

Sister Joanita Eden Prairie, MN

Sometimes finding a new job is as simple as going out to lunch with someone according to Sister Joanita Stelter. A board member from the Starkey Laboratories located in Eden Prairie, Minnesota invited her to lunch eleven years ago and the rest is history. Starkey manufactures hearing aids and has facilities located in twenty countries around the world with over 4,000 employees. "I work for the non-profit foundation called "Hear Now," it has become my passion," shared Sister Joanita.



"As a member of CSA I find daily prayer is very important to me. I couldn't do the work I am doing if I didn't spend time in prayer each morning" continued Sister Joanita. "I am a firm believer that all we do should be a prayer; our lives need to reflect what matters to us. When I pick up the phone at work and hear the pain and despair of people's stories I ask myself "how can I help this person, and I pray for guidance". This is critical to me I see myself as an instrument of Christ and I want to serve in the best way possible."

"Every single day we help someone directly to make their lives better. It is very rewarding, the recipients are so grateful. Our program provides the hearing aids at little or no cost based on a person's income. For a person to get a job or maintain their job they need to be able to hear. We are serving the working poor who cannot afford the price of hearing aids, they are rarely covered under insurance plans. To hear is such a quality of life issue, I love the ripple effect it has because through the giving of a pair of hearing aids so much good can come. Starkey Laboratories is the only company that provides free hearing devices to people unable to afford them. This is an amazing place to work, the attitude of helping the poor fits in with the Congregation's mission statement of treating people with value and dignity and caring for the poor and marginalized" said Sister Joanita.