

Parish Social Ministry Report 2007-2010



Parish Social Ministry Report to the Parish 2007-2010

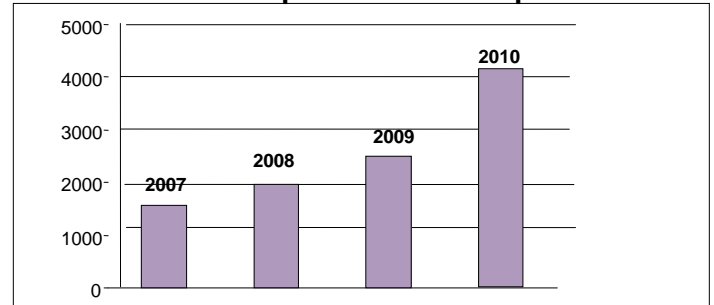
Grounded in Jesus' teaching that "whatever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for Me" (Mt. 25:40) and rooted in the mission of our faith community, the vision of St. Raphael's Parish Social Ministry is to help all parishioners recognize that their baptism calls them to be ambassadors of hope through direct service for others, and advocacy for a just and peaceful world.

~ Mission Statement of St. Raphael's PSM

Given the breadth and scope of the work taking place in social ministry at St. Raphael's Parish we, the Parish Social Ministry (PSM) Advisory Board, felt it appropriate to provide you with a report of activity covering the past three years. It is through your generous support, and continuing interest in the work of social ministry, that so many of our neighbors seeking assistance are received with respect and compassion. The following information presents a broad overview of the efforts of St. Raphael's in the area of social ministry.

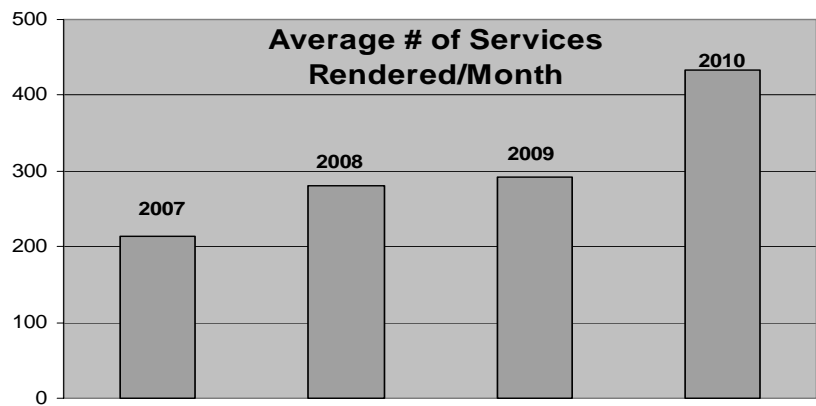
The PSM Advisory Board was initiated in October, 2007, and now operates under the leadership of the Rev Thomas J. Haggerty, Pastor, and Sr. Judy Fay, CSJ, Director of Parish Social Ministry. Among the many high notes the parish has accomplished as a congregation invested in social ministry are the following:

Annual Unduplicated # of People Served



Continuing Services:	New Initiatives
Food Pantry	Purchase and implementation of the Hope Mobile
Share-a Meal	Relocation of the PSM offices to more accessible and modernized offices
Semi-annual Blood Drives	Construction of a new food pantry in the relocated PSM offices – with personal selection (supermarket) option
Ministry of Consolation and Bereavement Support Groups	Initiation of the Senior Congress
Holiday food/gift collection and distribution	Reassurance calls, cards & visits to homebound
Support of families/individuals struggling to make ends meet	Initiation of a Caregiver's Support Group

Average # of Services Rendered/Month

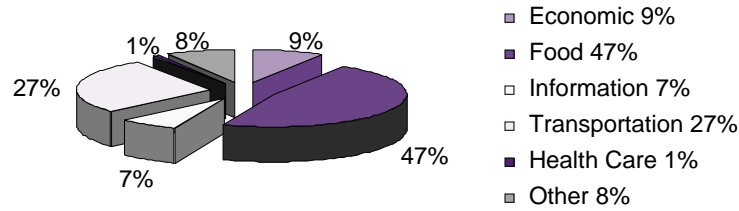


As the statistics and charts make clear, the need for direct services through St. Raphael's Parish is growing. Although this is a set of statistics we would prefer not to be true, given the current state of the economy, it is not surprising. The average monthly number of services rendered has doubled from 2007 to 2010. In addition we have seen a growth in services provided to seniors and children. This growth is directly related to strategies developed as a result of the parish survey undertaken in 2007. Collection and distribution of food and supplies to individuals/families in need accounts for almost 50% of our PSM effort, with ministry in other areas such as transportation, health care referral/support and economic assistance, and

information/referral services assuming the balance of our efforts.

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Average Annual Distribution by Service Type



“Other” category includes assistance with housing, advocacy, immigration, substance abuse, informal counseling, employment, basic living needs, legal, and friendly visitors and reassurance calls.

Age Distribution of People Served

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children	21%	25%	27%	27%
Adults	61%	55%	49%	43%
Seniors	18%	20%	24%	30%

Age Legend: Child = 0-18; Adult = 19-64; Senior = 65+

All of these activities would not have been possible without your generous financial support and the invaluable hours of service by of our almost 200 PSM volunteers. Your tireless efforts are the fuel of our *HOPE – Helping Other People Everyday*.

With our pantry, transportation, senior, information/referral services as well as support programs flourishing, we enter into a new period of collaboration. Many parishioners have indicated concern for the youth of our community. With drugs and substance abuse, gang violence, and teen alienation proliferating in our area, the PSM Advisory Board is exploring ways to support parents and guardians as they raise children in these turbulent times. Educational and intervention programs are being evaluated and developed. In the coming weeks more information on these efforts will be shared with the parish.



The members of the PSM Advisory Board thank you again for your unfailing generosity and for continuing to be “Ambassadors of Hope”.



**Respectfully submitted by
the Parish Social Ministry Advisory Board of
St. Raphael's Parish**

Fr. Tom Haggerty (Pastor), Sr. Judy Fay (Director),
Joe Barbaro, Maria Coz, Maryjoan Dunne,
Don Duva, Roseanne Hatzelman, Joann Heaney-Hunter,
Greg Hunter, Jan Jamroz (Chairperson), Cathy Keringer