

2016 REV. WILLIAM A. TOOHEY, C.S.C., AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

It is fitting that we recognize the winner of the 2016 Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Social Justice during this “Year of Mercy” declared by Pope Francis, for she is the embodiment of that ideal. In her position at the Center for Social Concerns, she oversees all of the restorative justice efforts and programming for both undergraduate and graduate students. She has, for instance, set up talking circles in the local community for at-risk youth to work through conflicts and then used these opportunities to train Notre Dame students in the practice of restorative justice. She also brought the “Inside-Out” course to the University, allowing students to take a class with incarcerated individuals in Westville Correctional Facility and symbolically break down the walls of learning. Following the annual “Show Some Skin” event, which gives voice to unspoken stories about identity and difference on the Notre Dame campus, she organized sharing circles for students and staff to continue the discussion and provide healing—her work here rooted, as it always is, in the values of inclusion, dignity, and accountability.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the
2016 Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Social Justice to

Susan Sharpe

Faculty Advisor for Restorative Justice, Center for Social Concerns