

Dear Joey,

I had a deep awakening to my own compassionate nature as I worked at St. Joseph's Vocational School with boys from the age of 6-16. These boys were at a very fertile stage in their human development having come to us from broken families, juvenile court, etc.

It was a challenge for us as religious to provide a home-like environment in a family atmosphere in which these boys could flourish. We tried to provide them with tender care. We stimulated their education, social skills and basic moral and religious values, preparing them for a hopeful independent future.

As I reflect on my experience with these boys, I realize it was more than a momentary blessing in my life. It gave me a focus which has prevailed throughout my life that is, to extend my compassion to all others irrespective of origin. Learning to rely on available resources, is another gift that developed in me which has prevailed throughout my life.

Sr. Josephine Doiron