

Fall Newsletter



A.D.R.O.P.

WELLNESS + EDUCATION + JUSTICE

In This Issue:

A Word From Andrew

Success and Challenges of
Prison Ministry

Remembering Fr. Shawn
Tracy O.S.A

How to help during the
giving season

Welcoming George Munyan

EMR for the Unity Clinic

From The Executive Director



I would like to wish a happy one-year anniversary, since our relocation, to the staff, volunteers, clients, and supporters of ADROP. We couldn't have done it without the significant generosity of everyone involved from volunteers to donors. Without your involvement we would not be able to provide these necessary services to this community.

In this edition we would like to highlight ADROP's Restorative Justice/Prison Ministry efforts, the celebration of the life of Fr. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., Coordinator of two of ADROP's Programs (Sanctuary Music Ensemble & Handicapped Encounter Christ (HEC), and raise awareness for an endeavor to take ADROP's Unity Clinic to the next level with Electronic Medical Records.

Please help us to spread the word of the work we do and thank you for your continued support.

God bless,
Andrew B. Slike

AmazonSmile During the Giving Season

During the giving season, especially Cyber Monday, please keep ADROP in mind. By going to www.smile.amazon.com and using a regular amazon account select The Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor as the organization you would like to support. Amazon will donate .5% of whatever you spend to our organization at no cost to you!

ADROP is also a United Way Donor Choice #29721.



The Success and Challenges of Prison Ministry

ADROP's Adeodatus Prison Ministry program was founded at St. Augustine Parish in Philadelphia in 2007 under the direction of Father Paul Morrissey, OSA. It offers a weekly support group for ex-inmates. For the last seven years, this group has met at Saint Rita's Parish. While the program continues to be a success, it is not without challenges.

Adeodatus Group Meetings

Members of the Adeodatus Support Group have experienced firsthand the devastation the drug epidemic causes families, individuals and the city of Philadelphia. During each meeting personal stories are told and different ways of coping are shared among the members.

All are invited to come to a meeting, contact ADROP's office at (215)-925-3566 for more information.

Newsletter And Distribution

A quarterly newsletter entitled "*The Voices from Prison and the Edge*" acts as a key source of outreach for the program. The newsletter has been crucial in helping build a bridge between those outside prison and those inside in their search for God and in their humanity.

It is currently distributed to 24 Catholic parishes in the greater Philadelphia area, 22 other urban

locations, 5 halfway houses, more than 160 Augustinian friars, 11 prisons in Pennsylvania and Missouri and 25 California prisons are being contacted.

A pamphlet listing resources for food, shelter, housing and other social services for use upon release is also distributed inside the prison system.

Progress on the Peace Garden

Phase one of the Peace Garden at St. Augustine's Church is finished! This phase has been completed largely due to a small and dedicated group of volunteers including former inmates, drug-rehab residents, family members, and members of the support group advisory committee. Progress has been made to allow a fountain and lights to work at the garden. Twenty-three memorial bricks have been laid, with room for more. And plaques have been placed to describe the purpose of the garden.

What The Future Holds

We hope phase two will provide major recognition for St. Augustine's Parish and ADROP. We hope to include decorative gates, lights, possibly a new statue of St. Augustine and hopefully a mural on the side of the wall done by The Mural Arts Program.

In addition we hope to add an antiviolence link with the parish history education center in the parish vestibule, which is adjacent to the garden.

As Father Paul Morrissey transitions into his position as Senior Priest, George Munyan will now be overseeing much of the Restorative Justice work done through ADROP and the Adeodatus Prison Ministry group.

Celebrating the Life of Father Shawn Tracy, O.S.A

On October 21, 2014 ADROP sponsored a celebration of the life of Fr. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A. Fr. Shawn left a lasting impression on every life he encountered as director of two of ADROP's programs, Sanctuary Music Ensemble and Handicapped Encounter Christ (HEC).



Two hundred individuals touched by the work and life of Fr. Shawn gathered to reminisce and enjoy his music as performed by Sanctuary, led by Dan Mason. We at ADROP are grateful for Fr. Shawn's dedication as a member of our Board of Directors and the lasting impression he had on all of our lives.

UNITY CLINIC LAUNCHES \$10000 CAMPAIGN TO COMPUTERIZE

The Unity Clinic has recently received re-approval from the Federal Government to be part of the **Free Clinics Federal Claims Act Program**.

To be part of the program it requires that the Clinic maintain certain quality standards similar to that provided from Primary care Physicians. This includes implementing an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system.

The EMR system makes the office more efficient, the records easier to read, analyze, and transfer. All in all it makes the healthcare provided better.

The EMR works by transferring all records into the system on

electronic equipment such as tablets. Once entered, the information can be accessed from all computers inside the office by simply typing in the name. The information will always be legible, and the doctor or nurse practitioner has the whole medical history available at his/her fingertips.

A free EMR program, Practice Fusion, is available to non-profit clinics. All ADROP needs is the hardware and implementation costs to be covered by donations.

Anticipated donations from the University of Pennsylvania volunteers have covered some of the costs below. Any help in covering the remaining costs is appreciated.

7 Tablets	\$400 / tablet or \$2800
Dedicated Computer	\$1800
Networking	\$1400
Back Up Program	\$300/year
Implementing System including Data Entry	\$3000
Training	\$700

ADROP wants to set an example as a non-profit that is concerned about the environment. To do so we would like to begin by sending our future communications to anyone who has access to email through the Internet. To get on our mailing list, call ADROP at (215) 925-3566 or copy the following statement and send it to coordinator@rightsofthepoor.org

To whom it may concern,

Please put me on the email list at (your email).

Thank you,

Your name

To make a donation now, visit us online at www.rightsofthepoor.org/donate/html and click on "Donate Now", or return this form with your donation.

Enclosed is my check made payable to ADROP:

___ \$500 ___ \$250 ___ \$100 ___ \$50 ___ \$25 ___ Other: \$ ___



Name: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____



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