

An Update from the PHJC Volunteer Program




The PHJC Volunteer Program continues to connect women with our ministries for volunteer opportunities to live in intentional community with our Sisters while offering their gifts and talents to those in need.

Meet Ellie Sink! She served as a short-term volunteer, sharing her compassion and energies at Sojourner Truth House for three weeks. Ellie is 21 years old and hails from

Davenport, Iowa. She has been studying in Florida but offered her services while on summer break before heading to Ireland for a retreat.

Ellie was a GREAT asset to Sojourner and hopes to return for a longer stay in the future. We are grateful for her presence and enthusiasm!

Here is a poem Ellie wrote about her experience at Sojourner Truth House. Thank you, Ellie, for your spirit, your courage and your presence in our lives!

 Sister Connie Bach, PHJC

*May the Lord always strengthen me by
His grace, guide me by His wisdom and
make me happy by His divine love.*

— Blessed Catherine Kasper

The Butterfly Effect and the Garden of Our Hearts

The Butterfly Effect: The enchanting effect of kindness, intentionality and understanding communicated through body language, action, words and effort, to respect a person for their God given dignity.

A Garden of Butterflies from Hands to Hearts
(free style, written for Sojourner Truth)

An enchanted Garden
Full of helping hands
And changing lives

A green thumb working
Tending to The Lords Land
While the Great Creators Thumb
Is working in our hearts

Planting seeds
Planting graces
The only difference
Is the clay and the dirt
From which there are miraculous changes

The Sun is sure to come by day
The resting moon to quiet the night
and garden creatures and plants alike
Are nurtured by the rest and the light

And if patience is acquired
Our eyes and ears open wide
The more we can see such a Marvelous sight
The more we can hear such Marvelous Word
That is meant to work in each of our hearts

For The Lord came to help the suffering
So that our psyche would flutter high
So we have quite the garden to tend
From the Earth to our Heart

The soul and the mind
A deep enchanted land
God's Grace will work in all hearts
Just like the seeds planted around

Butterflies will be encouraged to come
It will continue to be Mysterious and full of life
And it all starts with a seed
Appreciation for life

— Ellie Sink, Volunteer, Sojourner Truth House