



Fall Fun at the Family Picnic

Our Annual Fall Family Picnic was a huge hit this year! Friends, family, Residents, employees, and volunteers gathered for a day of appreciation for our Home and the blessings we share here. Guests were welcomed by a banner and festive balloons at the front gate. After the 11:00 am Mass in our chapel, everyone gathered outside to enjoy some freshly grilled burgers and hot dogs with all the sides and fixings lovingly prepared by our wonderful kitchen staff and volunteers.

The Home's spacious grassy fields were well utilized this year, with lawn games such as Spike ball and lawn dice, which were enjoyed by our Residents and their families. Throughout the picnic, all had the opportunity to get some fall photos taken at our photo booth, generously run by a talented volunteer.

Guests had the opportunity to purchase high-quality baked goods during a bake sale held during the picnic. The bake sale was held in order to inform our neighbors and raise money for our upcoming renovations, and it was incredibly successful. Residents had spent the week before — dubbed “Baking Week” by the Activities Department — meeting up in small groups to make all kinds of sugary sweets, from pumpkin chocolate chip cookies to homemade caramels and cinnamon rolls! The Sisters helped beef up the sale with fresh cookies, bars, loaves of bread, and even some homemade jam. As you can imagine, the baked goods from the Sisters sold like hot cakes! Volunteers also brought cupcakes and cookies to sell. One volunteer spent four hours in our kitchen the night before the picnic making hundreds of regilettes for the



benefit of the Home! We are so grateful for the generosity of the picnic-goers and the volunteers and Sisters who baked and ran the sale.

Finally, when it came time for dessert, the Sisters had a special treat in store. With a basket full of ice cream attached to the back of a bike, one of our Sisters rode around the grounds ringing the bell and inviting people to enjoy a cool refreshment in the sun. Everyone was impressed by Sister's riding skills, and it was a perfect ending to a wonderful afternoon!



From Volunteer to Resident

Dean was born in 1936 in Osage, Iowa, and by the time he was eight years old, his family had moved five times. He served in the Army after college and felt honored to serve his country, even though he experienced no war. Once he married his sweetheart, Colleen, they had four children together. Dean is also an incredibly proud grandfather and great-grandfather, with seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren! As a career, Dean worked for a company called W. R. Grace, a specialty chemical and materials company dealing mostly with cement and concrete. He started working with them in Springfield, Illinois but eventually transferred to Colorado, where he eventually retired after twenty years.

Dean and his wife, Colleen, began volunteering at Mullen Home together eighteen years ago. They began by making beds and cleaning the men's razors. When asked what his favorite part of being a volunteer is, he immediately responds, "The people! I love the socialization with everyone. There's so much I receive and so much that is given to me. It's very, very rewarding!" In 2016, Dean was nominated by the employees of Mullen Home to be the Colorado statewide Volunteer of



Colleen and Dean with children Sara, Brad, and Amy (daughter Kristina not pictured)

the Year, and to his surprise, he won! He never thought anything like that would ever happen to him.

Recently, Dean was welcomed to Mullen Home as a Resident. He was already a treasured volunteer and part of the Mullen Home family, and we are so glad to have him back with us!

Planting Trees for the Holy Father

On October 25, Mullen Home received fifteen new trees as a generous gift from The Tree Farm in Longmont, CO, to honor the 150th year anniversary of the Little Sisters of the Poor in the United States, as well as to honor our Holy Father Pope Francis on his 50th jubilee year of priesthood. The trees were planted around the spacious grounds of our Home, and one was placed right at the front entrance to replace a dying tree. A local priest, Monsignor Quang, joined the Little Sisters, Residents, employees, and volunteers outside to give a special blessing to the trees and to those present. The Sisters had prepared a short program that included songs, poems, and Scripture readings about the sacredness of the earth, and all joined in praising God for his creation!





Trick or Treat!

On Halloween, our Residents and staff were privileged to be a part of our annual Trick-or-Treat Street at the Mullen Home! Residents were given the opportunity to prep candy bags and baskets for the children, and many dressed up with masks or funny hats to fit the festivities. At 4 p.m., children of all ages began showing up

in their costumes! They were greeted at the entrance of the Home by a group of Sisters, all of whom were incredibly excited and impressed with the costumes on display. Guests then were given the opportunity to take a picture together at a photo booth, or play some games before continuing on their Trick-or-Treat journey. The

children were invited to visit both the 1st and 2nd floors, where Residents were waiting with bags of candy to distribute to the trick-or-treaters. We were so impressed with the turnout this year, and we hope to see even more guests next year! Thank you to all who made this wonderful event possible!

Department Spotlight: Business Manager and Resident Accounts

This season, the Mullen Home would like to highlight the business side of our operations. Our Business Manager, Joe, and our Resident Accounts Manager, Debbie, help us to care for our Residents in unique but powerful ways. Joe started working at the Little Sisters of the Poor in March of 2016. As the Business Manager, Joe handles all accounting outside of Resident Accounts, which is a lot! Joe has been working hard for our Home in other ways as well, including helping with both Resident Accounts and HR when needed. He always has an endless supply of candy in his office, and his favorite part about the Mullen Home is the people. “Each individ-

ual has their own personality and it’s really a pleasure interacting with everyone daily.”

Debbie has literally spent most of her life in the halls of Mullen Home. It all started during her 8th grade year at St. Dominic’s in Denver when her class sang Christmas songs to the Residents one afternoon. Since then, she has served the Sisters in a variety of positions, from a CNA, to the Activities Director, to the Receptionist, and finally as the Resident Accounts Manager. Debbie isn’t shy when she says that her favorite part about working at the Little Sisters of the Poor is the Residents. It is comforting for her to know that she and the Residents



always have each other in their prayers- “we’re like a family!” A huge thank you to our hardworking accounts staff for everything that they do!

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,
Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, celebrates his 50th jubilee as a priest this year on December 15th. What a wonderful testament this anniversary is to his loving service of the Church! The Little Sisters of the Poor throughout the United States have been preparing to celebrate this momentous occasion by learning about Pope Francis' life and work, especially his landmark encyclical, "Laudato Si."

This encyclical is particularly fitting for us as we care for the elderly poor, fighting the "throw-away culture" that our Pope cautions the world against. In our work, we seek to encounter those that the world no longer considers useful or worth investing in, and to bring them close to the heart of Christ. Through meeting their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs as best we can, we communicate to these individuals that they are loved and needed. The Little Sisters thank God for our Holy Father and his wisdom on his anniversary!

As we approach the holiday season, I encourage all of us to take some time away from the hustle and bustle of gift shopping and cookie baking, and to place ourselves in the stillness and quiet that fills the world while it waits for the birth of our Savior. Let us prepare room for our dear Jesus not only in our homes, but in our hearts as well, where He desires to come to rest this Christmas.

All of us here at the Mullen Home rejoice with you and are so grateful for your kindness. We pray that the Lord will keep you and your families close to His Heart, and that you may have a full and blessed Christmas and New Year!

Yours in Great Anticipation of His Coming,
Mother Mercy Stella Theresa, L.S.P.

The Little Sisters of the Poor NEED YOUR HELP!

As 2019 draws to a close, many of you may be looking for worthy places to receive your year-end gifts. We are hoping to meet some fundraising goals by the end of the year!

You can support the Mullen Home in a variety of ways this Christmas Season:

- Make a year-end gift through our website www.littlesistersofthepoordenver.org
- Shop on AmazonSmile and set your charity to Little Sisters of the Poor- Denver
- Hold a donation drive- contact us for details
- Pray for us and for our dear Residents!

SAVE THE DATE

**Celebrate the Holidays
With Us!**

**December 24
Christmas Eve Mass
4:30 p.m.**

**December 25
Christmas Day Mass
10:30 a.m.**

**December 31
New Year's Eve
at the Mullen Home
7 p.m.**

MISSION

Continuing the work of Saint Jeanne Jugan, our mission is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself. The Little Sisters of the Poor have always been committed to respecting your personal information and privacy. The Little Sisters of the Poor will never sell, share, trade, rent or provide personal information to any other entity. Thank you for your continued support of our mission!