

OUR SATISFIED DONORS

By Janice Shoen, Executive Director

We have a growing number of satisfied donors at the Diocese of Ogdensburg – especially planned gift donors. You can tell they are pleased, not only because of the sustained smiles they wear, but also because they...

Voice Their Satisfaction

Our planned giving donors are quick to express their pleasure. We hear it when we call or visit them or when we occasionally received a note in the mail. It is not uncommon to hear something like this: “Thank you for explaining a Charitable Gift Annuity to me and for guiding me through the process. It’s one of the best decisions of my life!”

Or, maybe this: “I’m so glad you encouraged me to get my will written. I feel so much better knowing my affairs are in order and that someday the Diocese of Ogdensburg, my parish or one of my favorite ministries will receive a portion of my estate.”

Satisfied donors also reveal themselves when they ...

Refer Their Friends

One of the most enjoyable ways we discover new donors is through the influence and encouragement of our current donors. They want their friends to “get in on a good deal.”

Sometimes we will sponsor an Estate Planning Seminar where their friends will come to learn what all the excitement is about. At other times, donors are pleased to accompany use on a personal visit to a friend’s home where they can share their recent donor story.

We have even had prospective donors call us and say something like, “My friend, Mr. John Brown, has been telling me about his Charitable Gift Annuity, and I think I would like to do the same thing. Can you come and visit me?”

And, finally, satisfied donors ...

Repeat Their Giving

Some of our donors have created several Charitable Gift Annuities, as well as other planned gifts. They have learned that they can depend on the Diocese of Ogdensburg to handle their life-income gifts prudently and to make the quarterly payments on time.

They are satisfied with the way they are treated, the way their gifts are managed, and with the way they are making a difference in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. And it is this sense of satisfaction that makes them want to give again and again.

There are many reasons why our satisfied donors make gifts to the Diocese of Ogdensburg but the overwhelming reason people provide financial support is because they believe in what we are doing and want to help us fulfill our mission.

Here is one donor's story:

I am writing this letter with the hope that I can encourage others to invest in the wonderful Diocesan Charitable Gift Annuity Program. It is a "win-win" program. The investor makes very good interest, has a good tax write-off and at the same time know that when they die they will have some money to leave the Church that has served them so well during life on earth.

A few years ago a very loving and generous neighbor of ours died. Before her death she had made out a wonderful Will in which she bequeathed money to good neighbors, to many priests who had meant a lot to her, and to a number of charitable institutions. However, her plans could not be honored because a long-term illness before death had usurped all of her savings.

We all need to save for the unforeseen future. Yet, many of us hope that when we die we will have something left to give to "Charity". The only way we can be sure that will happen is through programs like Charitable Gift Annuity.

This week, encouraged by another person at Church, I opened an annuity which will benefit my parish. It was such a good idea that I want to pass it on. Both the givers and the receivers are blessed in many ways when we invest in the future of the many worthwhile organizations sponsored by our Diocese.

Thank you for making the process so easy. Your visit was truly a gift!

For more information you can call 315-393-2920, Email development@dioogdensburg.org or visit us on the web: www.dioogdensburg.org/development, or complete the form below:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

- Please contact me by phone.
- Send more information about Charitable Gift Annuities.
- Send more information on other ways to make gifts.

To laugh often and much; To win the respect of intelligent people and affection of children; To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a little bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, this is to have succeeded.

.. Ralph Waldo Emerson ..