

# Strategic Plan 2013 – 2018



The St. Peter Claver Foundation, Inc.

Approved by  
The St. Peter Claver Foundation Board of Directors  
September 24, 2013

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## Who is St. Peter Claver

St Peter Claver is the patron saint of the Negro and sailors. He is honored by both the Rome Catholic Church, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He is best known for his Ministry to the slaves entering the Western hemisphere during the 1600's.

Claver preferred to head for the wharf as soon as a slave ship entered the port. Boarding the ship, he entered the filthy and diseased holds to treat and minister to their badly treated, terrified human cargo, who had survived a voyage of several months under horrible conditions. It was difficult to move around on the ships, because the slave traffickers filled them to capacity. The slaves were often told they were being taken to a land where they would be eaten. Claver wore a cloak, which he would lend to anyone in need. A legend arose that whoever wore the cloak received lifetime health and was cured of all disease. After the slaves were herded from the ship and penned in nearby yards to be scrutinized by crowds of buyers, Claver joined them with medicine, food, bread, brandy, lemons and tobacco. With the help of interpreters and pictures which he carried with him, he gave basic instructions.

Claver saw the slaves as fellow Christians, encouraging others to do so as well. During his 40 years of ministry he personally catechized and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves. He would then follow up on them to ensure that as Christians they received their Christian and civil rights. His mission extended beyond caring for slaves, however. He preached in the city square, to sailors and traders and conducted country missions, returning every spring to visit those he had baptized, ensuring that they were treated humanely. During these missions, whenever possible he avoided the hospitality of planters and overseers; instead, he would lodge in the slave quarters.

Claver's work on behalf of slaves did not prevent him from ministering to the souls of well-to-do members of society, traders and visitors to Cartagena (including Muslims and English Protestants) and condemned criminals, many of whom he prepared for death; he was also a frequent visitor at the city's hospitals. Through years of unremitting toil and the force of his own unique personality, the slaves' situation slowly improved. In time he became a moral force, the Apostle of Cartagena.

The embodied spirit of St. Peter Claver lives on in the charitable acts of what we refer to as "Claverism".

## **Executive Summary**

*What are the factors that negatively impact Roman Catholic African Americans?* This is what drives the St. Peter Claver Foundation on its quest assist the Roman Catholic African American community as well as the greater community at large.

This plan is design to address issues of spirituality, health, educations and a variety of services needed in our defined community. We the St. Peter Claver Foundation strongly believe there is a role to be fulfilled in the continuation of the work of our benefactor St. Peter Claver the patron saint of the Negro. Although these are different times than what St. Peter Claver served in the needs although more complex are just as important.

We look forward to having you as a partner in our quest to improve lives. This plan solidifies our commitment to the community we serve, our donors, and our parent organizations the Knights of Peter Claver and it Ladies' Auxiliary and to the Roman Catholic African American at large and the communities they live, work and worship in.

## **Introduction**

The purpose of this strategic plan is to articulate the direction and priorities for the St. Peter Claver Foundation for the next five years. The objectives and strategies described in this document have been approved by our board of directors and will guide the Foundation's efforts and investments over the coming five years.

Since our inception in 2006 and chartering in 2010, the Foundation and our community have weathered the worst economic recession since the 1930s. In the face of this bad economy, the Board of Directors of the Foundation has remained steadfast in building a solid structure for the Foundation to rest on.

We made the conscious decision to begin the strategic-planning process so the Foundation, its Board of Directors and stakeholders are focused on accomplishable goals and objectives.

This plan is the product of a thirty-month process by the Board of Directors and the Executive Director of St. Peter Claver Foundation. The central focus of the strategic-planning effort is to assure our target community is served, including members of the public, donors, and leaders from the nonprofit, business, and public sectors.

## **Core Ideology: Mission, Vision and Values**

### **Our Mission** (*Why do we exist?*)

The Mission of the Foundation is to promote and enhance the charitable goal of the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. by addressing the multiple needs and aspirations of the Order's members, its parishes and the Catholic community.

### **Our Vision** (*What is the future we seek?*)

We envision a vibrant strong healthy community in service to God, to Church, to itself and to its key stakeholders resulting in a higher quality of life for the communities served.

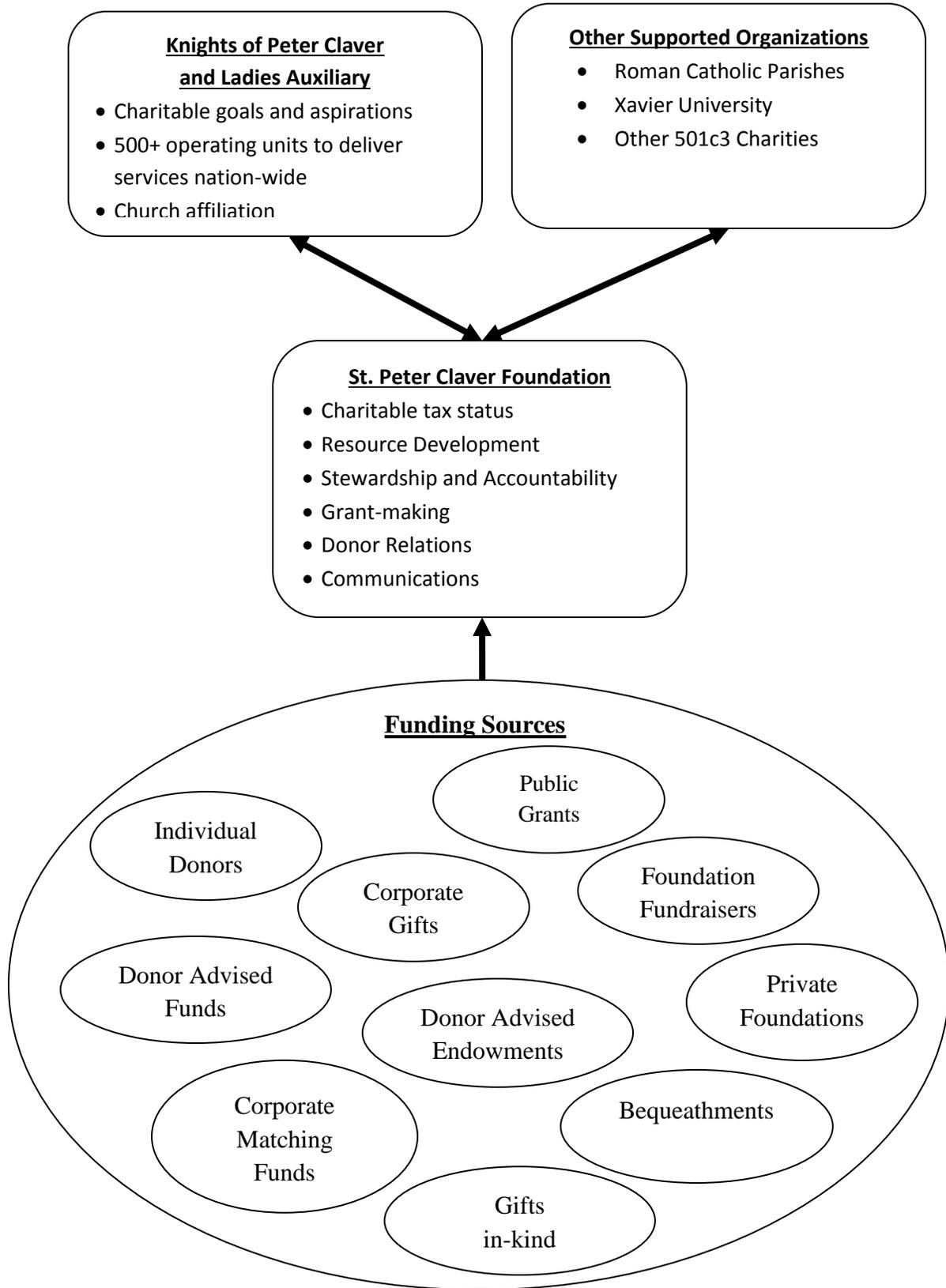
### **Our Values** (*What core ideals guide our decisions and actions?*)

**Spiritual Values:** We believe and subscribe to the teachings and philosophies of the Roman Catholic Church. We have experienced, firsthand, what the Faith can do and wish to enable others to share in its riches.

**Inclusiveness:** Although we subscribe to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church we realize we are not on this Earth alone; our goal to is assist any organization in service to our community at large. We view diversity as strength.

**Accountability:** Each board member of the St. Peter Claver Foundation understands its fiduciary responsibility to its donors. The Board of Directors operates under a strict code of ethics. The St. Peter Claver Foundation is committed to making sure donor funds are used for the intended charitable act and supported programs are effective.

## Strategic-Planning Framework



## Objectives

**Community Impact Objective:** *What is the impact we intend to have on our defined community?*

1. The Promotion of Vocations and Religious Life among African Americans.
2. Outreach and Education regarding Health Care issues of Sickle Cell Anemia, Cancer and Hypertension in the African American Community.
3. Education and introduction to the Church's Pro-Life Program and Alternative to Abortion and Violent Crimes within the African American Community.
4. Fund raising for Catholic Schools in Predominately African American Communities.
5. Awarding of scholarships and support to Xavier University (HBCU)

**Partner Objective:** *What does St. Peter Claver Foundation aspire to achieve regarding our most direct stakeholders?*

1. Provide funding for causes close to the Roman Catholic African American Community.
2. Increase donors of all types who give strategically to their own objectives especially Rome Catholic and African American causes.
3. Increase the effectiveness of successful programs currently being offered by the operating units of the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. and affiliated organizations.
4. Ensure donation and gifts are used for intended purposes.
5. Receive tax deductibility for supported causes.
6. Provide a vehicle to memorializing self or love ones.
7. Provide anonymity for donors and gifters, desiring to support respective causes but not wanting their names public.
8. Provide a safe vehicle for perpetual giving safe guarding against "disappearing" charities.
9. Provide a safe charity umbrella to the dissolution of assets that has gained value "capital gains" while benefiting the community at large.
10. Aid donors with charitable giving timing situations that are interested in achieving current year deduction and future disbursements.

### Key Strategies

1. Implement a well define mission that inspires trust within among our stakeholders.
2. .
3. Evaluate existing programs offered by the Assemblies, Chapters, Councils and Courts of the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. and its Ladies Auxiliary and enhance the impact of those programs including but not limited to:
  - a. Tutoring programs
  - b. Prison ministries

- c. Food pantries
  - d. Youth support programs
  - e. Parish beautification
  - f. Scholarships
  - g. Sponsorships of activities that impact the Junior Knights and Daughters of the Knights of Peter Claver
  - h. Vocations and consecrated life support
4. Solicit a supportive partnership with Knights of Peter Claver and its Ladies Auxiliary.
  5. Solicit private foundations whom are interested in supporting the causes of our community.
  6. Seek public grants from non-religious private and government organizations for non-religious programs.
  7. Solicit private donors whom are interested in supporting the causes of our community.
  8. Implement unique donor and gifting programs such as:
    - a. Donor advised funds with low minimum gift
    - b. Donor advised endowment with low minimum gift
    - c. Electronic funds transfer
    - d. Automatic gifting programs
    - e. Matching funds programs
  9. Seek strategic partnerships with product and service providers that index high in the African American Catholic Community
  10. Seek donations and gifts from businesses that cater to Roman Catholics.
  11. Develop partnership with drug and health service deliveries servicing our community.
  12. Bridge the “giving gap” many African American causes experience

## Strategy Maps

Objective:	The Promotion of Vocations and Religious Life among African Americans
Vision:	A measurable increase in the number of African Americans seeking to be Roman Catholic Priests, Sisters, Brothers, and other forms of Consecrated Life.
Strategies:	<p>Seek funding from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private donors</li> <li>• Private foundations</li> <li>• Supportive businesses</li> <li>• Religious and Fraternal Organizations</li> </ul> <p>Support Programs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide vestments for those studying for consecrated life</li> <li>• Educate people thinking about entering consecrated life</li> <li>• Encourage people to seek consecrated life</li> <li>• Sponsor attendance African American Catholic organization conventions, conferences and congresses by seminarians</li> </ul>
Objective:	Outreach and Education regarding Health Care issues of Sickle Cell Anemia, Cancer and Hypertension in the African American Community
Vision:	A lifestyle change by individuals, in our community, that leads to a longer life expectancy and/or reductions in diseases that disproportionately affect African Americans
Strategies:	<p>Seek funding from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government grants</li> <li>• Private donors</li> <li>• Private foundations</li> <li>• Supportive businesses (<i>Drug Companies, Hospitals, Grocers, Insurers, etc.</i>)</li> <li>• Religious and Fraternal Organizations</li> </ul> <p>Support Programs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide healthcare screening for early detection of diseases that disproportionately affect African Americans</li> <li>• Educate people on Sickle Cell Anemia, Cancer, Diabetes and Hypertension</li> <li>• Educate people on healthy eating</li> <li>• Provide healthy food alternatives in “food deserts”</li> <li>• Provide meals to sick and shut-in individuals</li> <li>• Support mental health and fitness</li> <li>• Provide transportation to afflicted individuals to and from healthcare facilities</li> </ul>

Objective:	Education and introduction to the Church's Pro-Life Program and Alternative to Abortion and Violent Crimes within the African American Community.
Vision:	A mindset and behavioral change in the African American Community that demonstrate respect for life from natural creation to natural death.
Strategies	<p>Seek funding from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government grants</li> <li>• Private donors</li> <li>• Private foundations</li> <li>• Supportive businesses (<i>Businesses located in areas with a disproportionate amount of violent crimes.</i>)</li> <li>• Religious and Fraternal Organizations</li> </ul> <p>Support Programs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate people on abstinence.</li> <li>• Provide counseling on abortion alternatives</li> <li>• Aid to adoptive parents</li> <li>• Prison ministry programs designed to redeem inmates and reduce recidivism</li> <li>• Provide anger management training</li> <li>• Provide social mentoring to young people (<i>particularly African American males from single parent households</i>)</li> <li>• Promote maternal health including prenatal care, infant health and nutrition and parenting training</li> </ul>

Objective:	Fund raising for Catholic Schools in Predominately African American Communities.
Vision:	A net reduction in the number of Catholic parochial schools slated to close in urban centers across the United States..
Strategies	<p>Seek funding from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private donors</li> <li>• Private foundations</li> <li>• Supportive businesses</li> <li>• Religious and Fraternal Organizations</li> </ul> <p>Support Programs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide scholarships to students that attend Catholic parochial grammar and high schools</li> <li>• Provide structural improvements to Catholic parochial schools located in urban centers</li> <li>• Provide advertising designed to increase enrollment at Roman Catholic parochial grammar and high schools</li> <li>• Provide general assistance to Catholic parochial grammar and high schools in urban centers, including books and learning materials for use by students attending such institutions.</li> </ul>

Objective:	Awarding of scholarships and support to Xavier University (HBCU).
Vision:	A well-funded, predominately (73%) African American student body university, that can continue its core mission of providing an education that not only equips students with the competitive skills and knowledge to thrive in the 21st century, but also instills in them the grace and character needed to promote a more just and humane society.
Strategies	Seek funding from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private donors</li> <li>• Private foundations</li> <li>• Supportive businesses</li> <li>• Religious and Fraternal Organizations</li> <li>• Government Grants</li> </ul> Support Programs that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide scholarships to students that attend Xavier University</li> <li>• Provide financial support directly to Xavier University.</li> <li>• Fund research conducted at Xavier University.</li> </ul>

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## Our Way Forward

Since 1909 the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. has served the Roman Catholic African American community. In 2006 the Noble Order formed the St. Peter Claver Foundation, Inc. as the charitable arm of the Order; with the goal of enhancing the charitable works performed by its 500+ operating units. This strategic plan embodies the hopes and aspirations of Order.

As the St. Peter Claver Foundation looks to the future we see an aging fraternal community, dwindling numbers of African American priests, Roman Catholic parishes closings, and a many to social ills that define our landscape. In the midst of these challenges our intent is well focused: *assist in improving the lives of Roman Catholic African Americans and the communities they live in*. This plan sets us on the course for expanding the impact of Claverism and is a continuation of our name benefactor. As we proceed with our plan, we anticipate a number of important benefits:

- Targeted impact in the Catholic African American community
- Grant making that is targeting and deep
- Extensive connections and interdependence between us and our stakeholders
- A sustainable financial model that people can believe in

Thank you!