

Update

A Publication of the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious

June 2013



LCWR 2013 Assembly
Leadership Evolving:
Graced, Grounded & Free
Orlando, Florida
August 13 - 16, 2013

Leadership Evolving: Graced, Grounded and Free Embracing a New Critical Juncture

A Pre-LCWR Assembly Workshop presented by the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious,
National Religious Retirement Office &
Resource Center for Religious Institutes

August 13, 2013 -- 8:30 AM -- 1:30 PM
LCWR Assembly Site

Participants in the 2013 LCWR assembly -- Leadership Evolving: Graced, Grounded & Free -- will explore how the growing awareness of an evolving universe impacts understandings of religious life and leadership.



Keynoter **Ilia Delio, OSF** will address the topic, "Religious Life on the Edge of the Universe." In order to prepare for her presentations, LCWR suggests that members read the following:

- *The Unbearable Wholeness of Being: God, Evolution, and the Power of Love*, a book by Ilia.
- The interview with Ilia from the summer 2012 edition of *Occasional Papers*: "Seeing Christianity as a Religion of Evolution and the Implications for Religious Life." The interview is available at: lcsr.org/sites/default/files/page/files/interview_with_ilia_delio_-_op_summer_12.pdf

The assembly will also include a presentation by and opportunity to interact with Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, as well as several executive sessions to discuss the CDF mandate to LCWR.

Early registration is encouraged since fees increase after June 21.

The purposes of the gathering are:

- To increase awareness of the urgency of planning for the future
- To familiarize participants of the services available through the three presenting organizations (LCWR, NRRO and RCRI)
- To review a variety of approaches for planning for the future including the covenanting concept
- To suggest some "next best steps" for moving forward

The gathering will be especially helpful to leaders of communities that identify with one or more of the following:

- Are concerned about lack of financial planning and/or fiscal management for the future
- Have a median age of 75 or higher
- Have had no new members in the recent past
- Are concerned about diminishing numbers and a shrinking leadership pool

Registration deadline: June 15, 2013

While it would be beneficial for entire leadership teams or councils to attend this workshop, the limit for the number from any one community is two members, since the workshop is restricted to 100 participants. If after June 15 there is room for more participants, registration will be opened to additional members of council/leadership teams.

Fee: \$125 per person including lunch

Registration Form: lcsr.org/system/files/members/attachments/pre-assembly_gathering.pdf

From the LCWR Presidency

Celebrating God's Abundant Love

by Carol Zinn, SSJ — LCWR President-Elect

As I sit in my office writing this reflection, the view from my window speaks of the fullness of nature and the abundance of God's love born again each spring in sights, smells, breezes, and blossoms. Clearly, Gerard Manley Hopkins caught the depth of this reality in the words: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." Given the diversity of weather patterns across our country these past weeks, however, some views from windows could be that of frost and snow, with the ever present hope springing eternal!

The visuals of the spring season and its seamless move into summer mirror the fullness and abundance of our faith life these past weeks. With the celebrations of Ascension Thursday, Pentecost, the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity, and the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and



the lives of all those they touched. That Pentecostal experience brought to birth the presence of the Risen Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit within and among all of them and us, then and now, there and here, forever and ever.

The Spirit's gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord along with the fruits of the Spirit: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity ground us in ways that sustain, grace, and challenge. They lure

us to follow the Risen One even when the way is not clear. They call us to a fidelity that will cost us even as it strengthens us. And they propel us more deeply into the Heart of our God as we continue to discern where the God of the Future beckons us to journey. These gifts and their fruits are both sustenance and litmus test. When we ponder whether a thought, word, or action is of God and for God, we can be confident of its origin and outcome when it reflects the Spirit's gifts and bears the Spirit's fruits. When we discern whether the next step in a personal, congregational, or organizational journey is of God and for God, we can be confident of its prompting and purpose when it reflects the Spirit's gifts and bears the Spirit's fruits.

As we find ourselves quickly catapulted into Ordinary Time, we realize that these times are anything but ordi-

When we ponder whether a thought, word, or action is of God and for God, we can be confident of its origin and outcome when it reflects the Spirit's gifts and bears the Spirit's fruits.

Blood of Christ, we ground ourselves more fully and deeply in the truth and experience of God's Abundant Love. These liturgical moments come so quickly each year that we might miss the fullness they offer and the invitations they provide.

How often we find ourselves resonating with the first disciples as they moved from Good Friday to Easter Sunday, through the Ascension towards Pentecost. They journeyed from profound loss, doubt, and fear to uncontainable joy, hope, and peace through another round of loss, doubt, and fear towards a time of freedom, courage, and ministry that changed their lives and

May we lean, together, into God's Abundant Love as we remain faithful to the Gospel call of Jesus for the life of the world.

nary. We enter them believing that our relational God of the Trinity accompanies us and the Eucharist nourishes us for whatever may emerge. May we lean, together, into God's Abundant Love as we remain faithful to the Gospel call of Jesus for the life of the world.

LCWR Members Encouraged to Reflect on Emerging Insights

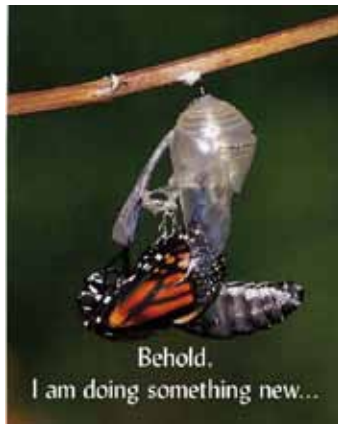
The LCWR regional meetings have included a contemplative process designed to bring forth insights on the new questions and realities that are emerging for women religious.

The insights submitted to the national office are posted on the LCWR website -- lcsr.org/resources/leadership-pathways/ behold. LCWR members are encouraged to pray with these insights and to reflect on them together as leadership teams.

The process is designed to foster a national conversation around the critical issues in the world and church today which impact religious life and which call for a response from women religious.

LCWR will also periodically make available on its website 4"X6" cards that contain an insight submitted from an LCWR region. Members and associates are encouraged to print these cards and use them for their reflection as part of the conference's communal contemplation of its call into the future.

The first card is now available at lcsr.org/resources/leadership-pathways/ behold. The card may be downloaded by scrolling to the bottom of the page.



Insights from the participants in the March LCWR New Leaders Workshop are also available on the same page.

Religious Life Educative Resources Available Online

UISG Plenary Addresses

The major addresses delivered at the UISG plenary in May 2013 may be downloaded at: www.vidimusdominum.org/en/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=12.

Occasional Papers Articles in French

LCWR associate Anne Bayart, SU generously provided translations into French of two articles from the Summer 2012 issue of *Occasional Papers*. "Managing Change Successfully" by Lynn M. Levo, CSJ offers leaders suggestions for change management within religious institutes. "Forming Leaders for Changing Times," is an interview with Eileen Campbell, RSM and Nancy Schreck, OSF on the skills needed for leadership today and how they will be offered in LCWR's Leadership Pathways program and processes. Both articles are found at: lcsr.org/articles-pertinent-religious-life.

Anne is a member of the Society of St. Ursula and resides in Sain Cyr-su-Loire, France.

LCWR Annotated Bibliography

The Contemporary Religious Life Committee offers suggested readings and reflection questions in an annotated bibliography available at: lcsr.org/sites/default/files/page/files/bibliography12-12_0.pdf

Extra Copies of LCWR Reflective Journal Available

Due to a printer overrun, additional copies of LCWR's new book, *Navigating the Shifts*, a resource for reflecting on living in a world in flux, may still be ordered. Forms are available at: lcsr.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/2013reflectionorder_0.pdf



THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK



11TH ANNUAL
JAMES PARKS MORTON
AWARDS DINNER

Interfaith Center of New York to Honor Pat Farrell, OSF

The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) will be honoring LCWR past president Pat Farrell, OSF at its 11th annual James Park Morton Interfaith Awards Dinner on June 10 in Manhattan. ICNY is a secular educational nonprofit that seeks “to make New York City and the world safe for religious differences by increasing respect and mutual understanding among people of different faiths, ethnicities, and cultural traditions, and by fostering cooperation among religious communities and civic organizations to solve common social problems.”

ICNY notes that the theme of the event, “The Courage of Conviction – Then & Now,” was chosen “as our awardees each in their identifiable way have taken extraordinary actions in their personal and/or professional lives that have contributed to a more peaceful, fair, and just society.” In addition to honoring Pat, awards will be given to: Rev. Dr. C.T. Vivian, minister, author and veteran civil rights activist; Bill Moyers, host, PBS Bill Moyers Journal; Judith Moyers, CEO, Public Affairs Television; and Russell Simmons, entrepreneur and chairman, Foundation for Ethnic Understanding.

ICNY gives awards to “individuals who exemplify an outstanding commitment to promoting human development and peace -- values shared by the world’s great religious traditions.” Previous honorees of the award have included Archbishop Desmond Tutu, President Bill Clinton, Wynton Marsalis, and Ravi Shankar.

LCWR Honored by Gwynedd -Mercy College

Gwynedd-Mercy College in Pennsylvania bestowed its Beacon of Mercy Award on LCWR at its graduation ceremonies on May 11. LCWR president-elect Carol Zinn, SSJ accepted the award on behalf of the conference and delivered the commencement address.

The proclamation read at the ceremony noted that the award was being given for all sisters, both living and deceased:

“For your deep love and gracious concern for the people of God throughout the world;

“For your abiding compassion and unwavering commitment to the poor, the sick, and the suffering of our day;

“For your tender courage in challenging civic leaders to heed the moral imperative to protect the life and dignity of all;

“For your wisdom in promoting and supporting Catholic education for the well-being of people and the transformation of society;

“For possessing strength of character and courage of conviction; and for demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the values of mercy in the face of adversity; and

“For demonstrating an awareness of the individual’s responsibility for the transformation of society and working toward the creation of a global community.

“Sister Carol, for you and the 57,000 other women religious in the United States of America, we honor your example of integrity and compassion; your dedication to service; and your leadership in creating a society that radiates Gospel values and inspires others to share in the mission of Mercy.”

LCWR Receives Voice of the Voiceless Award

by Mary Hughes, OP -- 2011 LCWR President

Annunciation House is a ministry extending hospitality to the immigrants who come to this country through Mexico. Staffed by a small community of volunteers who live in the house, this very special place welcomes the undocumented, and serves as both advocates and witnesses for those who come through its doors. This year, in celebrating 35 years of blessed ministry, they honored women religious in both the United States and Mexico for our work with immigrants. Because our presidency was in Rome at the time, I was privileged to represent all of us at the awards dinner. Dolores Palencia, SJL, a former leader of the Conference of Major Superiors of Mexico, was there to receive the award on behalf of her Mexican Sisters.

On the day we both traveled to El Paso, there was an evening prayer vigil on behalf of the missing. More than 20,000 people went missing in Mexico just last year alone. The event began after dark with prayer and music outside. Then three projectors simultaneously began to project the names of more than 9,000 of the missing on the walls of Annunciation House. In the background, music from the movie, *The Mission*, was playing. At times it would indicate that children disappeared with the parent and their ages, 9, 7, and 5 were listed. The darkness allowed tears to freely flow.

The next day there was a wonderful forum on immigration. Its theme was "Roar from the Silence: Injustice will not Stand." It was a powerful interplay of formal presentations and voices from immigrants telling of torture, missing children, their dangerous journeys to this country, and of their hope for a future.

The banquet dinner was one of rice and beans, eaten in solidarity with the poor whom we serve. An award was given to a couple whose daughter never came home from her university in March 2009. They have been tireless in their efforts to create awareness of the disappeared. They still live in hope that she will be returned. After beautiful words about the women religious in each country, both Sister Dolores and I were invited to speak and to receive the award. The Voice of the Voiceless Award was crafted by a local sculptor. It is that of a small bird whose feet are caught in thorns, and yet, it sings.

The LCWR has been the recipient of many beautiful awards. Receiving this award, being in the presence of the executive director and volunteers, as well as being in the presence of so many immigrants, was a holy experience. Thank you for the privilege!



2011 LCWR president Mary Hughes, OP represented LCWR in El Paso, Texas where she accepted "The Voice of the Voiceless Award"



LCWR Officers Address Church in Europe

The Herbert Haag Foundation for Freedom in the Church awarded its 2013 prize to LCWR and the 46,000 women religious whom LCWR members represent. LCWR past president Pat Farrell, OSF traveled to Lucerne, Switzerland to receive the award on April 14.

The prize for Freedom in the Church was endowed by Herbert Haag (1915 – 2001), professor of Old Testament at the University of Tübingen in Germany. This prize honors people and institutions that engage themselves in the spirit of the apostle Paul for freedom in the church and in doing so give witness to the world.

Mr. Haag’s nephew Herbert Haag, outgoing foundation president Hans Küng, and incoming president Erwin Koller were among those present for the award ceremony.

Speaking of US women religious the Haag Foundation noted, “Their struggle for the marginalized and people in difficult circumstances, their presence to the needs of today’s world, and their careful reflection of the signs of the times in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, have made them a pillar of the Catholic Church in the United States of America.”

Various groups throughout Europe asked for a representative from LCWR to speak following the award. As a result, Pat stayed on in Switzerland to give several presentations in Lucerne, Basel, and Zürich.

In addition LCWR president Florence Deacon gave presentations in Innsbrook, Austria; Frankfurt and Munich, Germany; and Dublin, Ireland. Florence also addressed the UISG plenary, giving an update on the doctrinal assessment of LCWR by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.



At the award ceremony in Switzerland: Herbert Haag; Hans Küng; Pat Farrell; Sabine Demel, professor of canon law in Regensburg, Germany; and Erwin Koller



European newspaper coverage of The Herbert Haag Foundation award ceremony, Photo is of Pat Farrell with Hans Küng.



Florence Deacon addresses a Catholic audience in Germany

LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Committee Meets

The LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Committee met from May 13-15 at the Washington Retreat Center in Washington, DC.

Agenda items included: the LCWR assembly, the contemplative process, LCWR regional meetings, the LCWR annotated bibliography, and Leadership Pathways.



Contemporary Religious Life Committee: (back) Rosemary Smith, SC; Janet Mock, CSJ (executive director); Pat Rayburn, OSF; Marie McCarthy, SP (staff); Annmarie Sanders, IHM (staff); (front) Rebecca Ann Gemma, OP and Catherine Bertrand, SSND (facilitator)

THE Occasional Papers

Exploring the Richness of Fallow Time



As the season of Advent 2012 began, the LCWR officers wrote to the members about the doctrinal assessment of LCWR by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. They noted that they found themselves “in the praxis of advent, waiting for the word to come to us from God as we enter into listening and conversing.”

As the conference continues its commitment to communal and personal contemplation on the work of God in our midst, LCWR offers this next issue of *Occasional Papers* as a reflection on living in fallow time. The articles and interviews are resources for exploring the riches and depths of this collectively quieter, more still time for the conference. The content focuses on the work of the Spirit, communal discernment, and on what both scripture and nature can teach us about fallow time. Writers also explore Joanna Macy’s “empowering shifts in perception” and how they may influence the exercise of leadership in these times. Among the contributors to this issue are Dianne Bergeant, CSA; Donald Goergen, OP; and Joanna Macy.

Orders for additional copies must be received by June 14, using this form: lcsr.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/oporderssummer13.pdf.

Upcoming LCWR Dates

LCWR Assembly

Orlando, Florida

August 13 — 17, 2013

LCWR Retreat

Redemptorist Renewal Center

Tucson, Arizona

January 19 — 24, 2014

LCWR New Leader Workshop

Conference Center - University of St. Mary of the Lake

Mundelein, Illinois

March 27 — 30, 2014

LCWR Assembly

Nashville, Tennessee

August 12 — 16, 2014

LCWR Assembly

Houston, Texas

August 11—15, 2015

LCWR Members and Colleagues Push for Compassionate Comprehensive Immigration Reform

The Senate Judiciary Committee began the markup on the bi-partisan S. 744, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act on May 9 and most expect it to continue into June. The Judiciary Committee mark-up is the first opportunity for Senators to amend the bill, which could improve or weaken it.

LCWR members, in cooperation with the Interfaith Immigration Coalition (IIC) and the Justice for Immigrants (JFI) Campaign, have been actively involved in efforts to ensure a faithful bill that welcomes the immigrant and ensures protections for the most vulnerable and for all Americans.

Strategies have included daily calls to the offices of Judiciary Committee members urging support for amendments that would protect immigrants and voicing opposition to amendments that would weaken immigrant protections.

On May 21 Catholics from across the country met with lawmakers and their staffs in Washington, DC, to advocate for immigration reform that will prioritize family unity, provide an achievable roadmap to citizenship, prioritize family unity, protect the rights of workers, address the root causes of migration, and promote the integration of newcomers.

Finally, LCWR members and their colleagues are planning to meet with their members of Congress while they are at home on recess May 27-June 3, July 1-5, and August 5-September 6. Members are anxious to hear how the immigration debate is playing out in their home districts and proponents of reform are eager to share their enthusiasm for compassionate reform with them. Additional information and materials are available at www.interfaithimmigration.org and www.justiceforimmigrants.org.

Is Your Leadership Term About to End?

If your leadership term is ending this month, you must submit a change of leadership form found in the LCWR Members Information section (password-protected) of the website at lcwr.org/members/lcwr-membership-information.



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LCWR Region 4 Members Head for the Hill to Advocate for Immigration Reform

Members of LCWR Region 4 included a day on Capitol Hill in their spring meeting agenda. Region members began their day on the Hill by hosting a briefing on immigration for members of Congress and their staffs. The panel, which was moderated by Anne Curtis, RSM, addressed the brokenness of the current immigration system from a faith perspective. Toby Lardy, HM shared her experience of ministry to those immigrants who have been abused and exploited by human traffickers. Mary Pellegrino, CSJ told the story of the struggle of families separated by the current broken immigration system. Ann Scholz, SSND highlighted both the promise and the challenges in the proposed Senate legislation S 744 the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act.

In addition to House and Senate staffers who were present, the group was joined by a number of members of the House who stopped by the briefing to offer their support and to thank the sisters for their efforts. Representatives Rosa de Lauro (D-CT) and Anna Eshoo (D-CA) expressed gratitude for the positive impact women religious have made in their own lives and for their critical contributions to the nation and they reminded those present of the important role women religious continue to play as advocates for those most in need. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), House Minority Whip, also took time to address the group and to thank them for their support of comprehensive immigration reform. Representative Bobby Scott (D) from Virginia's third district lent his support as well.



Immigration briefing panel: Ann Scholz, SSND; Toby Lardy, HM; Mary Pellegrino, CSJ; and Anne Curtis, RSM

After the briefing the group headed off to deliver letters from their congregations calling on Congress to support immigration reform that provides a clear road to citizenship, prioritizes family unity, honors America's DREAMers, and protects the most vulnerable. Many also had the opportunity to meet with their own Senators and Representatives or their staffs to talk about the critical need for compassionate comprehensive immigration reform.

World Needs Continued Resolve to Accomplish the MDGs

In 2000 world leaders agreed to a set of eight targets for international development. Since then, the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have become the single most important organizing principle of the international community's fight against extreme poverty, disease, and discrimination.

Many of the MDGs have been met, but focus is needed in areas where the world is lagging. One set of goals that need help is related to maternal health and mortality. In many ways these are among the most important of the goals. Studies have shown that investing in women and girls can have profoundly positive economic and social consequences.

The Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education is within reach, but 61 million children are still locked out of the classroom. Work needs to be done to reach the poorest, as well as girls, and new donors are needed to make a final push.

World leaders gave themselves a deadline of 15 years to reach these goals. It is now less than 1000 days until the MDGs are due. So how much progress has been made? What is left to do? What should replace the MDGs once they expire? And most importantly, what can ordinary citizens of the world do to help the cause? More information: www.un.org/millenniumgoals/.

Federal Budget Choices Must Reflect America's Shared Values

A prominent coalition of America's major national religious organizations, including LCWR, has crafted the Faithful Budget for FY 2014. It is an expression of the faith community's budget priorities that stands in stark contrast to the partisan budget proposals currently under consideration. The document is a set of comprehensive and compassionate budget principles that promotes values shared by diverse faiths: protection of the common good, the value of each individual, and lifting the burden on those living at the economic margins of society.

With the release of the Faithful Budget FY 2014, the faith community called on Congress and President Obama to address their budgets' shortfalls by restoring economic opportunity, ensuring adequate resources for shared priorities, meeting critical human needs at home and abroad, accepting intergenerational responsibility, using the gifts of creation sustainably and responsibly, providing access to health care for all, and recognizing a robust role for government.

The preamble, which has been endorsed by 44 religious denominations and organizations, calls on Congress and President Obama "to craft a federal budget that fulfills our shared duty to each other in all segments of society, to those who are struggling to overcome poverty or are especially vulnerable, and to future generations through our collective responsibility as stewards of Creation."

Faithful Budget for FY 2014 builds on the Faithful Budget for FY 2013 and the Faithful Budget Campaign, an effort launched by the religious community to lift up faithful voices on behalf of the nation's most vulnerable in order to encourage the administration and Congress to maintain a robust commitment to domestic and international poverty assistance programs. The Faithful Budget for FY 2014 was spearheaded by some of the nation's most recognizable Christian, Jewish, Muslim and other faith-based organizations. These groups are united by shared commitment to lift up the nation's most vulnerable and demonstrate that America is a better nation when we follow our faiths' imperatives to promote the common good. Additional details about the Faithful Budget Campaign can be found at www.faithfulbudget.org.

Gun Safety Bill Fails to Pass Senate

A bill addressing gun violence failed to pass the sixty-vote threshold in the Senate disappointing the many groups, including LCWR, who have urged Congress to take up the issue in the wake of the tragedies in Newtown, Aurora, Tucson, Fort Hood, Virginia Tech, Columbine, and so many more. A compromise to expand the gun purchase background check program by Sens. Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.) and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) garnered 54 votes, with almost all Democrats joined by four Republicans in support of the bill. Manchin said later that lobbying from the National Rifle Association prevented many senators from supporting the bill, and vowed to continue legislative action on the issue.



Representative Peter King (R-NY2) has introduced a bill in the House that would protect Second Amendment rights, ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, and provide a responsible and consistent background check process." The house proposal, HR 1565, is cosponsored by 174 Democrats and two Republicans. Additional information may be found at Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence -- faithsagainstgunviolence.org

News from the United Nations

World Refugee Day, June 20, is a time to remember those around the world who are forced from their homes. Every minute of every day eight people leave everything behind to escape war, persecution, or terror. At the end of 2011 there were 42.5 million forcibly displaced people, one third of them children; 15.2 million were refugees, 48% of them were women and girls; 895,000 asylum-seekers; 26.4 million internally displaced people; 12 million stateless persons; and 3.7 million returnees. More resources are available at www.un.org/en/events/refugeeday/resources.shtml.





- Letter urging Congress to continue the longstanding bipartisan commitment to protect and support SNAP, specifically by opposing harmful structural changes in the Farm Bill. LCWR (4/17/13)
- Statement welcoming the release of the bipartisan Senate bill S-744 which seeks to fix the nation's broken immigration system. LCWR (4/19/13)
- Letter in support of provisions in Title III of S-744, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013 to strengthen regulation of foreign labor contractors. LCWR (4/24/13)
- LCWR joined national, state, and local humanitarian, faith-based, and refugee-serving organizations, in thanking the "Gang of Eight" for the inclusion of improvements to immigration law protecting refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless people in S-744. LCWR (4/26/13)
- Letter in support of Senator Blumenthal's (D-CT) Little Dreamers Amendment to improve the DREAM Act as currently drafted in the S-744 so that the youngest children will not be forced to wait more than a decade before being eligible for citizenship. LCWR (5/6/13)
- Statement in support of Senator Al Franken's proposed amendment to S-744, HELP Separated Children Act that calls for smart, humane enforcement and detention policies that protect children and keep families together. LCWR (5/8/13)
- Letter calling on Senators to address push factors/root causes of immigration in S-744. LCWR (5/8/13)
- Letter to United States Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice expressing deep concern about the lack of progress achieved to date by the United Nations in addressing Haiti's cholera epidemic and asking her to prioritize its elimination. LCWR (5/9/13)
- Letter to Senate Judiciary Committee members urging them to support Senator Coon's Amendment to S-744 limiting dangerous deportation practices that unnecessarily make migrants more vulnerable to violence and exploitation. LCWR (5/9/13)
- Letter to Senate Judiciary Committee urging members to protect and extend the Act's path to citizenship as they consider the bipartisan S-744. LCWR (5/13/13)
- Letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee urging committee members to support Senator Hirono's amendment #22 to S-744, the Child Trafficking Victims Protection Act, which will amend TVPRA and provide important due process protections and appropriate care for unaccompanied children in CBP custody. LCWR (5/15/13)
- Letter to Senate Judiciary Committee from faith-based, service, human rights, and humanitarian leaders urging them to oppose amendments to S-744 that would stop needed reforms to improve the lives of migrants impacted by a broken detention system and support amendments that would build upon these reforms. LCWR (5/17/13).
- Letter to Senate Judiciary Committee members from faith, education, child advocacy, healthcare, community service, humanitarian and civil rights organizations urging them to support Senator Blumenthal's amendment #8 and Senator Coons' amendment #13 to S-744 limiting immigration enforcement actions at highly sensitive community locations—namely, places of worship, schools, and hospitals. LCWR (5/19/13)

From NRRO:

Is There a Free Lunch?

There is a free lunch, breakfast and dinner, free consultative services as well as free travel and housing to attend a National Religious Retirement Office planning workshop. The only cost is a person's commitment to addressing her community's retirement funding concerns. Any community that is more than 40% under-funded for retirement, should consider applying for the NRRO Planning and Implementation program. In addition to the items mentioned above, funds are available to assist in both the planning and implementation phases. More information is available by downloading the online brochure and application at www.usccb.org/about/national-religious-retirement-office/planning-and-implementation-assistance.cfm or calling the National Religious Retirement Office at 202-541-3215.

RCRI National Conference
 Anaheim, California
 October 22 – 25, 2013



Pre-Conference Workshops
 Tuesday, October 22
 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

The Affordable Care Act

The Office of Health and Human Services (HHS), Washington, DC, has agreed to present a workshop on the new healthcare legislation which is to be fully implemented in 2014. Lisa Carr of HHS will be the presenter and will address the ACA in general and also its application to religious institutes, Catholic organizations, and employers. Tuition: \$100 includes lunch.

Leadership: Legal, Canonical and Financial Issues

This workshop is the result of the GHR grant for leadership that was received two years ago. The workshop will address legal, canonical, and financial issues encountered by leadership. The workshop will also introduce the new website for RCRI and LCWR members. The website with its search engine enables a person to search for answers to legal, canonical, and financial issues and provides links to related materials. Tuition: FREE, includes lunch

Post-Conference Workshop

Friday, October 25

The New TRENDS

New TRENDS: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Refresher: 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The new generation of TRENDS is complete. TRENDS has been re-engineered to perform on newer computer operating systems and versions of Excel. A new user

interface, My TRENDS, has been added to assist the user with setting up TRENDS. The care-level projection methodology has been revised, and other enhancements have been added to allow for greater flexibility in modeling one's own situation and doing scenario analysis.

During the morning session the workshop presenters will introduce the new TRENDS; point out the features that have been updated; and demonstrate the new user interface. The afternoon session will be geared toward users who are less familiar with TRENDS or need a refresher course. In the afternoon, the workshop presenters will review the basics of the TRENDS application with emphasis on how to make sure the projection is accurate and reliable. It is recommended that everyone attend the morning session. New users or those who would like a refresher on the basics of TRENDS, should plan to attend the afternoon session also. Since both sessions will be demonstration, individual laptops will not be necessary; "getting started" handouts will be provided.

The use of TRENDS is not only advantageous for an institute's strategic planning and projects, but also for applying for assistance from NRRO and for planning for the future and covenant relationships.

System Requirements: TRENDS and the new tool My TRENDS were developed using Windows 7 and Microsoft Excel 2010.

Tuition: \$250 for the whole day includes breakfast and lunch
 \$125 for a half day includes breakfast
 \$500 for TRENDS program (required).

Note: Regular price of new TRENDS program is \$650.

The RCRI conference program ends on the evening of Thursday, October 24.