



SISTERS AND MEDICAL MISSIONARIES, LITTLE WORKERS OF THE SACRED HEART

*“In solitude, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament,
I learned the love of Jesus and the power of His Love” (Msgr. Greco)*

MISSION STATEMENT

The **Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts** is a religious community of sisters founded by Venerable Msgr. F. M. Greco and Mother Teresa De Vincenti of Acri, Italy in November 1894. The Medical Missionary branch of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts was started in November 2002 after approval from the Holy See, to offer free and loving medical care for the poor and uninsured as well as priests and religious throughout the world. We also are Medical Defenders of Life from the moment of conception till natural death. The Medical Missionaries, LWSH share in the religious formation, charism and mission of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts as medical contemplatives in action by promoting the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, catechesis and works of charity through our work as doctors, nurses, teachers and more. Our labor of love as medical sisters, co-workers and Little Workers sisters will continually be nourished by our prayerful lives, centered on the Eucharist, for the Honor and Glory of God.

Cover: Fifteenth Street Elevation, Little Workers of the Sacred Heart Convent and new Medical Missions Facility. *John S. Samperton Associates, Architect, L.L.C.*



OBJECTIVE:

To connect the convent of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts on 3620 15th St. NE, Washington, DC to the already existing House of Formation next door on 1450 Newton St., NE, Washington DC. This connection would be a three level addition with garage space below the three story addition. The added space would allow expansion of the Formation House for the growing community of Sisters and Medical Missionaries who are undergoing formation at the 3620 15th Street address. The top level would also include rooms for the retired or infirmed Little Worker Sisters. The middle level would be the chapel that would allow entrance from the street level as well as the formation house and convent, thus allowing neighbors to take part in the daily Eucharistic Adoration provided by the sisters. The ground level would be office space/class room space for doctors and nurses undergoing formation as Medical Missionaries, LWSH providing our sisters in religious formation the opportunity to maintain their medical training by offering medical care to sisters in residence, for the elderly and infirmed sisters living in the retirement home built on the third floor and to any neighbors who come for aid or medical education on health tips, NFP classes, preventive medicine and much more as the needs arise.

“What so ever you do to the least of my brothers you have done to me.”

(Matthew 25:40)

OUR COMMUNITY

The **Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts** is based in Rome and has been providing a ministry in the Washington diocese for over fifty years. Initially working at the Giosafat Seminary for the first 25 years, they then began providing day care services for children 2 to 6 years of age for families, regardless of their income.

The Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts received approval from the *Congregation for the Institutes for the Consecrated Life and the Societies of the Apostolic Life*, to begin the Medical Branch of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts on the 21st of November 2002. Our first medical novice who is a physician/surgeon made her vows in September of 2004. We are in contact with several other medical candidates who are interest in our community because of our focus on contemplative life. As the word has filtered that we have sisters that provide medical service for all in need, we are receiving individuals, many without insurance, at our convent. It has become clear to us that the presence of a clinic would provide not only a medical service for the Washington Diocese, in particular the Latino population, but also allow our medical sisters to maintain their medical and nursing skills, while undergoing formation. Our building project would also include extra living quarters for our retired sisters who would also be cared for by our sister nurses and physicians.



Left to Right: Sr. Ada, Dr. John Harvey, M.D., Sister Maria Licia Lupinacci, Mother Superior, and Mr. William Geoghegan.



DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

GOAL: This campaign is being held to raise four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the constructing and equipping of a new facility of 18,000 sq. feet at Newton and 15th Streets, N.E., to enable the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts to carry out the mission of health care for the poor, both in the District of Columbia and in nearby geographic areas.

DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

BACKGROUND: The Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts is a Roman Catholic Order of professed women founded in Italy in 1894 by Venerable Monsignor Francesco Maria Greco and Mother Teresa De Vincenti in response to the need of greater catechesis during a time in Italy when knowledge of their Christian Catholic faith was severely lacking. By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Monsignor Greco began the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts (also known as P.O.S.C.) to serve those who were not only spiritually impoverished, but also in need of food, clothing, better education and medical care. Because many of those he served were also Albanian, who were mainly of the Byzantine Rite, the Little Worker Sisters became bi-ritual, that is their members come from families worshipping both in the Latin and Byzantine Catholic Rites.

In 1948 ten sisters from the Motherhouse in Rome began their US Apostolate at the invitation of the Ukrainian Catholic Arch Bishop of Pennsylvania. Eight of the sisters served in the Ukrainian Minor Seminary in Connecticut and two of the sisters came to Washington, DC, to serve in the St. Josephite Major Seminary. They served as house managers and oversaw the kitchen operations in both seminaries. In 1972 the sisters in Washington began a day care center for children for working parents in NE Washington while still carrying on their work at St. Josephite Major Seminary. In 1974 they discontinued their work at the St. Josephite Major Seminary. Since then they have devoted all their effort in Washington to the operation of their day care center, nursery school and kindergarten for children ages 2-6. Presently 5 sisters operate this Apostolate very successfully at their foundation located in NE Washington, DC at Otis and 15th Streets, NE.

In 2003, Dr. Deirdre Byrne an experienced physician, board certified in both General Surgery and Family Practice, began religious formation with the community of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts after Vatican approval November 22, 2002, to begin the medical branch of the P.O.S. C. sisters called Medical Missionaries, Little Worker of the Sacred Hearts. She and Sr. Licia Lupinacci, Superior of the Washington DC convent, proposed to the Mother General of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts in Rome that the community in Washington add another mission to its educational apostolate, namely to move into the health care field. "The Little Workers" proposed that the Washington community create a physical plant in NE Washington, which in design, space, and equipment would provide a facility enabling the carrying out of a health care apostolate. The Mother General of the Order and her Counselors after careful consideration enthusiastically gave permission to the community of Little Workers in Washington to begin this new undertaking.



Left to Right: Mr. Milan C. Miskovsky, Mr. John Samperton, Sister Maria Licia Lupinacci, Mother Superior, Dr. Thomas Fleury and Mrs. Ligia Remick.

DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

THE NEW FACILITY: To develop this Medical Missionary branch, the Little Workers plan an expansion of their present physical plant to provide space for a medical clinic where the Sister members of the new branch in formation may give ambulatory medical and nursing care to low-income members of the surrounding neighborhood in Northeast Washington, and living and educational space for Sisters in formation, living space for any professed Sister member of the Medical Missionary branch, and living space for retired Sisters from any Little Worker mission in the United States who may need extra medical and nursing support.



Left to Right: Mr. John Samperton, Sr. Deirdre M. Byrne, MD and Mr. Milan C. Miskovsky

DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

MEDICAL EXPERTISE: As a professed Sister and experienced physician, Dr. Deirdre Byrne, who trained in Washington, D.C. is ideally suited to bring her surgical and family practice experience for free and low cost service to the community in northeast Washington, DC and to expand this service eventually beyond Washington to various sectors of the world in need of proper health care. Dr. Byrne has membership on the medical staff with privileges for admission and performing services at Sibley, Providence, and Georgetown hospitals in Washing, D.C. Dr. Byrne has opportunity for timely consultations, gratis, from physician-faculty of Georgetown University Medical School in Washington and the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.



BUDGET PROJECTION

Chapel	\$750,000.00
Improvement of the Education Space	\$750,000.00
Health Care Facilities and Equipment	\$1,250,000.00
Housing for Sisters	<u>\$1,750,000.00</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATE	\$4,500,000.00