

Message from the Director...

We will always remember Summer 2019! It kicked off in June with the Annual Petawa Gala. Speaker Dr. Karen Bohlin inspired us to think deeper about the value of character education as a means to transform culture. In July, the visit of the Prelate of Opus Dei to the site of the future Petawa Cultural Center was an unforgettable blessing. As he stepped onto the property, the vision behind our expansion efforts was made tremendously clear again, fostering a palpable sense of joy and hope.

Later in July, over 250 middle and high school girls attended Camp Tuck, learning tools to positively impact their friends. The girls had the opportunity to attend daily Mass, benefit from leadership talks, dress up their counselors, and kiss the infamous camp skunk! And in August, a great group of rising freshmen and sophomores discovered the happiness found in serving others through the annual Petawa Service Project.

As we look forward to 2020, we are thankful for the things to come, knowing that with your support we can do so much.

Lena Raffin
Director



Monsignor Fernando Ocariz Visits Brookfield

On Tuesday, July 16th, the prelate of Opus Dei, Monsignor Fernando Ocariz, visited the site of the new Petawa Cultural Center in Brookfield during his three week visit of the U.S. He blessed the land on which the future center will be built. Before and after his blessing, the Prelate visited with families and friends, handing out blessed rosaries and candy for the children. Many people gave him items to be blessed, plus uniquely Wisconsin gifts and hand-made cards.

Linda Pryor, board president, told the Prelate, "We are so excited that you have taken the time to come here to be with us

and to bless this site. We are most excited, however, when we reflect on all the women and girls with whom we can share the message of St. Josemaria ... I am certain we have many more challenges ahead, but your visit is a huge inspiration ... and we are determined to Dream Big and, with God's help, make our dream a reality."

As he departed, a Petawa supporter enthused, "It was just so great to experience the Father's joy! His whole face was lit with happiness as he met family after family. With his blessing, I'm sure we can make this center a reality!"

A Blessing for Petawa

When Christ took flesh through the Blessed Virgin Mary, he made his home with us. Let us now pray that he will enter this future home and bless it with his presence. May he always be here with you, share in your joys, comfort you in your sorrows. And that inspired by his teachings and example, you seek to make your new home before all else a dwelling place of love, diffusing far and wide the goodness of Christ. Lord, by your life with Mary and Joseph you sanctified the life of the home, dwell with us in our new home. We ask that you be close to your servants who will build upon this land and who now ask for your blessings. We ask that you be their shelter when they are at home, their companion when they are away, and their welcome guest when they return. Lord, we ask you that Petawa may reach the necessary funds to build soon and that they may build upon rock. Finally, Lord, we ask that abundant graces of joy and peace rest upon all who come into this new home.



SAVE THE DATE FOR...

Petawa Annual Fall Luncheon
Saturday, Oct. 26th. See back page.

Petawa Spotlight

From the Board

As summer draws to a close, I hope you are as excited and eager as me to begin a new school year. The autumn is always such an inspiring time of the year at Petawa Cultural Center. Many of our apostolic activities are starting up again and everyone is hopeful and committed to make this year the best that we possibly can. The joy in beginning again and the dream of reaching more women and girls is palpable.

Saint Josemaria Escriva tells us that "when one is working to extend an apostolic undertaking, 'no' must never be taken for a final answer; you have to try again!" (Furrow #107). And so we do, every year. Our goals are lofty and we are determined to share our mission throughout the area – and beyond. Our mission to transform culture through personal growth and lifelong learning will not change, nor will our determination or perseverance.

The desires and efforts of so many people to meet challenges, pray unceasingly, and exemplify love for God in all they do – this is what has always achieved results for Petawa. We are grateful for the team of Opus Dei members, friends of Petawa, and our local community for working together to put our mission into practice.

This summer we welcomed the Prelate of Opus Dei, Monsignor Fernando Ocariz, from Rome to bless the Brookfield site of our new cultural center. It was such an inspiration to know that the Prelate was thrilled with the site and prays for the success of our building project. The new Petawa Cultural Center is going to be a reality because we are truly on fire to make it happen. Please join us with your prayers and financial support.

We work. We persevere. And we live in thanksgiving to God for all His blessings!

Linda Pryor

The Hidden Work of Petawa in a Hurting World

Today, we live in a world in which the dehumanization of culture is often surrounding us. We have lots of information but little truth. We have many "friends" but few with whom we truly connect. Pornography, the ultimate way to objectify the human person, is rampant. Reproductive technologies, abortion and those advocating euthanasia further the notion that the human person is merely a commodity. At times, our culture appears to be turning in on itself, shunning intimate connection and true humanity.

The many initiatives that Petawa supports work to raise the dignity of human beings and to instill purpose to a hurting world. The activities focus on the good that can be found in us and around us, which counteracts a pessimism that is often a result of the denial of our humanity. Yet the work of Petawa is not easily measured; rather, it's hidden work. Think of it as the roots of an old oak tree, growing deep underground, supporting and bringing sustaining nutrients to those whose lives it touches.

The work of Petawa is hidden in the time and effort of those who volunteer to organize the different activities. It is demonstrated in time spent in friendship with high school girls and mentoring that helps the girls grow to see the joy in a life of service to others.



It is encouraging young mothers, perhaps the most important profession of all, who are raising the next generation. And it is shown in those who visit with our elderly and sick, helping them to find meaning and value in their suffering.

All of these ways that Petawa serves society are the roots that are not always seen, but work to allow each person it supports to flourish in their humanity.

Three Ways to Help Petawa Spread Truth, Beauty, and Goodness

Grow

Taking advantage of attending and growing from the activities offered, looking for ways in which we can live a more authentically human life. Whatever stage in life we are in, there is always opportunity to grow!

Live with Joy

Second, we can bring what we receive from the activities to those around us, trying to carry into our work place, our homes and our interactions with family, friends and coworkers the joy we find in living for others. Also, inviting others to participate, so that they, too, can grow from them.

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Give

Lastly, but very importantly, your donations ensure that the important work of Petawa continues and grows. Your support funds all costs – such as materials, food, and building maintenance – associated with the following:

- Free classes, workshops, social events, and more for high school girls and women of all ages.
- Scholarships to attend Camp Truck and retreats, both of which require a small tuition to cover costs, so that anyone can attend regardless of ability to pay.
- Design and construction of the beautiful, spacious, and centrally located new Petawa Cultural Center in Brookfield.



Please join us in our mission with your daily prayers, living joyfully, and making a financial gift. Be the source of sustenance for the hidden, deep roots beneath the great oak tree that is Petawa, strengthening its stability, nourishing joyful faith and service, and providing encouragement, strength, shelter, and a firm foundation for women of all ages.

**To donate, visit
petawa.org/donate.
Thank you!**

Note: Your donations do not support those living at the center. The staff at Petawa supports themselves, paying for their own room and board, clothing, insurance and personal needs. When not at their places of work, these women facilitate womens' circles, coordinate classes, and lead workshops and retreats. How blessed we are!



The Art of Living: Create Order Out of Chaos

Would you like to create order from everyday chaos? If yes, the next Art of Living seminar about home organizations is for you! There will be two identical seminars in two locations, both taking place 10:00 am – 12:30 pm.

- Saturday, September 21, 2019 in Lake Mills, WI
- Saturday, September 28, 2019 in Brookfield, WI.

The schedule for both seminars is the same:

10:00 am	Welcome
10:15 am	Introduction: Creating order in the every day chaos
11:00 am	Break: Coffee, tea, and pastries served
11:30 am	Seminar: Everything has a place, creating a system of home organization
12:30 pm	Depart

Fee is \$25 per person, with only 15 participants per seminar. **Sign up now!**

You can register online at www.artoflivingforwomen.org/wisconsin.

For more information contact Mary Cobb by emailing mary.cobb3860@gmail.com or calling her at 414-326-7500.



What's Happening?

What happens when you put 20 teenage girls together and add pizza and a movie? You get Movie Nights in Lake Country!

Movie Nights take place at the home of Petawa high schooler Grace Griffin. Following pizza and the movie, the girls discuss issues raised in the movie, such as friendship, morality, or virtue. Girls are encouraged to come to their own conclusions about the movie or the topic at hand. The club helps teens look at messages in popular media and how to discuss deeper topics in healthy ways.

Last year the teens watched *Remember the Titans*, which raised the subject of friendship: finding, keeping, and being a good friend. The girls talked about a time they had either let down a friend or been let down themselves by a friend. The movie was a springboard to discussing friendship as a sincere gift of self. The conversation was especially animated when it came to the question of whether Jesus was fun to hang out with. The general consensus was yes!

If you know a junior or senior girl in high school that would like to join us this year, call Beth Griffin at (262) 337-2977 or email Liz Noack at liznoack3@gmail.com.



Petawa Residence &
Cultural Center, Inc.
1331 N. Astor Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Phone 414.276.1329
Fax 414.273.5233

www.petawa.org or
info@petawa.org

Find out more at petawa.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 19:

Speaker Series: Elevate Your Next Party
with a Crowd-Pleasing Grazing Table

- 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm, FREE
- Petawa Cultural Center, Milwaukee

SEPTEMBER 21 AND 28:

Art of Living Series: Create Order
out of Chaos

- 10:00 am - 12:30 pm
\$15 per person
- Lake Mills (9/21) or Brookfield (9/28)

3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH SEPTEMBER – MAY

(except 2nd Sat. Dec 2019):

Venture Leadership Program for
Girls in 8th – 11th grade

- 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, \$295 per person
- Petawa Cultural Center, Milwaukee

OCTOBER 17:

Speaker Series: The Need for
Friendships and Why They Matter

- 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm, FREE
- Windsor, Brookfield

OCTOBER 26:

Annual Fall Luncheon

- 10:45 pm - 1:00 pm, \$30 per person
- Embassy Suites Milwaukee, Brookfield

Fall Luncheon



Petawa Annual Fall Luncheon

The Mystery of Marriage and The Gift of Self
Saturday, October 26th

10:45 am – 1:00 pm

Embassy Suites Milwaukee-Brookfield

Cost: \$30 per person

Join us at our Annual Fall Luncheon as we explore
“**The Mystery of Marriage and The Gift of Self.**”

Speaker Mary Magnor has been married for 35 years
and is the mother of eight children and grandmother
to four. She is passionate about building strong
families through stronger, more vibrant marriages.

For more information, please call or text
Christine Dejewski at 414-687-5904 (cell) or
email: christinedejewski@gmail.com.

To register and pay on-line, visit: petawa.org/events.

Or mail your contact information, guest names, and
check payable to **Petawa Cultural Center** to:

Christine Dejewski, S32W83809 Squire Court,
Waukesha, WI 53189