As the Archdiocese of Cincinnati celebrated 200 years of faith through service, we at Bayley wanted to share with those in need in a way that would engage our residents, staff, and members of the community. In keeping with our commitment to Gospel values including compassion, dignity of each person, sacredness of life, service, and courage, we chose to collect donations for our Cincinnati neighbors living with homelessness and food insecurity. We selected two westside nonprofits to receive these care packages our residents helped to assemble. One was BLOC Ministries, whose mission is, “building relationships with our neighbors and sharing hope in brokenness,” and the other was Bethany House Services, whose vision is “to live in a community where all families have a place to call home and no one spends a night without shelter.”

Partnering with Sisters of Charity and Mount St. Joseph University (MSJU) on this project, we placed donation boxes at Mother Margaret Hall and MSJU. We also placed these collection boxes at our main building, our Adult Day Program lobby, and at our Wellness Center. Items received from Sept. 1 to Oct. 1 included nonperishable food, school supplies, household and cleaning supplies, kitchenware, etc.

We delivered these donations on Oct. 9, the Archdiocesan Service Day. Being a part of this project brought such joy to our residents, in addition to instilling in them a sense of community engagement. It was a pleasure to help enrich the lives of others and support our neighbors as well – as we strived to make a difference in our community through service. We appreciate the generosity and support of those donating to this project and making it possible.

Let Your Light Shine

By Doris Rodier, Bayley, director of marketing and special events

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Snow cones were a sweet reward to celebrate both the first week of school and the first vaccination clinic held on-site at DePaul Cristo Rey High School (DPCR). Responding to the rising number of COVID cases in the community and feedback from corporate partners, DPCR leaders are strongly encouraging students and their families to get vaccinated. The Hamilton County Public Health Department brought its mobile clinic to DPCR in August and September, providing students’ vaccine access right at school.

The common good and social responsibility are themes which are lived out by Mount St. Joseph University (MSJU) students, faculty and staff in many and varied ways. The Welcome Week Service Day, held in August after the first week of classes, involved students, faculty, staff, and alumni in service to the community. The University supports more than 70 nonprofit community partners through these and other events. The Student Resource Center is partnering with the Mount Violence Prevention (MVP) Program this year to present a project that aims to honor survivors of domestic violence and create a safe space for survivors to share their stories. The “Lions Cupboard” provides food and clothing in a confidential manner to needy students.

Seton High School recently participated in the Archdiocese Bicentennial “Let Your Service Shine” service week where our saints made Halloween-themed inspirational puzzles for the students of St. Boniface. Our students loved getting creative with service in hopes of putting smiles on the students’ faces at St. Boniface.

Learning how to ride a bike is one of those ordinary rights-of-passage for children. But what does it take for a child with multiple disabilities to do it? It takes the right kind of bike for one thing, specially adapted for therapeutic use. Thanks to a grant from the Mariner Foundation, St. Joseph Home (SJH) was able to get one for our half-dozen residents under the age of 5. Dan Connors, SJH president and CEO said, “This is the kind of dexterity that is easy to take for granted. But for this boy and his cottage-mates, it is just the kind of extraordinary therapy work that’s needed, while being fun for a young child. It’s a great example of possibility – riding a bike – overcoming disability.”