



Local Court to State Chairman
Catholic Daughters of the Americas®
QUALITY OF LIFE
Circle of Love Reporting Form
March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021

Court Name Court St. Christina Number 2336
Regent Viki Pick Local Chairman Deane Biver
Number of Members 60 Email d.biverozzi@gmail.com
Address 7716 S. Hughes
City Sioux Falls State SD Zip 57108

Local Court Chairman: Please fill out this form (Print/Type) and mail to:

State Chairman: MARY ALTHOFF

Address: 2600 E 33RD ST.

City: SIOUX FALLS

State: SOUTH DAKOTA

Zip: 57103

Email: marv.althoff@gmail.com

Title of the Project

Ticketing Bags for Children's Amn

Describe fully ONE project in the Circle of Love program for Quality of Life done by your court this past year. What was the goal for the activity? How many were involved? What impact did the activity have on your court, parish, or community?

attached

Please use the back of this page or additional sheets if necessary. Thank you for completing this report. We suggest that you keep a copy to pass on to the next chairman.

The Children's Inn in Sioux Falls, SD is a safe place to land for many citizens in our corner of the state. The amazing people who work at The Children's Inn provide a much needed service to women, children, and young men by "empowering victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse to overcome trauma and rebuild their lives, free from abuse." Through the Circle of Love Quality of Life Committee, our Court is honored to be able to help supply toiletries to the residents of The Children's Inn.

Imagine leaving your home, in a rush and often without clothes or other personal items, to escape a very dangerous situation. Imagine getting to a strange place, even with caring people to welcome you, and not knowing what is in store. How frightening and disorienting this must be, especially for young children. When these brave families are shown to their rooms, on their beds they will find toiletry bags made with love by the members of Court St. Christina. There will be one toiletry bag for each member of the family and each bag will contain necessary toiletry supplies – shampoo and conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrush (adult or child size), washcloth, bar soap, a comb, and lotion. Deodorant is also supplied in the women's and young men's toiletry bags. A label is on, or inside, each bag with the CDA logo and the name of our Court.

Before the bags can be given to The Children's Inn, our Court members and parishioners are hard at work collecting these hotel-size toiletries. Our Court is comprised of members from 3 parishes and each parish sets out a collection box for the toiletries at their parish and puts reminders in the bulletin to ask parishioners to donate toiletries for the toiletry bags. Our parishioners are very generous when called upon; however, this past year provided unprecedented challenges with closed parishes, reduced Mass attendance, and general concern about transmission of COVID-19 via handling objects. In fact, for a time, The Children's Inn stopped accepting donations of outside items due to COVID transmissions concerns.

Even though The Children's Inn stopped accepting donations of outside items temporarily, the QOL Committee continued asking for, and receiving, supplies and they would meet to assemble the toiletry bags. Every 3 months, or quarterly, 2 to 6 of our court members would gather at the Chairperson's home to assemble the bags. The goal of each gathering is to assemble 100 toiletry bags and we are happy to report that we were able to meet that goal in 2020 and, in total, assembled 400 toiletry bags last year. Once The Children's Inn was able to receive outside donation items, the Chairperson was able to deliver a generous supply of toiletry bags.

Two new things were added to the process this year. First, at the beginning of the quarterly bag assembly gathering, the we say a prayer for the safety and welfare of the women, children, and young men receiving these bags. Second, one of our newer Court members volunteered her time and talents to sew zippered bags for the women and children's toiletries. We had previously used Ziploc bags, which we continue to use Ziploc bags for the young men's bags. The new fabric bags are sturdy and in appealing, age-appropriate fabrics that we hope can be re-used by the individuals and provide additional comfort during a scary time. This also gave our Court members another opportunity to donate fabric and zippers to make these sturdy bags. The QOL toiletry bags project allows our Court and our parishioners to follow the advice of St. Mother Teresa and "DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE".

Ct. St. Christina Catholic Daughters #2336 - Lea, Lennox, Carter