

**What is the Theresian Fund?** The Theresian Fund is an Annual Fund. Via the Theresian Fund, we ask all who know and love Theresians to partner with us in carrying out our mission...women in support of women, reaching out with Gospel values. The goal as stated by the TI Board, is that all Theresians and those who support us will contribute annually to help Theresians International become more financially secure.

**How did The Theresian Fund begin?** At the 2010 TI Board meeting, the Board unanimously approved the formation of a Development Committee to explore ways to increase TI's income. The Annual Fund Committee was formed as a part of the Development Committee, with representation from every US region and a liaison to all international members. The committee is working collaboratively to garner broad support and participation

**Who is being asked to contribute?** All current members of Theresians in each member country will be asked to participate. Additionally, we will ask the support of Women of Wisdom, Friends of Theresians, religious congregations who support our mission, and Bishops in dioceses where Theresian communities exist.

**Why do we need to raise more money when we already pay our dues?** As stated in the cover letter, member dues cover only 51% of the annual expenses of Theresians International. The TI Board has over the past year conducted an extensive review of the operating budget. The conclusion shows that TI is not over spending, but is indeed underfunded for basic operations. The Board does not want to raise dues, in an effort to keep Theresian membership as affordable as possible to as many as possible.

**How is this different from dues?** While our membership dues are not tax deductible, in the US, every contribution to the Theresian Fund will be tax deductible to the full extent of the law because Theresians is a 501(c)3 organization.

**What are Theresian Fund gifts used for?** Theresian Fund gifts will be used to meet ongoing operational expenses of Theresians International, including personnel and office expenses.

**If our dues payments only pay for 51% of Theresian International's budget, where does the rest of the money come from?** In the annual budget, 51% of revenue comes from dues, 20% comes from disbursements from The Theresian Foundation, and the remaining income must be made up in gifts to TI. In the past, these gifts have come from sources such as the Annual Lenten Appeal or end of the year appeals or Vision Keepers. The TI Board has chosen to consolidate all gift appeals into the Theresian Fund.

**Theresians has traditionally not been a fundraising group. What's changed? Why now?** Theresians is not a fundraising organization, but it is an organization that needs to raise funds to carry out its mission and secure its legacy.

**How much am I expected to give?** The TI Board is hopeful that all Theresians will make TI a charitable priority in their lives. All members are invited to participate at a level appropriate to their means and ability.

**Is this a one-time fundraising campaign?** No, The Theresian Fund will ask for an annual gift each year.

**If I commit to one amount this year, do I have to give the same amount next year?** No, we certainly hope that every donor will contribute as much as s/he is able each year, but no specific annual commitment is required.

**Does this money go to the Theresian Foundation?** No, the funds raised via The Theresian Fund will go directly into the annual operating budget.

**Does The Theresian Fund replace fundraising for the Woman of Vision recognition?** No, the Theresian Foundation will continue to raise funds via the Woman of Vision Recognition, Celebrate Life memorials, Bequests and contributions from Theresians and friends of Theresians.

**Why do we give to both Theresians International and the Theresian Foundation?** We will continue to both encourage contributions to TI and the Foundation. It is important to encourage the growth of the assets of the Theresian Foundation so that they may continue supporting Theresians International. The annual disbursement from the Foundation to TI is limited to a percentage of the interest in the Foundation holdings. The Foundation is a vital part of our annual operating budget for Theresians International. The average disbursement to TI is between \$20,000 per year.

