

**Franciscan Ministries, Inc.**  
**Executive Director's Report | April - June 2019**

**Media**

On June 10 our **Franciscan Ministries' Community Garden** was featured in **USA Today** in an article titled "*In the shadow of Cincinnati convent, new lives are taking root*" and on June 16 in the Sunday **Cincinnati Enquirer** as part of the "*Long Hard Road*" a series on poverty in our region. The articles highlight the immigrant Bhutanese who grow food for their families in our garden.

As you may recall, the garden was also featured last fall on the **PBS series, Our Ohio**. We learned in June that the episode featuring the garden has been nominated for a regional Emmy award.

**Sacred Heart Radio** staff contacted Franciscan Ministries after reading our newsletter, to invite us to be on air to talk about **Tamar's Center**. Estelle McNair and I went to the studio and were interviewed by Fr. Rob Jack on the **Driving Home the Faith** evening show. We were able to talk about Franciscan Ministries, our mission, and the service we provide at Tamar's Center.

**Our Lady of the Woods**

Announcements were made in mid-June to key stakeholders about the closure of the facility. As expected, the news was most difficult and saddening for those directly affected, the residents and staff. Work is underway to help each resident find a new home and most staff have committed to stay as long as needed. In general, the reaction to the announcement was supportive and understanding of the decision. Details on progress and next steps will be covered in the board meeting.

**Work on the 990 and Unrelated Business Income**

In our work with the auditors on our 990 tax filing, we explored at length the question of whether the Barn revenue is subject to tax. The answer was not cut and dried, and required consideration of whether the revenue generating activity of the Barn was directly related to our mission. Though the revenue supports our mission, and the Barn was designed to be a welcoming space for the community and place of celebration, the recent addition of bar service is a shift that we judged to move us into a taxable category.