

UTO REPORT

April 2011

Diocesan Financial statements as of March 31, 2011 report \$3,644.46 collected from parishes in UTO ingatherings. The 2010 carryover balance of \$15,761.23, brings a total of \$19,405.69 in UTO funds. Two domestic grant applications submitted to the Diocesan Office, Renascence, Montgomery and PreSchool Partners, Birmingham. The Diocesan UTO committee met via email to review and recommend the one to be forwarded to Bishop Parsley for his endorsement before it is submitted to the National UTO Grant Committee. The committee selected Renascence. Below is a brief description of the project:

RENASCENCE HOME & GARDEN SERVICE will teach Renascence Re-entry Program residents marketable skills to use once they leave Renascence House. Also, it provides low-income neighbors of Renascence with low cost lawn care and home maintenance and repair services. Training will begin with a smaller project, that of renovating a storage building owned by Renascence that is behind the residence.

The Renascence Re-entry Program will initiate a lawn and home repair/maintenance service that benefits not only our residents but also their families by enabling the men to become responsible husbands and fathers. It will also directly help low-income neighbors in the downtown Montgomery Weed and Seed area, as well as the communities to which the men return when they leave Renascence. Since 2008, a local landscape gardener has employed a number of our men and has donated his time to teach them gardening and lawn care. We will build on that base and add a program of training in basic household repair and maintenance, hiring professionals to do the instruction and teaching skills such as washing, painting, and repair of exterior walls, windows, doors, fences, porches, etc., and indoor cleaning and basic repairs. Training will include collection and removal of waste and, wherever applicable, recycling. All work teams will be supervised by paid staff or by fully-trained volunteers.

Effective this year, all applications were electronically filed. The new process was a little bit bumpy, however Renascence was able to complete the electronic filing and timely submit it to National UTO with an attachment from Bishop Parsley. We will find out in May if Renascence was awarded the grant requested.

Linda Kennedy the incoming UTO Diocesan Coordinator will be attending the Face to Face Conference in July.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mayhall