

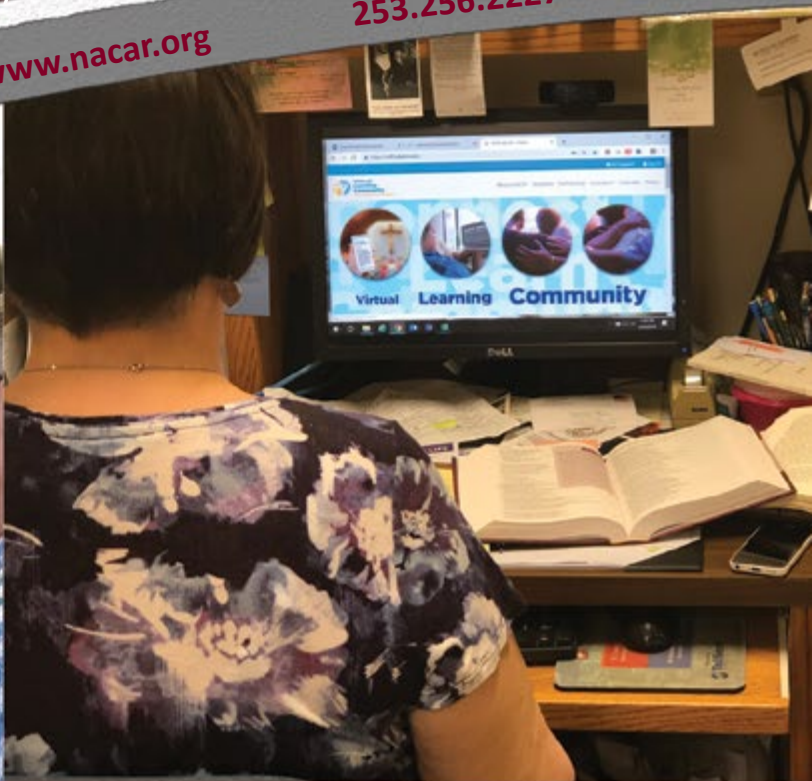


North American Conference of Associates and Religious

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www.nacar.org

253.256.2227



2018-2019
Annual Report





Welcome to our 2018-19 annual report. Looking back, we see how we have joined with you, our members, to better serve the associate-religious movement across North America and beyond.

Our members services committee continues to serve as a catalyst by bringing members together around a variety of leadership issues and interests. Creative Conversations have helped to share best practices and to build a network of support for members in leadership roles.

Through *The Associate* e-magazine we shared stories of the many ways that associates are serving the people of God through work on human trafficking, immigration, racism and care of creation. We continue to be inspired by the work of our religious communities and other organizations serving the charisms and missions of our communities, such as Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), Religious Formation Conference (RFC) and Communicators for Women Religious (CWR). The NACAR board continues to seek ways of working together with member communities and other organizations to meet the growing needs of our world.

Regionally, associates and associate leaders gathered to learn from one another and to offer support and encouragement as we recognize the transitions within our local communities. Our annual leadership retreat with Sister Janet Mock further inspired participants as we deepened our understanding of our call as associates. Participants experienced how our respective charisms hold the common bond of love and how the cry of the poor requires our coming together for the common good.

This past year the NACAR board has also taken time to carefully consider the relevance of NACAR now and into an unknowable future. We consulted with experts in fund development and communication and reflected on feedback received from our members. These conversations were often difficult and led to difficult decisions; nevertheless, we believe that NACAR does have a lot to offer the associate-religious movement and to the people of God, and we are excited about what has been offered and what is planned for the months ahead.

NACAR

Vision Statement

A vibrant, viable organization that collaborates with regional partners to promote association in all its forms.

As in the past, this 2018-2019 annual report provides the facts, figures and reports of the organization. Please share this annual report with your community members. We would like to see NACAR become a household word among your associate-religious community.

We hope you see the power of love and commitment that is behind every action and that you will be inspired to share your gifts and resources for the sake of the whole. We look forward to continuing the journey with your support.

With a grateful heart,
Jeanne Connolly, president, on behalf of the board of directors

We Believe!

God is serious about the future of the associate way of life as a transformative presence in the church and the world.

BOARD MEMBERS

Covenant Companion

Jeanne Connolly,

Wheaton Franciscans, St Charles, Illinois
board president

Sister Rita D. Woehlcke

Sisters of St Joseph, Chestnut Hill
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
board vice president

Associate Terri Butel

Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
Kansas City, Missouri
board secretary

Associate Mark Piper

Sisters of Mercy, West Midwest
board treasurer

Associate Ann Gotfryd

Congrégation de Notre-Dame
Toronto, Ontario

Associate Carla Rush, Associate

Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Centerville, Ohio



NACAR board members, from left, Ann Gotfryd, Rita Woehlcke, Jeanne Connolly, Terri Butel, Carla Rush and Mark Piper.

CONTRACTORS

Associate Mary Jo Mersmann

Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati,
Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio
Office Member Relations

Maryknoll Affiliate Fred Goddard

Web Administrator

Lisa Olson

Communications Consultant

Gina D'Orazio

Accountant

FINANCE REPORT

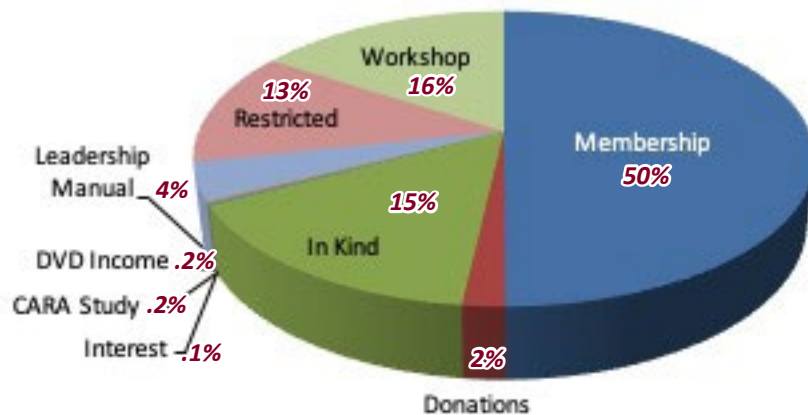
The total income for July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, was \$96,071. Board members provided in-kind contributions of more than \$14,000 (board travel and some marketing expenses).

Expenses for the organization totaled \$95,783. Our year-to-date surplus at the close of the fiscal year was \$288. We also had \$11,000 in restricted funds related to the University of Dayton Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation, as well as funds that provided marketing and fund development consultants to NACAR. Membership income remains strong, but is a concern as it is 50% of our income, and NACAR has been assisting or consulting with associate groups whose vowed congregations are merging or coming to completion.

The board strives to be good stewards of our organizational funds. We monitor our income and expenses against a conservative budget. As we grow the organization and enhance our membership benefits, expenses do rise. We continue to keep our bottom line in mind as we plan for our future. Our cash position on June 30 was \$83,397, a decrease in our cash position of \$162 from June 30, 2018.

By continuing to use our funds wisely as we grow our offerings, we are striving to ensure the viability of NACAR for many years to come.

2018-2019 INCOME



2018-2019 EXPENSES





Benefits of Membership

Professional Development

Ongoing formation opportunities for all listed and individual members including discounted fee for the Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) program, the annual leadership retreat and the leadership manual. The opportunity to participate in *Creative Conversations* covering topics of interest on the associate way of life.



Communication

Receive a variety of communications and publications direct to your email including a monthly e-newsletter and the quarterly e-magazine, *The Associate*.

Member-Only Resources

Access to a variety of resources to support associate leaders and congregational liaisons, including archived *Creative Conversations* and other videos, articles and papers on the associate way of life. Members also have access to a secure database to manage maintain membership information.



Current Trends

Access to research and reports on trends in the associate movement across North America.

Networking

The opportunity to connect with regional groups of associate leaders for support and formation. Access to a searchable directory of community and individual members.



Most importantly, it provides you with the opportunity to be part of the larger associate-religious movement across North America and to give witness to this important work of the Holy Spirit in our world today.

Amy Kulesa (chair), Sister Rita Woelcke (board liaison), Terri Butel, Anne Carey, Kathy Noether, Mark Piper, Lori Ritz

The member services committee serves NACAR membership by designing, developing, implementing and evaluating programs and services that enhance membership, while attracting new and retaining current members. Member services seeks to provide opportunities for associates and vowed religious, and leaders in both, to explore dimensions of associate relationship through ongoing formation and learning and relationship building across congregations.

The priorities for 2018-2019:

- Build on networking and idea sharing grown among associate leaders during the first year of live Creative Conversation webinars. These conversations have flowed from membership feedback received by NACAR from the 2016 CARA survey. Members of the member services committee and some others serve as facilitators of the live online discussions. We continued this in 2018-2019 with the following Creative Conversations:

Creative Conversations #7 in October
Associates at a Distance: How Do You Stay in Touch?
 43 participants

Creative Conversations #8 in November
Advisory Boards/Core Committees/Governing Boards/et al: Keeping them Diverse and Engaged
 23 participants

Creative Conversation #9 in January
Using Social Media to Promote Association
 30 participants

Creative Conversation #10 in February
Best Practices of Facilitating Groups
 21 participants

Creative Conversation #11 in March
Dealing with Serious Associate Matters
 25 participants

Creative Conversation #12 in April
Journeying Through Challenge and Change: Associates and Sisters in Transition Together
 25 participants

- Develop and expand NACAR partnership with University of Dayton through their online Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) for ongoing formation for associate leaders and other associates. Fifty-six associates and vowed religious have registered for a VLCFF course to date. NACAR will need a minimum of 65 registrants per year for this partnership to remain viable into the future. The Sisters of Mercy, West Midwest Community; Sisters of Bon Secours, USA; and IAD – Intercongregational Associate Directors jointly underwrote the first three years financially so that NACAR and University of Dayton could offer the discounted registration fee to NACAR members.
- Plan and host the annual leadership retreat (pictured below). This year's retreat, facilitated by Sister of St. Joseph Janet Mock, was held at the Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center in Houston, Texas, from May 13-16, 2019. The theme of the retreat was "Living the Charism in Turbulent Times," and 30 associates and sisters attended.



- Begin planning for both 2020 and 2021 leadership retreats, to be held in Kansas (Mid-West region) and Maryland (Mid-Atlantic region), respectively.
- Complete a new chapter of the leadership manual on planning and conducting prayer services with associates.
- Project needs for a new leadership manual chapter, choose themes and recruit author(s).
- In addition to Creative Conversation online live discussions, develop webinars to go more in-depth on topics indicated by associates as needs in their ministry and relationship with religious congregations.

NACAR ON THE WEB

www.nacar.org



532 Individual Members Registered on nacar.org

118 Communities in the Community Members Directory



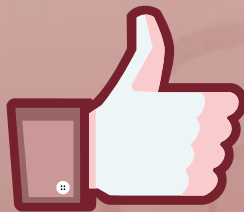
6,852 Users from Jul 2018 - Jun 2019 Up 60%



facebook.com/nacar96



305 Likes as of June 31, 2018



382 Likes as of June 30, 2019



88% of Fans are Women (51% 65+)



11% of Fans are Men (5% 65+)

Conni Dubick (chair), Judy Borland, Nancy Davis, Fred Goddard, Mary Jo Mersmann, Lisa Olson, Carla Rush & Carrie McClish

The NACAR communications committee continued to focus its efforts on meeting the NACAR strategic plan goals: “increasing awareness of the mission work and spiritual life of associates, associate and religious communities, and regional associate groups and NACAR itself” and “regardless of location or position, all members have the opportunity to participate in, contribute to and benefit from engagement in the organization.”

The committee, with the assistance of regional news gatherers and consultants, identified programs, services, events and research from associates and religious in the United States and Canada. Members submitted their reflections and news through NACAR communication tools. With the creative and skilled technical skills of the web administrator, social media contributor and design consultant, the online publication and social media plan extended the reach of NACAR information to members and friends. News and questions provided a forum for members to communicate with each other in a spontaneous way of sharing.

Through the work of this committee and contributing members, there was a dissemination of information that strengthens the relationship of individual communities with one another. This was enhanced by the personal interaction with follow-up email correspondence, workshop/webinar attendance and conference call or Zoom meetings prompted by NACAR announcements or events. Collaborative communication with LCWR and RFC keep members alert to the work of these organizations.

The communication committee sought innovative ideas from regional groups. These groups used the NACAR website as a forum for new information, event summary reports/reflections and announcements of future associate activities. This online service keeps the membership updated on the current actions and future visions for the associate movement in North America.

| NACAR Events | | | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Calendar of NACAR and NACAR Sponsored Events | | | | | | |
| Show Events (7) | | | | | | |
| Subcategories | | | | | | |
| Creative Conversations (7) | | | | | | |
| Date | Title | Venue | City | State | Category | |
| 09/18/19, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Self-knowledge—recognizing your gifts for leadership | Webinar | Webinar | On Line | NACAR Events, Creative Conversations | |
| 10/16/19, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Forming new leaders | Webinar | Webinar | On Line | NACAR Events, Creative Conversations | |
| 11/07/19, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Associate commitment as vocations or another expression of committed lifestyle to the charism | Webinar | Webinar | On Line | NACAR Events, Creative Conversations | |
| Regional Associate Groups | | | | | | |
| Events and activities organized and/or sponsored by a Regional Associate Group | | | | | | |
| Show Events (2) | | | | | | |
| Subcategories | | | | | | |
| BACAR (1), MKS (1) | | | | | | |
| Date | Title | Venue | City | State | Category | |
| 09/14/19, 8:15 AM - 3:00 PM | Midwest Knitred Spirits (MKS) Reflective Workshop for Associates and Religious | Stema Retreat Center, Racine, WI | Racine | Wisconsin | Regional Associate Groups, MKS | |
| 09/21/19, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | BACAR, Inc. Presents: A CALL TO ENGAGE THIS CHAOTIC AND PAINFUL WORLD | Notre Dame High School | Belmont | CA | Regional Associate Groups, BACAR | |
| Non-NACAR Events | | | | | | |
| These events are organized or sponsored by other organizations and may be of interest to NACAR members. | | | | | | |
| Show Events (1) | | | | | | |

Carla Rush (chair), Jeanne Connolly, Ann Gotfryd and Carrie Hanks

Marketing the benefits of NACAR

We continued to spread the word about NACAR through Facebook, *The Associate*, working with similar organizations and the NACAR website.

Continued to work toward collaborative relationships with like-minded organizations seeking to promote or support the associate-religious relationship

NACAR continues to work with the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) by attending the LCWR Assembly as an exhibitor and sponsor. NACAR hosted a brown bag lunch session to explore together the future of the associate way of life in service to the charism and mission of our various congregations. NACAR is also collaborating with LCWR in their emergent leadership feedback process and their stand against racism.

NACAR participated as a virtual exhibitor at the Communicators for Women Religious (CWR) conference. NACAR and the Religious Formation Conference (RFC) have also teamed up to bring a seminar presentation on the religious-associate relationship to the RFC Congress 2019.

Examined current membership

After a thorough examination of the fee structure, NACAR raised community dues for the first time in over 15 years. NACAR has experienced increased costs, despite our best efforts to keep expenses as reasonable as possible. NACAR has incurred new expenses to meet increased digital and networking needs such as:

- A professional Zoom account which allows us to offer Creative Conversations.
- Enhanced website tools and payment options that allow for increased security and accessibility.
- Increased networking and collaboration with other organizations (LCWR, Religious Formation Conference, Communicators for Women Religious, etc.) to build awareness of the associate way of life and the contributions of associates to the church and the world.



Continued relationships with supporting organizations and regional groups

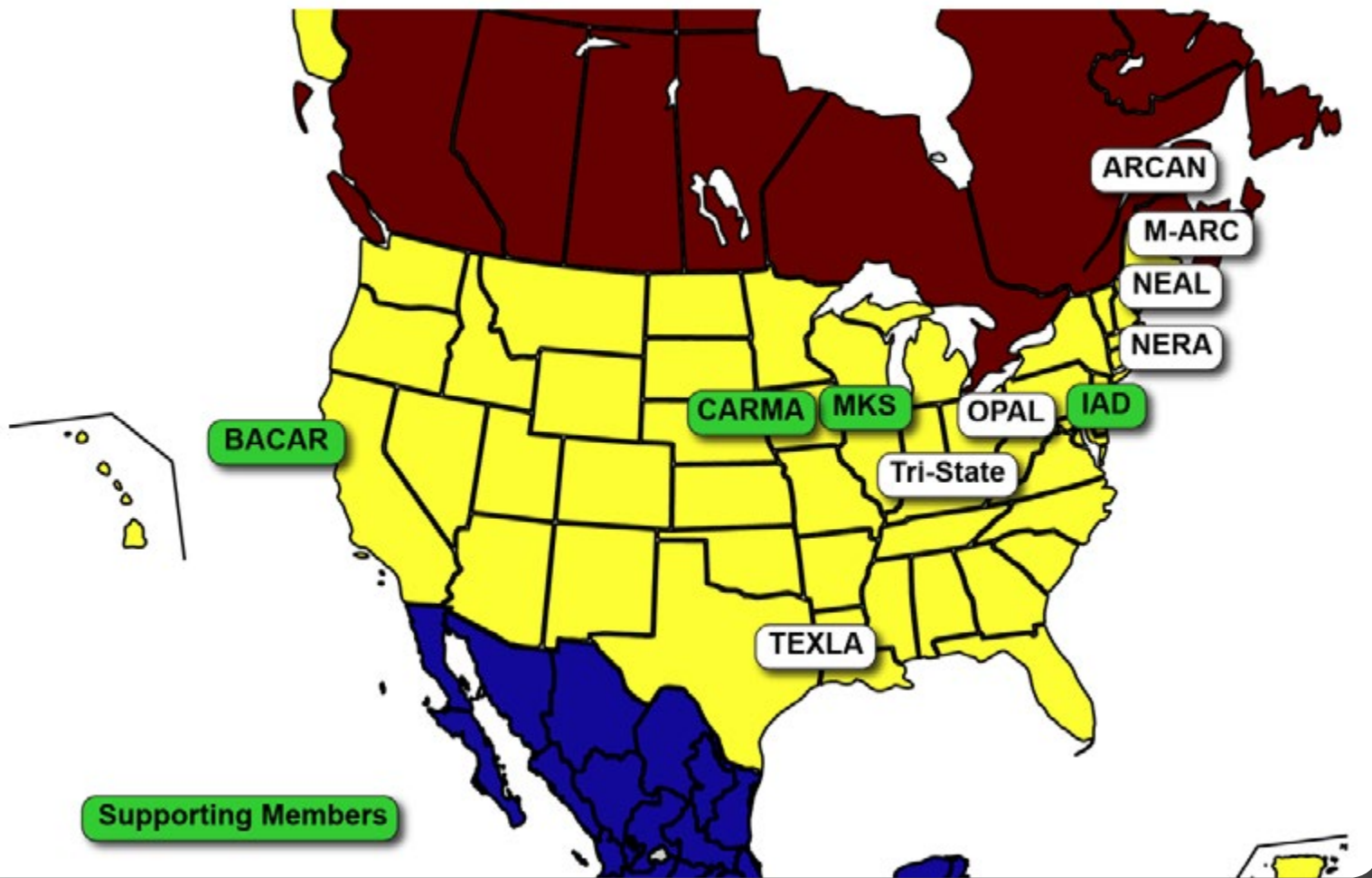
NACAR continues to work with our supporting organizations and are grateful for their yearly support. These include the Bay Area Conference of Associates and Religious (BACAR), Intercongregational Associate Directors (IAD), Conference of Associates & Religious of Midwest Area (CARMA), Mary's Pence and Midwest Kindred Spirits. NACAR also works collaboratively with these regional groups: Atlantic Religious Congregation Associate Network (ARCAN), Maine Associate Religious Conference (M-ARC), New England Associate Leaders (NEAL), New England Region Associates (NERA), Ohio Pennsylvania Associate Leadership (OPAL), Texas and Louisiana (TEXLA) and Tri-State Conference of Associate Leadership.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Adorers of the Blood of Christ
Benedictine Sisters of St. Paul's Monastery
Bernardine Franciscan Sisters
Congregation de Notre Dame
Congregation de Notre Dame, Blessed Sacrament Province
Congregation of Divine Providence, Ky.
Congregation of Divine Providence, Texas
Congregation of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle
(Religious of the Cenacle)
Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
Congregation of Sisters of St. Martha
Congregation of St. Brigid
Congregation of St. Joseph
Congregation of the Humility of Mary, Iowa
Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists)
Congregation of the Passion, Holy Cross Province
Congregation of the Passion, St. Paul of the Cross Province
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Boston
Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
Daughters of the Charity of the Sacred Heart
Daughters of the Holy Spirit
Dominican Sisters and Associates of Sinsinawa
Dominican Sisters and Associates of Tacoma
Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids, Michigan
Dominican Sisters of Hope
Dominican Sisters of Peace
Felician Sisters, Our Lady of Hope Province
Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, N.Y.
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago
Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minn.
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement
Franciscan Sisters of the Poor
Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart
Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Holy Union Sisters
Hospital Sisters of St. Francis
Hospitalier Order of St John of God Province of Good Shepherd
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, United States Province
Loretto Community
Marianites of Holy Cross
Medical Mission Sisters
Medical Missionaries of Mary
Missionaries of the Precious Blood Community
Notre Dame Sisters
OLVM Associate Community
Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ
Racine Dominicans
Religieuses Hospitaliers Saint Joseph Community
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Atlantic-Midwest Province
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province
School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee
Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Sisters of Bon Secours USA
Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth
Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy
Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine
Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth
Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul - Halifax
Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception
Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, Houston, Texas
Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, Texas
Sisters of Christian Charity North American Western Province
Sisters of Divine Providence, Marie de la Roche Province
Sisters of Mary of the Presentation
Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland & Labrador
Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, Merrill, Wisc.
Sisters of Mercy, South Central Community
Sisters of Mercy, West Midwest Community
Sisters of Notre Dame
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Ohio
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, US East-West Province
Sisters of Our Lady of Sion, Canada/USA
Sisters of Providence - St. Mary of the Woods
Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul
Sisters of Providence, Holyoke, Mass.
Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province
Sisters of St. Anne
Sisters of St. Casimir
Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, N.Y.
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, Milwaukee
Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate
Sisters of St. Francis of Penance & Christian Charity,
Holy Name Province
Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity,
Sacred Heart Province
Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration
Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio
Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross
Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities
Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa
Sisters of St. Francis, Dubuque, Iowa
Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg Ind.
Sisters of St. Francis, Rochester, Minn.
Sisters of St. Francis, Tiffin, Ohio
Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia
Sisters of St. Joseph, Third Order of St. Francis
Sisters of St. Louis
Sisters of St. Mary of Namur
Sisters of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin
Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament
Sisters of the Cross and Passion
Sisters of the Holy Family
Sisters of the Humility of Mary
Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Victoria
Sisters of the Living Word
Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon, Mo.
Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dubuque
Sisters of the Presentation San Francisco, Calif.
Sisters of the Redeemer
Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother
Sisters, Servants of Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe
Society of the Holy Child Jesus
Society of the Sacred Heart, United States-Canada Province
U. S. - Ontario Province of the Sisters of the Holy Names of
Jesus and Mary
Union of Presentation Sisters Newfoundland and Labrador Province
Ursuline Convent of the Sacred Heart
Ursuline Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (Louisville)
Ursulines of the Roman Union, Eastern Province of US
Wheaton Franciscans

REGIONAL ASSOCIATE GROUPS



Regional associate groups allow NACAR members more opportunities to grow in their role alongside religious and associates from other congregations located within their geographic area. Many of these groups host conferences, workshops or other gatherings to enhance the associate-religious relationship. If you would like more information about the regional associate group in your area, contact NACAR at info@nacar.org.

ARCAN

Atlantic Religious Congregation Associate Network

BACAR

Bay Area Conference of
Associates and Religious

CARMA

Conference of Associates and
Religious of Midwest Area

IAD

Intercongregational Associate Directors

M-ARC

Maine Associate Religious Conference

MKS

Midwest Kindred Spirits

NEAL

New England Associate Leadership

NERA

New England Region Associates

OPAL

Ohio Pennsylvania Associate Leadership

TEXLA

Texas and Louisiana

Tri-State Conference of Associate Leadership

IN GRATITUDE

The Associate Article Submission

Layout and design: Lisa Olson
Associate Nancy Davis, Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate
Mark Piper, director of association, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Midwest West Community
Associate Terri Butel, Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, director of associates
Associate Vicki Perfect, Dominican Sisters of Peace
Associate Bev Oliveri, School Sisters of St. Francis
Associate Kathy Noether, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, BACAR co-director
Sister Elizabeth Avalos, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, BACAR board member
Associate Conni Dubick, Dominican Sisters of Peace
Associate Judy Talvacchia, Society of the Holy Child Jesus Dominican Sisters and Associates of Peace, Building Racial Harmony Planning Committee
Anne Walsh, Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer
Sister Barbara McMullen, Sisters of Divine Providence
Associate Geneva Brungardt, Dominican Sisters of Peace
Associate Carla Rush, Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Associate Thomas Winters, Dominican Sisters of Peace

Associate Jane Schaefer, co-director of the Oldenburg Franciscan Associates
Associate Dan Carney, Passionists of St. Paul of the Cross Province
Associate Anne Carey, co-director of associates, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province
Associate Amy Kulesa, associate director, Sisters of Bon Secours
Sister Norma Janssen, Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, director of associates
Father Paul H. Colloton, Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
Associate Christine Milner, Sisters of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin
Associate Linda Hoefflin, Sisters of Divine Providence
Associate Kathy Doyle, Franciscan Sisters of Allegany
Cojourner Carrie Hansen, Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Associate Jeanne Connolly, NACAR board president
Associate Mary Jo Mersmann, NACAR member relations
Associate Nancy McCarville, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Associate Carl Madigan, Congregation de Notre Dame
Associate Jo Ann Paulin, Sisters of Charity of Nazareth

Associate Linda Lazarus, Dominican Sisters of Hope

Grateful

IN GRATITUDE Retreat Leader

Janet Mock, Sister of St. Joseph



IN GRATITUDE Creative Conversations Facilitators

Associate Lori Ritz, Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Associate Germaine Little Bear, Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity
Associate Kathy Noether, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Associate Terri Butel Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
Associate Mark Piper, director of associates, Sisters of Mercy, West Midwest Community
Sister Rita Woehlcke, Sisters of St. Joseph, Chestnut Hill
Associate Amy Kulesa, director of associates, Sisters of Bon Secours

IN GRATITUDE Supporting Organizations

BACAR – Bay Area Conference of Associates and Religious
CARMA – Conference of Associates and Religious of the Midwest Area
IAD – Intercongregational Associate Directors
Mary's Pence
MKS – Midwest Kindred Spirits

IN GRATITUDE Financial Underwriters for Three Years with VLCFF

Sisters of Mercy, West Midwest Community
Sisters of Bon Secours, USA
IAD – Intercongregational Associate Directors

You are NACAR ... our community, individual and supporting members! As the board of directors, we are deeply grateful for your support, encouragement, feedback, participation and trust. The activities shared in this annual report and the many that didn't make these pages would not happen if it were not for the folks committed to serving the associate-religious movement. We extend profound appreciation to our contractors, current and former board members, committee members, contributing authors, news gatherers, retreat and program facilitators, donors, consultants, and all who help make this work possible.

2019-20 will bring new opportunities to meet the needs of this evolving movement of the Holy Spirit:

- A new chapter of the leadership manual on prayer and prayer services for associate communities.
- New Creative Conversations.
- The continuation of our partnership with the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning for Catholic Faith Development (VLCFF).
- The annual leadership retreat in May 2020 at the Marillac Center in Leavenworth, Kansas.
- Collaborating with and offering two sessions at the 2019 Religious Formation Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Continued implementation of our new membership database.



From left: An activity at the leader retreat illustrates our global presence; members of BACAR discuss topics important to the associate-religious movement; Sisters of The Humility of Mary, religious and associates, gather last October.

The NACAR board will also be seeking feedback on our belief-commitment-action statements (see page 13) in preparation for NACAR's 25th anniversary in 2021.

We invite you to join us in these and other "as yet unknown" activities. Consider joining us as a board member, committee member, news gatherer, contributing author or program participant. We also invite you to organize or participate in a regional meeting or video conference to provide feedback on the belief-commitment-action statements.

If you are not a member, consider joining this exciting movement as a community, individual or supporting member. If you are a community member, encourage your associates to join at the discounted individual membership rate. It is a wonderful way to share leadership and responsibility. Working together we can continue to share our charisms for the sake of all creation.

WE BELIEVE

- God desires to permeate our culture with the charisms and missions of our various congregations.
- God is serious about the future of the associate way of life as a transformative presence in the church and the world.
- There is a need for an intercongregational organization that spans geographical boundaries and facilitates intercultural networking and information sharing around significant issues.
- That NACAR's highest priority is to serve associate leadership so that associate leaders can serve their local associate-religious community.
- There is a need to give special attention to associate communities whose congregations are coming to completion.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO

- Ensuring that the people of God recognize that associate way of life in its various forms is an authentic call of the Holy Spirit for our world and church.
- Ensuring that the associates-religious movement remains strong and dynamic.

WE DO THIS BY

- Promoting leadership within the associate-religious movement through opportunities for ongoing development and leadership training.
- Serving as a catalyst to develop and promote the associate movement by staying up to date on emerging trends and by sharing resources.
- Seeking opportunities to collaborate with regional partners, and other organizations committed to faith-development and sharing of religious charisms in our world today.
- Offering opportunities to connect, network and share wisdom with religious congregations of various sizes, charisms and missions.