

St. Leo Church Social Justice Update Page

Social Justice is NOT things to do but how you live your life, relate to others & Care for God's Creation

St. Leo's Social Support Services: Moving Forward in 2023:

We are trying a couple of new approaches to improve our support of those in need, compassionately and judiciously.

We will work to stay within monthly budgetary guidelines to help ensure that finances are available in a balanced way throughout the year.

Continue to have good documentation on all financial and advocate transaction with our guest/clients.

We will improve communications with the parish family regarding the work of this ministry and share stories of those we serve. To begin this conversation with the parish family I will share the following story about Carol O.

During a Saturday evening mass there was a newcomer in the pew. She seemed to like a character right out a Charles Dickens novel. She was a frail, elderly woman bundled up in layers of clothes. She was dignified in stature but there was a desperate look about her. She approached Fr. Phil after mass as many often do. As she came up to Fr. Phil, she could no longer hold back her tears. Sobbing she said, "Father I'm so cold, I am always cold. I have no heat in my home. Please can you help me"?

After mass Fr. Phil introduce me to Carol O. Carol and I had a long conversation and I was able to better understand her situation. The following workday I reached out to Tacoma Public Utilities and Adult Protective Services on her behalf.

Within days agencies began to reach out to her to address her heating issues and overall well-being. Heat was restored through services we offered to Carol.

Utility assistance is very much a need for those, like Carol, who live alone on limited incomes or simply struggle to keep housed as rents and costs of living outstrip household incomes.

Your financial support St. Leo Supportive Services allows us to respond to these needs, keeping families in their homes, children in school and workers on the job!

Emergency Services December 2022 Financial Report:

Monthly Income: \$9,794.59

Expenses:

Rent:	\$ 872.00
Pierce Transit/Orca:	\$ 201.00
Utility Assist:	\$ 484.59
DOL:	\$ 20.00
AIDNW Food:	\$ 132.01
Medical Rx:	\$ 530.00
Auto/Gas:	\$ 417.00
Tent/Homeless Assist:	\$ 36.66
Legal Doc:	\$ 11.00
Petty Cash (DOL/Transit):	\$ 90.00

Total Monthly Expenses: \$ 2,794.26

Monthly Bal: \$7,000.33

Balance in the account as of January 1, 2023, was: \$27,108.11. PEX debit card balance is: \$349.00. Income for the month of December and most likely January reflect extraordinary income from generous donations that often come in during the Christmas Season

We are currently running a monthly budget for the program at \$1,800.00 a month for direct assistance for clients. Funds for AIDNW is not part of the \$1,800.00.