delivery.*

2020 board of directors

Angela Bakas

Susanne Bryan

Darlene Danyo, Treasurer

Ben Holladay-McCann

Pam Leder

Julie Meyers, Board Chair
(January-October)

Carrie Richardson, Board
Chair (November-December)



K4P Board and Executive Director, April 2020.



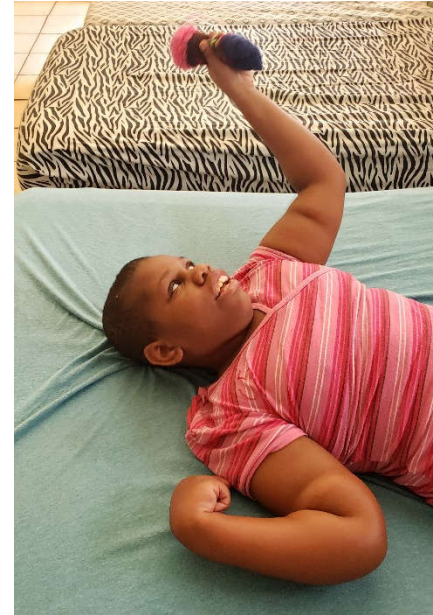
2020 committees

Racial Justice

Angela Bakas, Chair
Mary Ellen Garrett
Rosie Guadarrama
Julie Meyers
Hannah Pickworth
Carrie Richardson

Fundraising/Communications

Pam Leder, Chair
Angela Bakas
Mary Ellen Garrett
Linda Siderius
Carrie Richardson
Joan Richardson



A young resident holds a Peace Pal delivered by new delivery agent Dr. Timothy Friederichs; Jamaica, February 2020.



New parents and their newborns in rural Guatemala Well Baby clinics cuddle with items received from two K4P deliveries in 2020, through our long-time partner, the University of Colorado School of Public Health, Center for Global Health.



donors

\$5000+

Cynda Collins Arsenault

\$1000-2499

Anonymous
Carolyn Balmer
Susanne Bryan

Kathleen Bush
Julie Meyers
Linda Siderius
Katy Smith
Barbara Stainman

\$500-999

B'nai Havurah Synagogue,
Denver CO

Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church,
Wichita KS

Park Hill Congregational UCC,
Denver CO

Perinton Presbyterian Church,
Fairport NY

Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Missouri Peace Pod #1,
Springfield MO



UWM farmworkers in Northern Colorado appreciate the warm handmade blankets and quilts, October 2020.

*“I’ve loved your outreach for almost ten years. I’m happy to become a sustainer in these turbulent times.”
– Harriet “Babbie” Cameron*

Anonymous (2)
Babbie (Harriet) Cameron
Holly Chapman
Theodore and Deborah First
Mary Sue Ittner
Pam Leder
Mary Orton-Mitchell

**monthly donor*



donors, continued

\$250-499

Amherst Community Church,
Snyder NY

Anonymous (2)

Patricia Bixby

Arna Caplan

Michelle Cuthbertson

Darlene Danyo

Nicole Emerson

Marjorie Flathers

Nancy Green

Grace Karschner

Leah McFail

Peggy Newell

Joan Richardson

Billie Smith

Joan Walker

Claire and Allen Wilcox

Sue Wofford

Sandra Wulf

**monthly donor*



Children and families in medical clinics in Zimbabwe receive a large delivery of sleeping mats, hats, washcloths, and Peace Pals, via our community partner, the AFC Aids Foundation.

donors, continued

\$100-249

Grace Lutheran Church, McGregor MN	Paul Cuthbertson Ella Davis Suellen Dian	Toni Kring Monica and Dan Krygowski Margaret Lowell
Haddon Fortnightly EMD, Cherry Hill NJ	Sarah Doty Mary Drogan Kelly Jo Eldredge	Carolyn Maddox Eloise May Deborah L. McCloud
In Stitches Peace Pod, Littleton CO	Annemarie Edmundowicz Susan Falbo Beth Fallavollita	Jane McDonald Hildy Meyers and Bev Sansone
Knitting in the Spirit Peace Pod, Chapel Hill/Durham NC	Josephine Franzen Lynn Friesen <i>Mary Ellen Garrett</i> Sarah Giffen	Kim Moultney Christy Murphy Shirley Naughton Stephanie Nelson
Mountain View Peace Pod, Aurora CO	<i>Barbara Gingrich</i> Doreen Gould Beverly Goundard-Spry	Margaret Newell Diane Nordin Steve and Barb Olander
Presbyterian Women, First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka IN	Carole Green Felton and Nancy Green Wendy Handler Caryn Hanson	Suzanne Palmer <i>Dorothy Peticolas</i> Claudia Pfannenstiel <i>Carrie Richardson</i>
Anonymous David Alley Ingrid and Mat Anderson <i>Angela Bakas</i> Cathy Ballot Elke Bate	Jo Anne Harding Elizabeth Hassett <i>Anita Hawkins</i> Pamela and Richard Hennessey Linda and David Hollingsed	Carol Ries <i>Sharyl Ritschel</i> Janet Schutte Elaine Selsberg Elaine Sloan <i>Lizzy Smith</i>
Charitable Account Bates Charlotte Berry Harvey and Jacqueline Bolshoun Mary and Wes Bryant Conrad J. Clippert Joan Cohen Sandra Correu Ann Cuthbertson	Lois Ingham Priscilla Jeffery Pat Johnson <i>Marla Kauffman</i> Debra Kennedy Judy H. Kessenich Melly Kinnard Reverend Patricia Kitchen Megan Klose	Elizabeth Spiegelberg Grace Stohs Linda Walden <i>*monthly donor</i>

*“I want my friends to see that like tithing we need to give.”
– Sue Dian*



donors, continued

\$5-99

Colorado Gives Community First
Foundation

Faithful Fingers Ministry,
Delmont Presbyterian Church,
Delmont PA

Family Academy of Christian
Education,
Westminster CO

North Shore Unitarian Peace Pod,
Highland Park IL

Northminster Presbyterian Church
Peace Pod, Kansas City MO

St. Didacus Knitting Group,
Sylmar CA

Upper Susquehanna Quarterly
Meeting, Danville PA

Anonymous (15)

Frank Albert

BJ Alexander

Antony Alumkal

Carol Anderson

Glenn Anderson

Debra Angell

Dana Arell

Penny Arnoldy

Sergio Atallah

Phoebe Bacon

Katherine Bakas

Lester Baltimore

Sandy Barber

Victoria Bauer

Marti Belcher

Barbara Begian

Leona Berger

Dot Berggren

Teresa Berryman

Heidi Bird

Linda Biscoe

Jody Bogues

Larry Bogues

Maureen Bogues

Terri Bowen

Deborah Brackney

Ann Bruce

Bonita Bryant

Juanita Buckel

Paula Buhrow

Mead Bullington

Maz Burbank

Myra Caplan

Marcy Carroll

Susan Carroll

Dianne Cherry

Jane Lee Childs

Dr. James J. and Carol A Chimento

Linda Ann Clark

Marie Elizabeth Clark

Doug Clark

Irene Clurman

Joan Cohen

Lorraine Coon

Lori Coon

Ken Cople

Patricia Crew

Cass Cronan

Debra Crump

Julie Davies

Elaine Davis

Chandra Devi Stars

Arran Dolan

Cindy Domenico

Sylvia Dugan

Brooke and Eric Durland

Corrie Ehler

Diane Elias

Reverend Carla Ficke

Tiffany Fitzgerald

Ellie Flaherty

Dr. Timothy Friederichs

Lauren Furuta

Sally Gamble

Celine Garrett

Paul Garrett

Eileen Gaston

Alana Gayle

Blanche Gaytko

Sandra Gellings

Patricia Gilman

Rosamond Glasscock

Connie Gleason

Sue Ann Glusenkamp

Terri Gonzales

Nina Griffin

Cheryl Hamilton

Kimberly D. Harris

Mark Harrison

Carol Heltenberg

Pat Hewett

Suellen Hodge

Annette Hoerber

Deb Hoffman

Patricia Holmstrom

Sally Hoople

Maxine Hovencamp

Liz Hudson

Sally Isaacson

Sandy Jacobson

BK Johnson

Kathy Johnson

Jane Jubb

Anna Julnes

Ilene Kasper

Mary Ann Keller

Marilyn Kelly

Holly Kerr

Keri Keyes

Andrea Khalilian

Barbara Kizis

Teresa Kliegerman

Gijsbert Kooper

Sheila Kowal

Jane Kronenwetter

Dorothy Lager

Suzanne Lansang

Clarice Laubenheimer

Sherry Leach

Christine Lechner

Louise Lindenmeyr

Elizabeth Lingg

Tracy Logan

Carolyn Lohr

Pat Long

Nancy MacDonnell

Debbie MacGilvray

Robin MacKenzie

Lillian Malkus

Mary Malpezzi

Kathleen Marsh

donors, continued

\$5-99

Maria Martinez
Kelly Marciales
Kathleen Marsh
Rachel Masden
Susan Mashman
Kathleen Massie
Eileen McCarron
Mary Ann McCormick
Hanna McDermott
Joan McInness
Rosie McGuire
Amy McHose Mewyer
Pat McLoughlin
Kevin McTernan
Rev. Carol McVetty
Safdar Medina
Wendy Meister
Margaret Miller-Gertner
Marilyn Mohr
Amy Morin
Marianne Morrison
Gloria Moser
Maureen Mrizek
Peter Munson
Diana Murphy
Lillian Myers
Mark Nelson
Terri Nickerson
Lynn Nimmo
Linda Nix
Rachel Norkin
Carol O'Neill
Beverly Oldknow
Janet Olsen
Dan Palmer
Donna Palmer
Kathy Peeters
Janice Peters
Penny Peterson
Linda F. Piotrowski
Theresa Poracelli Carey
Lisa Powell
Pam Prater
Kim Prentice
Debbie Prince
Jessie (Jessica) Purcel

June Quarfordt
Alby Quinlan
Ellen Reath
Kathleen Rector
Patricia Remer
Diane Reynolds
Paul Richardson
Taylor Riker
R K Ripperger
Jillian Robinson
Joan Root
Holly Rose
Gary A. Roth
Laurel Ryan
Anita Sanborn
Patricia Sanders
Carol Sarché
Ann Sarg
Ellen Sargent
Ellen Sautter
Kari Schultz
Gail B. Schutz
Sieglinde (Sigi) Schwinge
Rebecca Scull
Marilyn Seguin
Joann Seiling
Karen Selig
Linda Shaffer
Margaret Shepherd
Lynn Simpson
Gladys Shaw
Margaret Shepherd
Mary Shopnitz
Lynn Simpson
Alexandra Siwulec
Helen Slagel
Marty Sloven
Esther Smail
Nancy Smith
Susan Smith
Denise Spanjer
Carol Spensley
Lorraine Springer
Keith Soltman
Varia Sonersen

Robert Sothern
Joyce Soule
Marsha Steirn
Charlotte Stelmok
Kay Stevenson
Mary Alice Stoltzfus
Nancy Sullivan
Frank and Mary Tagge
Louise Thibodaux
Stephanie Thielen
Lonnie Thomas
Maye Thompson
Shirley Timashev
Tracy Timmer
Carol S. Toffoli
Julie Tolleson
Linda Tyler
Edith Ullman
Patricia Vaughan
Allyson Vincent
Linda Wagenbach
Anne Wait
Janet Walker
Janet Wallace
Dr. and Mrs. John Ward
Betty Wartick
Rebecca Wattles
Janice Weeks
Jerilyn Wetterling Powers
Jessica Wilber
Romilda Wilder
Sue Williams
Tamara Williamson
Reverend Christopher Wurpts
Leslie Yelland
Jolynn Yenne
Carol Yoss

**monthly donor*