



## See and hear JPIC Award recipient Dr. Margie Sweeney

See and hear Dr. Margie Sweeney, recipient of the 2013 national JPIC Award, talk about her Franciscan journeys to Africa and Haiti. View a two-part video interview, *Peace Chats*, at [youtube.com/SecularFranciscans](http://youtube.com/SecularFranciscans).

A visit to East Africa in 2001 changed Dr. Margie's life. The poverty she saw, and the realization that God was calling her, led the family physician to found the nonprofit charity, Helping Hands Healing Ministries, to help alleviate poverty in developing countries. Her trip to Africa was

memorable for another reason. She landed at Nairobi, Kenya on Sept. 11, 2001. She didn't know about the terrorist attacks back in America until a nun came up to her at the airport and told her.

The Franciscan Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Award (formerly known as the Peace Award) has been awarded by the U.S. Secular Franciscan Order (formerly Third Order) since 1950. Among the more notable recipients are Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. (1963), Maryknoll Bishop

James Walsh (1970), Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1974), and Pope John Paul II (1986). More recent recipients include:

- 2000 - James Flickinger, OFS
- 2001 - Hal Sieber, OFS
- 2002 - Ona Harris, OFS
- 2003 - 2006 (no awards)
- 2007 - Dr. Anthony Lazzara, OFS
- 2008 - Marie Dennis, OFS
- 2009 - Don Ryder, OFS
- 2010 - Brother David Buer, OFM
- 2011 - Father Louie Vitale, OFM
- 2012 - Janice Benton, OFS
- 2013 - Dr. Margie Sweeney, MD, OFS

## You can help join the discussion at the General Chapter in Assisi

With a theme of "How to Manage a World Order," the OFS General Chapter in Assisi, Italy this November will attempt to answer that question with a series of discussions. The OFS International Presidency (CIOFS) is asking delegates from each country to come prepared.

With that in mind, U.S. International Councilor Mary Stronach, OFS, is seeking your input. If interested, please

send your thoughts to her at [stonach@kateriregion.org](mailto:stonach@kateriregion.org).

Discussion areas:

- 1. Historical reasons** that, up to now, have not allowed us to manage, guide and animate the Order in the most effective and productive way.
- 2. Major problems** encountered since the promulgation of the Rule approved by Pope Paul VI, in order to implement faithfully the letter and the spirit of the

Rule and General Constitutions.

**3. The behaviors** and more common and widespread misconceptions that hinder the development of a truly fraternal life in the Franciscan spirit.

**4. Suggestions on** possible directions upon which national fraternities should reflect to determine structures, modus operandi and the faithful application of the spirit and practice of the Rule and General Constitutions.