

In 2015, Per Niente Magazine's Christmas Fund raised **\$20,386.00** to clothe, feed and provide cheer and assistance to the disadvantaged of our community.

**We contacted Sister Gail Glenn, SSJ, Principal at Catholic Academy of West Buffalo** to offer a \$1000 scholarship to a deserving student at her school. Sister Gail recommended Esther Nyakato, a recent immigrant from Kampala, Uganda. Esther's parents, her four siblings ranging in ages from 8-18 fled their homeland to escape atrocities and settled in a refugee camp and waited eight years for acceptance to the United States and arrived in Buffalo September 2014. In September 2015, Esther, a serious and well educated student was accepted at Nardin Academy. A month prior we took Esther's siblings and their mother shopping for school clothes and we purchased text books for her two oldest siblings who were starting their first year of college; one at ECC, one at Houghton College. Total assistance: \$3985.

**Danceability is an individualized dance, fitness and movement program** serving the special needs community. The studio is led by qualified staff and dedicated volunteers who create a nurturing environment that empowers their special needs students to flourish and grow while promoting a healthy lifestyle... and to have a little fun along the way. Total assistance: Two scholarships valued at \$1200.

**Scholarship Assistance** to a student attending Alfred University and one attending the University at Buffalo. Total assistance: \$1000

**We were made aware of Jessica Caitlin**, a local high school student who had difficulty reading her classroom blackboard. As such, we arranged for her to have an eye exam and we purchased suitable glasses that were beyond her financial reach. Total assistance: \$180.

**In November we distributed 175 Turkeys** to local food pantries and missions thus ensuring a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for over 1000 persons. Total cost: \$1500

**From a Buffalo News Article** we learned about St. Adelbert's Response to Love Center, 130 Kosciuszko St. Buffalo, NY 14212. Its mission it is to serve the community's unfortunate. Its focus is the holistic treatment of poverty, loving care of the economically deprived, the spiritually poor, the emotionally battered, the isolated, the wounded and the broken. For them we purchased a new freezer, toiletries and personal care items for men as well as baby food and Christmas toys for needy children. Total assistance: \$2220.

**Center for Handicapped Children Learning Center, Amherst, NY** In 1971, CHC Learning Center, was developed by parents who desired a community based program for children with multiple disabilities. Certified special teachers and licensed therapists provide in home services for infants and young children unable to attend the center based program. Total assistance: \$1000

**Little Portion Friary, 1305 Main Street, Buffalo, NY** is a group of 100 plus whose mission it is to provide food, shelter and services to the community's homeless. They have no paid staff and do not fund raise. No one person is in charge. The average length of stay for a guest is approximately three weeks, but some have stayed for almost two months. Total assistance: \$1500

**Urban League of Buffalo** we purchased and delivered toys at Trinity Episcopal Church Annex for 62 foster children at their annual Christmas party. Total assistance: \$855.

**Journey's End Refugee Services, Buffalo, NY** is a Christian community-based organization with the mission of welcoming refugees without regard to ethnic origin or creed and to assist them to become healthy, independent, contributing members of the community. Total assistance: \$1000 in Tops Markets gift cards.

**National Alliance for Mental Illness Christmas Is For Kids Project:** Locally there are 600 plus often forgotten children, mostly between the ages of 8 -18 who will spend the holidays in some form of psychiatric and mental health care in hospitals, foster homes, out patient centers and safe homes. Total assistance: \$1000

**St. Lawrence Parish Outreach Center, Buffalo NY:** For three needy families with a total of 18 children, we purchased 1 refrigerator, 1 freezer 7 double beds, 2 single beds and bedding for all. Total assistance: \$3500

**We assisted Billy Roberson, a disabled Vietnam era veteran** living in Buffalo in a one room apartment. Hobbled by recent surgery, he requires a walker and lacks many basic needs. We purchased a night stand, a lamp, a dresser and chest to replace boxes that housed his clothing. For this sports enthusiast for whom cable was unaffordable, coupled with a non functioning TV we purchased a new TV and will pay his monthly cable bill. Total assistance: \$1446.

Again, through your efforts we've moved forward to touch many lives and hope to do more in 2016.



Larry LaDuca and Jack Gullo prior to distributing toys at St. Adelberts Response to Love Center.

Sister Mary Johnice C.S.S.F. The Center's Director thanking us for the freezer.

