

Charter Mission Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
Southgate Academy, Inc.

CTDS:
10-87-79-000

Mailing Address:
850 West Valencia Road
Tucson, AZ 85706
> [View detailed info](#)

Representative

Name:
Sherry Matyjasik

Phone Number:
520-741-7900

Fax Number:
520-741-7901

Downloads

 [Download all files](#)

Mission

Change From

The mission of Southgate Academy is to successfully promote a higher standard of education, establishing a safe environment for learning and social development, and enabling students to become life long responsible citizens.

Change To

The mission of Southgate Academy is to successfully promote a higher standard of education, establish a safe environment for learning and social development, and enable students to become lifelong responsible citizens. As an alternative school Southgate Academy Charter School is committed to serving the unique needs of our "at risk" youth. It is our mission to provide a mutually respectful environment where faculty and staff encourage and celebrate student academic successes and develop a genuine sense of value and belonging through social reinforcement.

Attachments

Board Minutes —  [Download File](#)

Additional Information*

No documents were uploaded.

Signatures

Charter Representative Signature
Sherry Matyjasik 11/15/2011

PUBLIC MEETING

SOUTHGATE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

850 W. Valencia Road

Tucson, AZ 85706

April 5, 2011

Time: 11:00

AGENDA

Call to order: 11:00 am All governing board members present: Sylvia Enriquez, Lisa Lee, Frank Gilvin, Grant Lehman, Delia McCraley, Luis Peters, Sherry Matyjasik Also present: Leo Condos

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance: Luis Peters

Reading of Minutes: Sherry Matyjasik read minutes from February 14, 2011 meeting. Delia McCraley motioned to accept as read, Grant Lehman seconded, all present in favor.

Order of Business:

Director's Report – Included reviewing the proposal for non-traditional school calendar along with BT questionnaire from SGA staff with comments. Sherry Matyjasik asked for governing board's concerns and / or support on the Beyond Textbook curriculum mapping. Sylvia Calmelat stated that having studied the data and stats of Vail, it was highly probable for Southgate Academy to develop and support Beyond Textbooks through the extensive training outlined and monitoring of all instructional staff, (also outlined,) which would result in higher academic gains for SGA students. Delia McCraley motioned to move forward and adopt both the Beyond Textbook implementations and the non-traditional 2011-12 fiscal calendar as presented. Luis Peters seconded, and all present were in favor.

Alternative School Application: Modifications to Mission Statement

Presented was the modification to the Southgate Academy, Inc. Mission Statement for the purpose of application approval for of "Alternative School" status.

Mission

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
SOUTHGATE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
850 W. Valencia Road
Tucson, AZ 85706
April 5, 2011
Time: 11:00

AGENDA

Call to order

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Minutes

Order of Business:

Director's Report: Beyond Textbooks (BT) -Adoption

2011-12 Fiscal Year: Non-Traditional Calendar (Modifications)

Alternative School Application: Modifications to Mission Statement

Student Achievements and Awards

MACILOS Entrepreneur Funds and Student Program Distributions

For a copy of this notice, please ask at the 850 front desk or call (520) 741-7900

Posted Time: April 1, 2011 8:30 am

The mission of Southgate Academy is to successfully promote a higher standard of education, establish a safe environment for learning and social development, and enable students to become life-long responsible citizens.

As an alternative school Southgate Academy Charter School is committed to serving the unique needs of our "at risk" youth. It is our mission to provide a mutually respectful environment where faculty and staff encourage and celebrate student academic successes and develop a genuine sense of value and belonging through social reinforcement activities.

Sylvia Calmelat motioned to adopt the changes to Southgate Academy's Mission Statement as presented, Frank Gilvin seconded, all governing board members present in favor.

Student Achievements and Awards

Grade 4: Sky Mithen Tucson Pre-Teen Award - \$1,000.00

Grade 12: Erika Mauro – Most improved Holistic Accomplishment Award - \$1,000.00

Frank Gilvin motioned to approve awards as presented, Lisa Lee seconded, all governing board members present in favor.

MACILOS Entrepreneur Funds and Student Program Distributions Update

Sherry Matyjasik presented the MACILOS Student Financial Report for an update on distribution progress towards student activities / projects. Final data would be included in their final end of year 2010-11 report. No vote required:

Superintendent's Report: Progress of adjoining buildings negotiations and construction progress of the 3580 property; Retainer for attorney specific to not-for-profit organizations; Confirmations to continue planning and negotiations as presented. Lisa Lee motioned to accept as presented, Delia McCraley seconded, all present in favor with the exception of Sherry Matyjasik who recused her vote.

Meeting adjourned at 12:27 pm

Sylvia Calmelat

From: Achieve Inbox [Achieve@azed.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2011 12:30 PM
To: Sylvia Calmelat
Subject: AZ LEARNS Alternative School Status Application Response

Good afternoon.

Your application for AZ LEARNS alternative school status for Southgate Academy, CTDS 10-87-79-101, entity id 79091, has been reviewed. We are pleased to inform you that your application has been approved.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Kind regards,

Aleks



RECEIVED

JUL 22 2011

Southgate Academy, Inc.

850 W Valencia Road; Tucson, AZ 85706

July 22, 2011

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 W. Washington Street, Room 164
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Attention: Bianca Martinez

Dear Ms. Martinez,

Following your conversation with Southgate Academy's Superintendent, Sylvia Calmelat yesterday, July 21, 2011, I am responding to your verbal request for further clarification of our Governing Board notes dated April 5, 2011 which was specific to our request for amendments to our Mission Statement and Program of Instruction.

1. *Why did I recuse myself from voting on the acceptance of the Superintendent's Report ?*

I have always recused my vote concerning issues of expansion and legal issues to avoid any semblance of conflict of interest as the founder of Southgate Academy. Choosing an attorney for advise on federal tax form 990 and expansion, in my opinion, should be up to the governing board.

2. *Who are the existing governing board members of Southgate Academy, Inc.?*

The existing governing board members of Southgate Academy, Inc. are:

Sherry Matyjasik
Sylvia Calmelat
Lisa Lee
Delia McCraley
Frank Gilvin
Luis Peters

3. *Provide an explanation of the Social Reinforcement Activities for the students at Southgate Academy.*

Southgate Academy's mission is to "successfully promote a higher standard of education, establish a safe environment for learning and social development, enabling students to become life-long responsible citizens.

As an alternative school Southgate Academy Charter School is committed to serving the unique needs of our 'at risk' youth. It is our mission to provide a mutually respectful environment where faculty and staff encourage and celebrate student academic successes and develop a genuine sense of value and belonging through social reinforcement activities."

Southgate Academy has implemented a comprehensive educational program created primarily by myself entitled "M.A.C.I.L.O.S." This is an acronym for the true title of the program, "Making A Change in Lives of Students." This replicable program uses research-based instruction and curricula intertwined with real-life application and social activities. The program uses the foundational principles of Abraham Maslow's "Hierarchy of Needs" theory. The program is designed to meet a student's physiological needs, sense of safety, social needs, and self-esteem. Once the lower level deficiencies are met, a student's academic growth is challenged to explore, discover and excel on their own using the knowledge they gain to reach their highest potential.

I have enclosed a brief synopsis that details the social reinforcement activities. Also enclosed is a sample of one of our trips.

I hope this response satisfies your concerns.

Very truly yours,

Sherry Matyjasik
Charter Representative

MACILOS PILOT PROGRAM

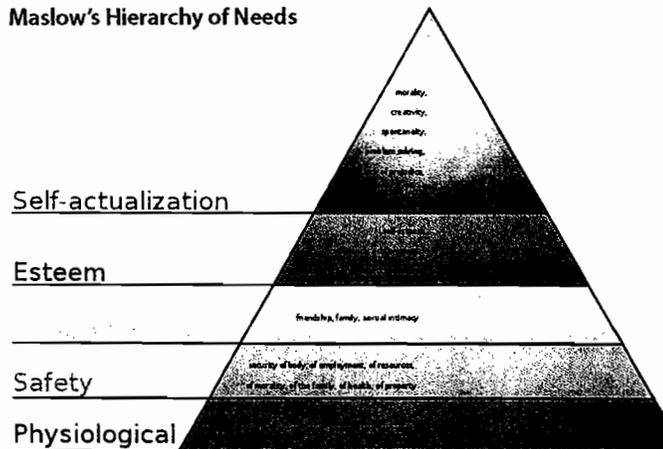
(Making A Change In Lives Of Students)

“Student Sponsored – Community Supported”

What is M.A.C.I.L.O.S.?

M.A.C.I.L.O.S. (Making A Change In Lives Of Students) Pilot Program is a replicable, innovative pilot program using research-based instruction and curricula intertwined with real-life application. In part, MACILOS Pilot Program was created using the foundational principles of Abraham Maslow’s, “Hierarchy of needs” theory. Overall, the program pyramid structure is designed to meet a student’s physiological needs, sense of safety, social needs, and self-esteem. Once these lower level deficiencies are met, a student’s academic growth is challenged to explore, discover and excel on their own using the knowledge they gain to reach their highest potential.

Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs



PHYSIOLOGICAL NEEDS: Proper nutrition – The MACILOS students are served, free of charge, breakfast, two protein snacks, (mid morning and mid afternoon), and a healthy lunch daily, low in sugars and fat.

SAFETY: Provide an environment where students feel safe and secure.

SOCIAL NEEDS: Students need a sense of belonging. They need to develop healthy friendships and feel loved. The MACILOS is a program that develops strong bonds and is designed for students to feel a sense of family with their peers and instructors. Throughout the fiscal school year, several social reinforcement trips are planned including a trip to Washington, D.C. and Orlando, Florida, “Home of the Gators.”(A Tutorial Instructor is assigned to go on all trips to assist with the students’ academics.)

ESTEEM: Students should be recognized for their achievements. In MACILOS, it isn’t where the student is – “it’s where they are going.” This program challenges where a student is weak and encourages them to achieve what they will need to do to become life-long productive, responsible, and successful young adults.

KNOWLEDGE: The academic success of a child depends on a team of individuals which includes parents, instructors, and

students. By closely monitoring a student's progress, academic gains are more easily reached.

BEHAVIOR:

Students are given and learn to display the utmost respect for others. That includes their peers, staff, and their community.

SELF-ACTUALIZATION: Helping a student reach their highest potential is the ultimate quest of the MACILOS Pilot Program. MACILOS is designed to prepare students for "AFTER" graduation. There are many different avenues to success, however without preparation, (which includes the possibility of furthering a student's education through a secondary means); students will not be ready for adulthood. Southgate has developed many partnerships with community businesses in career training along with Pima Community College. Many of our students will earn 1 year towards their Associate Degree upon High School Graduation.

Mission Statement

The mission of Southgate Academy is to successfully promote a higher standard of education, establish a safe environment for learning and social development, and enable students to become life-long responsible citizens. *As* an alternative school Southgate Academy Charter School is committed to serving the unique needs of our "at risk" youth. It is our mission to provide a mutually respectful environment where faculty and staff encourage and celebrate student academic successes and develop a genuine sense of value and belonging through social reinforcement activities.

MACILOS PURPOSE / Goals

The purpose of MACILOS is to assist high risk students in reaching the following goals: 1) To Move towards academic success, a 3.0 GPA or higher and to complete High School Graduation with Honors; 2) Implement a career based plan to include secondary or vocational options; 3) Learning how to solve their own challenges responsibly; and 4) becoming self-supporting, goal-driven, and character-conscious members of society.

MACILOS Structure

The MACILOS Pilot Program is structured into four major parts – or scholastic quarters.

- First 9 Weeks: Building Character – Who Am I?
- Second 9 Weeks: Effective Argument – Debating with a purpose
- Third 9 Weeks: Entrepreneurship – Students Supporting Students (SSS)
- Fourth 9 Weeks: Putting It All Together

(Each quarter will be explained in greater detail in the pages following.)



"The Test of Endurance."

Prior to beginning the program, students and their parents are required to attend an all day workshop. The focus of the workshop will be:

- To briefly introduce, in part, “A Theory of Human Motivation” by A. H. Maslow– the inspiration of MACILOS.
- To plan yearly fiscal calendar to include academics, student goals and social activities.
- To address partnership expectations, (includes parent / student / SGA staff)

OBJECTIVES

Focus is placed on the objectives of the program and the expectations for students, parents and the school.

- Must follow all ABTA guidelines (see below)
- Be available for conferences, (phone, mail, and in person), when needed.
- Check MACILOS Blog every day for assignments and topics that will be discussed. (A computer will be provided if a student needs one for home use along with an allotment of \$25.00 for internet accessibility.) Also, if a student is assigned a home computer, the technology contract must be signed and followed to guarantee appropriate use of the computer is being used by student.
- Participate in extra-curricular activities such as fund raisers, school functions, and after school programs.

Particular focus is placed on parents’ and students’ commitment to be pro-active in ABTA, (Academics, Behavior, Tardies, and Absences), which simply means:

A **ACADEMICS:** Parents/students must be willing to have homework and grades monitored on weekly basis. A folder will be sent home every Friday with all assignments and a comment section from instructors on the students progress will need reviewed. If a student is behind or misses assignments, they will be expected to adhere to any corrective action plan set up by the MACILOS instructors.

B **BEHAVIOR:** Students must display the utmost respect for others. That includes their peers, staff, and when they are out in public, especially on the Social Reinforcement trips they will be going on.

T **TARDIES:** Students will be expected to be on time to all their classes. There will be no excuses for being late other than a signed passed from an instructor. Also, students are expected to be **ON TIME FOR THEIR FIRST CLASS.** (Allow at least 15 minutes for the MACILOS breakfast).

A **ABSENCES:** Students will not be allowed to miss more than 1 day every quarter unless they have a doctor's excuse. Learning to be responsible starts with consistency. It is impossible for students to achieve unless they are consistent with good attendance.

The MACILOS Pilot Program is structured into four major parts – or scholastic quarters.



First 9 Week Quarter: Building Character - Who Am I?

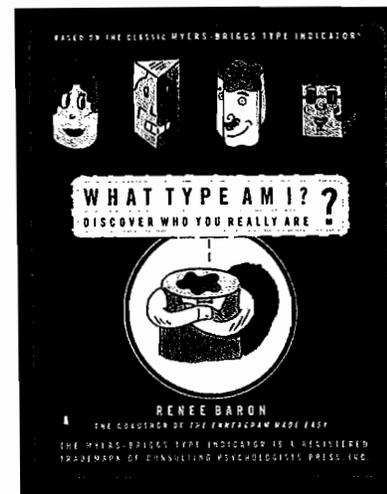
(UNDERSTANDING AND BUILDING A PERSONAL PROFILE)

The first nine weeks of MACILOS develops the students' knowledge of the applicable parts of Maslow's theory of human motivation. Students are challenged to recognize areas of weakness in their life, build on their strengths, gain greater commitment to their family unit and become involved in their community. Strategies are also developed to overcome or change the weakness into strengths.

The resource *What Type Am I?* is used to assist students in discovering their personality type. The book helps to assess four basic areas: relating to the world, taking in information, making decisions, and managing their life. Knowing more about themselves empowers students with self-understanding and self-worth. They begin to understand that they may be different but they are not alone. They obtain knowledge to enrich their lives and suggestions for personal growth.

Students will be building a Personal Profile which will include the following:

- Academic Student Profile - AIMS/Assessments; Credits earned; GPA history Attendance/Tardy patterns; Academic Goal Chart
- Family Profile: Includes building a family tree
- Personality Study
- Portfolio



Second 9 Week Quarter: Effective Argument – Debating With a Purpose

Debate in the classroom is used to develop critical thinking skills, public speaking skills, research skills and teamwork skills. This part of the program encourages students to challenge themselves through learning effective argument. It also allows students the opportunity to search themselves regarding topics or interests they may not consider in depth otherwise. Debate creates an opportunity for students to learn to express themselves and their view points in a logical and respectful manner and to learn that discussion of differences of opinions can be informational to both parties.



The course covers the following points:

- Introduction to debate
- Expanding on the concept of debate
- Affirmative case structure and overview of negative strategy
- Discussion in detail
- The great debate

Debate allows students to learn to be resourceful thinkers and teaches them how to quickly assess ideas and express them – a basic and *important* skill all students need to develop for success academically and in real life situations.

Third 9 Week Quarter: Entrepreneurship

The Entrepreneurship education portion of MACILOS seeks to provide students with the knowledge, skills and motivation to encourage entrepreneurial success in a safe and supportive hands-on setting. The program engages real-life use of the knowledge learned in school to engage students in their core subjects.

Entrepreneurship education equips students with organizational skills, leadership development, and interpersonal skills, all of which are highly transferable skills. Logic Models and Outcomes for Youth Entrepreneurship Programs (2001) reports students engaged in entrepreneurship programs have improved their academic performance, school attendance; and educational attainment; increase problem-solving and decision-making abilities; improve interpersonal relationships, teamwork, money management, and public speaking skills; are job ready; and have enhanced social psychological development (self-esteem, ego development, self-efficacy). Additional research found that a student's participation in an entrepreneurship program increases an interest in attending college, occupational aspirations, independent reading, and leadership behavior.¹

MACILOS's Entrepreneurship program begins with the introduction and development of a business plan and culminates in the implementation and operation of that plan. The course covers topics such as market analysis and transcription of the data; creating a company overview; determining target customers and their needs; analyzing competitive businesses (direct and indirect); developing marketing, promotional, distribution and operation plans based on obtained and analyzed data; identifying milestones; selecting a management team; and understanding and maintaining financial records.

¹ <http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/fact/entrepreneurship.htm>.

STUDENTS SUPPORTING STUDENTS (SSS)

Entrepreneurship is a tremendous force that can have a big impact in growth, recovery, and societal progress by fuelling innovation, employment generation and social empowerment. Through created businesses, students earn funding to support student activities which include:

- Student Council
- Sports
- Dances and Events
- Fine Art Programs



This portion of MACILOS Pilot program is essential to community growth & meeting the mission of Southgate Academy.

Fourth 9 Week Quarter: Putting It All Together

The fourth quarter focuses on putting the skills and knowledge learned during the prior weeks into real-life action. Students are removed from their comfort zones and paradigms to investigate unfamiliar settings. This is accomplished through social reinforcement trips.

While throughout the year, minor social reinforcement trips are organized to develop closer peer and mentoring relationships, a significant trip out-of-state is organized to implement “*Life Long Learning Skills*”. Students use the skills they have learned to plan the trip, including making reservations for overnight accommodations, meals, and social events such as their entrepreneurial skills to negotiate reduced rates. In developing the agenda of the trip, students investigate places of interest and then use a debate to encourage support for their favorites or to discourage their not so favorites.

Life Long Learning Skills Implemented Include:



- Creating the Itinerary
- Budget (includes accountability for spending)
- Menu Planning and grocery purchases
- Schedule of daily responsibilities (cooking, cleaning)
- Daily Reflections

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Along with the benefits provided in the MACILOS Pilot Program, a tutorial instructor is assigned to assist with any academic challenges the student may encounter,

including their Social Reinforcement Trips. Overall, by stimulating a student's mind to learning one must provide opportunities for philosophical thought and discussions as well as make the student feel self worth and safe. Overall, MACILOS students have demonstrated a higher attendance rate, greater desire to achieve, and a sense of dignity.



WHAT ARE THE KEY FACTORS TO MACILOS SUCCESS?

PARTNERSHIPS

MACILOS PARTNERSHIP EXPECTATIONS

Pima Community College Partnership: Southgate Academy will provide up to 2 courses per semester for MACILOS students who meet the following requirements:

- Must be at least a Junior of Southgate Academy in good standing
- Passed all AIMS testings
- ABTA must be achieved and maintained by the first 9 weeks of the academic fiscal year.
- Students/Parents will be expected to provide transportation to and from the Desert Campus.
- If course qualifies, 1 High School credit will be earned for a 3-credit college course.
- Maintain a 3.0 at Pima College and make arrangements with college counselors if tutoring is needed.
- Must follow all ABTA guidelines

Parent/Student/Southgate Academy Partnership:

- Must follow all ABTA guidelines
- Be available for conferences, (phone, mail, and in person), when needed.
- Check MACILOS Blog every day for assignments and topics that will be discussed. (A computer will be provided if a student needs one for home use along with an allotment of \$25.00 for internet accessibility.) Also, if a student is assigned a home computer, the technology contract must be signed and followed to guarantee appropriate use of the computer is being used by student.
- Participate in extra-curricular activities such as fund raisers, school functions, and after school programs.

Community Partnership:

- Student must attend and / or participate in scheduled events that are specifically designed for MACILOS.
- Participate in Southgate Academy scheduled Community events.
- Student must be actively involved in all Research projects scheduled by MACILOS instructors.
- Must follow all ABTA guidelines.

APPENDIX

As the founder of Southgate Academy, Inc and the MACILOS Pilot Program, I am lead by the heart, not by the mechanics. I strongly believe that if you can win the heart of a child, you will be a tool that is used to bring them a vision for success. It doesn't matter what ethnic background a child is from, the financial status of their parents, whether they are from a single family home or homeless. **Win *their heart and they will respect and trust your leadership.*** Southgate Academy, Inc. must endeavor to achieve and maintain a personal touch while working to bring our academic gains to a higher level. MACILOS is one avenue that will nurture and encourage more involvement from our staff, our community, and most importantly, our students and parents.

Looking forward to a fruitful and prosperous year with your child – Sherry Matyjasik

ATTENTION PARENTS:

Parental involvement is important to the academic growth of a child. Therefore, we will be having a breakfast for our MACILOS parents / guardians once a month rather than the all day workshop this year. The purpose is to discuss student achievements, events the students will be participating in and issues concerning student career choices. Below is the tentative schedule. Should you have any questions please feel free to call me at (520) 490-1364.

Thursday, July 21, 2011 7:00 – 7:45 am	Thursday, August 18, 2011 7:00 – 7:45 am
Thursday, September 22, 2011 7:00 – 7:45 am	Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:00 – 7:45 am
Thursday, November 17, 2011 7:00 – 7:45 am	Thursday, December 15, 2011 7:00 – 7:45 am
Thursday, January 12, 2012 7:00 – 7:45 am	Thursday, February 9, 2012 7:00 – 7:45 am
Thursday, March 8, 2012 7:00 – 7:45 am	Thursday, April 5, 2012 7:00 – 7:45 am
Thursday, May 17, 2012 7:00 – 7:45 am	

Please plan on attending these very important parental support meetings. It is vital to the success of your child's education. Sherry Matyjasik

About the front cover...

In April, 2010, The MACILOS, (which stands for, "Making A Change In Lives of Students",) were planning a trip to Washington D.C. As is the case with most schools, budget issues were challenging so the trip had to be planned at the last minute. As the founder of Southgate Academy, one of the main events I wanted to plan was for the students to meet their district official. Due to the short notice, the district representative in Southgate's area was unavailable to schedule anytime with the students. Since the students really desired to talk with someone in government on a personal level and the disappointment displayed was evident on their faces that they may not be meeting their representative, I made the decision to ask my district official, Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords if she might have a few moments to meet with the group. She was all too happy to take the time out of her busy schedule to do so. It became the highlight, (the chatter,) of our trip. In fact, two of these students were inspired to consider working in government as a result of that conversation with Congresswoman Giffords and another student now volunteers whenever there are elections / campaigns in Tucson for her party.

"...To everything there is a season and a purpose to everything under Heaven..." Ecclesiastes 3:1

None of us had any idea that when we took this picture what would insight just a few short months later. ***What we did discover was how devoted this young woman was to her community, State and country.***

None of us can truly understand how the innocence of a small community gathering would bring such a horrific tragedy. ***However what we did come to understand was how instinctually brave people can be when thrown into a moment of adversity, including Dorwan Stoddard. Your step father, along with many others and without notice, stepped up to the plate to protect loved ones, innocent by-standers and Congresswoman Giffords.***

None of us can honestly make sense of how innocent lives are lost or hurt over events that are meant to better each one of us. ***What we do know is that somehow, someway, each one of us will be challenged to glean in strength and character as a result of January 8, 2011.***

This photo is bitter-sweet. It serves to remind us of how fortunate we are to live in a country with great freedom yet how quickly a life can come to an end because of those rights. It reminds us of the bravery and length others are willing to take to serve, to protect, and to care. It is with gratitude and solitude that the students of Southgate Academy present this booklet to you. In some small way, may its pages bring you comfort during this challenging time. Our prayers are with your mom for physical and emotional healing as well as the entire family. We at Southgate love you Angela – you are truly a blessing to each one of us.

Deepest Sympathy,

Sherry D. Matyjasik and the MACILOS

