



IAAS Walks of Life 2008
Sr. Joan Gallagher, CSA

Sister Joan Gallagher has taught science at St. Augustine Academy for nine years and served as Principal for four years. During her time at St. Augustine, the school has expanded from an enrollment of 450 to over 1,000 students.

Sr. Joan is credited with driving three major development projects that have already touched the lives of many people. One was the award-winning conversion of the former Notre Dame Academy on Ansel Road, an architecturally elegant building, into affordable housing. The second was the development of a portion of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine (CSA) campus in Richfield into Regina Health Center Home for elderly religious, clergy and laity seeking a God-centered environment. The third project was Joseph's Home for homeless men with medical problems traditional homeless shelters can't handle. Since the facility opened its doors in 2000, more than 260 homeless men have recovered from acute illness and moved to permanent housing.

She participated in the leadership of the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine for sixteen years and, for ten years, helped guide the Famicos Foundation, a community development corporation located in the Hough area that provides housing for low-income families and seniors in the form of apartments and scattered-site homes.

Sr. Joan is proud of her roots. Her paternal grandmother, Catherine Slevin boarded a sailing ship bound for America in Londonderry in 1899; Catherine's future husband, Ralph Richard Gallagher, another, in Newcastle on Tyne, England, two decades earlier.

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