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February 22, 2022

Dear Pastors and Parochial Administrators:

On July 1, 2021, The Gabriel Project (TGP) became an official ministry under the direction of the Sacramento Diocese. Bishop Soto continues to stress the importance of each parish taking on this beautiful ministry as part of the plan for Respect Life and USCCB initiative of Moms in Need.

The Gabriel Project is a much-needed parish-based ministry that provides pregnant and new mothers in need with direct assistance. These mothers are offered emotional, spiritual support, friendship, material resources, and a great deal of love. The Gabriel Project is not a passive referral program but one of solidarity with mothers in need. More information on the ministry can be found here: www.scd.org/family-and-faithformation/gabriel-project

The Gabriel Project needs to be treated as a parish ministry.

- Any donations and expenses should be run through the parish bank account. The ministry should be following the same protocols of tracking and auditing as any other ministry.
- The Gabriel Project should be allowed to raise funds to support and sustain the ministry. For example, TGP should be allowed to have fundraising events at the parish, a second collection, etc.
- The parish should also consider allocating funds from parish budget, annual catholic appeal etc. to support the ministry.
- The Gabriel Project should annually report to the parish on the work of the TGP ministry, be continuously recruiting volunteers and asking parishioners for financials and material support.

If you have any questions about The Gabriel Project ministry, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916)733-0133 or mdeleon@scd.org

Blessings,

Moises Roberto De Leon

Associate Director, Family & Respect Life Ministry