

## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OF WOMEN RELIGIOUS

# Designated Fund for the Emerging Future of Religious Life

**A**s part of its commitment to support religious life, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious has established the Designated Fund for the Emerging Future of Religious Life.

The fund is designed to assure that younger members living religious life are adequately prepared and supported to bring this life form into the future so that it is responsive to what the world most needs religious to be. Funding is intended for women religious under 55 years of age.



### Religious Life for Today's World

The fund will support initiatives that reflect one or more of these emerging trends and orientations for the future of religious life:

- The practice of communal contemplation and discernment
- A commitment to ongoing learning in theology, spirituality, leadership, religious life
- Advocating for society's most pressing needs and empowerment of its most vulnerable citizens
- The creation of networks, collaboration, and partnerships for community and mission
- Expansion of leadership in religious life beyond one's congregation to a leadership for the whole of religious life

Requests for funding must demonstrate how their use would have a long-term impact and deepen the core of religious life.

Examples of potential award program/project areas include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Collaborative mission efforts to meet the needs of these times
- Formation and education of younger women religious in topics critical to the future including: collaboration, discernment, spirituality, interculturality, leadership, mission, and ecclesiology
- Gatherings of younger women religious, particularly those that increase intercultural connections and understanding
- Efforts to expand use of technology to connect and empower younger women religious

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## Seeking A Grant

### Additional Funding Information

- Funds will be granted only to religious institutes and congregations, and organizations serving religious life, not individual persons.
- Requests for funding may be for improvements of existing programs or to fund new innovative projects.
- Funds are not intended to replace ongoing development efforts nor make up an operating budget shortfall.
- The Designated Fund began with the LCWR board committing seed money of \$1 million from LCWR's share of the sale of the LCWR/CMSM building. Additional donations have been made by several congregations thus far. Contributions by other congregations will be most welcome.

### How to get started?

1. LCWR members share this flyer with their younger sisters and organizations serving younger members in religious life.
2. Those seeking funding should plan an initial conversation with LCWR executive director Carol Zinn, SSJ to share their ideas—what, why, how, who, when? The purpose is to get clarity using the criteria and support.
3. Those seeking funding prepare a presentation of the project/gathering in the form of telling a story—either a written story or through a video presentation:
  - How will your idea be a building block or a seed for the emerging religious life?
  - Share the vision, passion, path, process(es), participants, purpose, resources needed, timeline.
  - Do you have an image, symbol, picture that visualizes your dream/passion?
  - Complete the "Application Form" available on the LCWR website which includes: contact information, budget, LCWR contact, checklist of information, etc.

For further information, contact  
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