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Friends In Solidarity
8737 Colesville Road | Suite 610 | Silver Spring, MD 20910
937.271.0977 | president@solidarityfriends.org



Our Mission

Friends in Solidarity is a collaborative ministry initiated by Institutes of Women and Men Religious in the United States, supporting the people of Africa, especially South Sudan, through capacity building initiatives that include the training of teachers, health care professionals and pastoral teams. Compelled by the suffering of our African siblings, we are committed to raising awareness of their situation and working in collaboration with the Church in Africa as it accompanies, equips and empowers the people to create a sustainable future where their full human potential may be realized.

Our Vision

We envision a just and peaceful society in Africa built upon the values of collaboration, inclusivity, and solidarity between and among peoples, cultures, generations, and nations.



Friends in Solidarity





About Us

Friends in Solidarity is an initiative of US Catholic religious women and men in support of religious working in South Sudan and beyond. It was incorporated as a not for profit in November 2015 as an outgrowth of interest in the work being done by Solidarity with South Sudan, a project begun by the International Union of Superiors General and the Union of Superiors General in Rome in response to a request of the Sudan Catholic Bishops Conference in 2006.

Our Model of Ministry

Solidarity with South Sudan espouses a unique model of ministry, one of collaboration between congregations of men and women with different charisms coming from a variety of countries. It is inspired by the call of the Congress on Consecrated Life — Passion for Christ, Passion for Humanity, held in Rome in 2005. The Congress invited religious to search for a new paradigm, born of compassion for the scarred and downtrodden of the earth — around new priorities, new models of organization and open and flexible collaboration between men and women of goodwill.

Friends in Solidarity is inspired by this call and the collaborative model.

Our Programs

Catholic Health Training Institute | Wau

Diocese of Wau | Bahr el-Ghazal State

In South Sudan the maternal mortality rate is the highest in the world. One of the causes is the lack of qualified health personnel.

OUR RESPONSE: The Catholic Health Training Institute offers residential three year programs in nursing or midwifery. Renown for its emphasis on practical training, we estimate that our graduates make up 40 percent of trained health care workers in the country.

Solidarity Teacher Training College | Yambio

Diocese of Tombura-Yambio | Western Equatoria State

In South Sudan an estimated 2.8 million children are out of school and only 35% of primary school teachers have received any form teacher training.

OUR RESPONSE: The Solidarity Teacher Training College offers a residential two year primary certificate course and also recently a year upgrading course to diploma. Also offers in-service training for teachers already in the field to upgrade their qualifications. Some of the community service programs that our students engage in the course of their studies is offering basic computer literacy classes to the children from the surrounding areas, and English and computer classes to the women as well.

Solidarity Agricultural Project | Riimenze

Diocese of Tombura-Yambio | Western Equatoria State

In South Sudan households still face extreme food insecurity 2.2 million people will expect to suffer malnutrition in 2023.

OUR RESPONSE: The Solidarity Agricultural Project offers improved and sustainable farming practices training to farmers in the region. Also has a better nutrition program that trains women and mothers in how to expand their diet and prepare nutritional supplements like soy and peanut butter, honey and moringa powder. The project also supports the only kindergarten in the area and has a support program for destitute elderly people who receive some food support on a monthly basis.

Pastoral Accompaniment Program | Kit

Archdiocese of Juba | Kit | Central Equatoria State

In South Sudan trauma caused by years of conflict and violence remain untreated. More than 2.2 million people are internally displaced and more than half of those are women and children.

OUR RESPONSE: The Pastoral Accompaniment Program offers residential and non-residential spiritual programs such as priestly renewal, catechetical training, trauma healing and spiritual accompaniment. The team also travels to offer this programs throughout all dioceses in South Sudan and also manages the Good Shepherd Peace Center.