



BEING SIGNS OF COMPASSIONATE HOPE

RELIGIOUS FORMATION CONFERENCE

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The logo features the lowercase letters 'wfc' in a white, cursive, brush-stroke font. The letters are contained within a circular shape also formed by a white brush stroke. The background is a gradient of teal and blue with a textured, painterly appearance.

wfc

OUR MISSION

The Religious Formation Conference educates and strengthens formators in their ministry of formation. The RFC engages religious communities with timely resources, services, and experiences that support initial and ongoing formation, that are responsive to an emerging future, in prophetic witness to Gospel values through personal and communal transformation.

OUR VISION

The Religious Formation Conference will engage women and men religious in a variety of vibrant resources, services, and experiences that bring our rich religious heritage into interaction with the contemporary and cultural realities of our world by:

- Promoting open, contemplative and collaborative dialogue;
- Modeling and encouraging inclusivity and respect for diversity;
- Welcoming inter-generational and inter-cultural viewpoints; and
- Responding to God's ongoing invitation to the "new" of religious life.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sometimes the lines that connect the dots in our lives seem obscure and difficult to detect; other times they shine and shout out. In their glow we see the path of life: gifted, graced, and guided by our gracious God.

Looking back on the year we completed several months ago, memories of Congress 2019 glow as embers. Little did we know that how much the gifts of courageous hope would be needed by each of us and all of us in the days that would follow. The Providence of God is certainly at work in our lives!

In this annual report we recollect the many gifts of courage and hope we have experienced throughout the year. Key among them was the establishment of the *Together* program. Launched in the fall of 2018 as a pilot, it has matured and flourished: guided by its coordinator, Karina Conrad, CDP, advised by its Local and National Advisory Committees, nourished through its partnership with CTU, and embodied in the participants who shine with hope in the global sisterhood of religious life.

Another key focus of this past year was the establishment of Member Areas for the Conference. More than a replacement for the regional structure, they are designed to enable local groups of members to gather for input, share resources, seek support, and spark ideas with one another. It is no coincidence that their name begins with "Member"!

We are most grateful to the Member Area Liaisons who have partnered to form a new body that facilitates communication among members, with the National Office, and across Member Areas.

The process of discernment for this new membership structure involved visits to the various hubs of members throughout the U.S. from late winter to early summer, 2019. This provided an unparalleled opportunity to meet and listen to members, participate in local activities, and experience firsthand the various ways in which charisms are expressed and missions are embodied in various parts of the country. We are grateful to all who hosted Ryan and me and all who participated in one of the regional meetings.

The focus of the 2019 annual appeal was technology for programming. Special thanks to all who contributed to this new fund that has already enabled us to purchase video equipment to use in our *ForMission* and *Life Commitment* programs. In the future it will support the creation of videos of various speakers as well as other resources for members.

The virtues of courage and hope have also been evident in the themes of our various programs, publications, and services as well as in the lives of those who have participated in them throughout the year that culminated in

Congress 2019. None of us anticipated how they would prepare us for the challenges of 2020.

None of the initiatives, happenings, and efforts of the past year would have been possible without the quotidian commitment of the staff of the National Office, the unwavering support of the Board and its committees, the generous assistance of our volunteers, and the enthusiastic participation of our members throughout the U.S. and beyond.

May we continue to stir into flame the gifts our gracious God has given us in this past year. May the energy of the fire of God's love light our path, strengthen our steps, and embolden our actions in the days ahead as we live into new realities as women and men religious and as global citizens.

Ellen Dauwer, SC

Ellen Dauwer, SC
Executive Director



**"MAY THE ENERGY OF THE
FIRE OF GOD'S LOVE LIGHT
OUR PATH, STRENGTHEN OUR
STEPS, AND EMBOLDEN OUR
ACTIONS IN THE DAYS
AHEAD AS WE LIVE INTO
NEW REALITIES AS WOMEN
AND MEN RELIGIOUS AND
AS GLOBAL CITIZENS."**

BEING SIGNS OF COURAGEOUS HOPE

AN OVERVIEW OF 2019 AT THE RELIGIOUS FORMATION CONFERENCE

2019 provided many opportunities for the RFC to embody courageous hope. We give thanks for the numerous ways God blessed our work and animated our mission. Here are a few highlights of last year.



FROM REGIONS TO MEMBER AREAS

In 2019 RFC made it a priority to visit all our regions and dream big about the next phase of our **new member area structure**. Through sleet, snow and sunshine we accomplished our goal of visiting formation communities across the country!

In all we managed 13 visits in 12 states in 5 months. Not only did we share our local restructuring and revitalization plan, but listened as many of you shared your responses, ideas, feedback, thoughts and recommendations. We were so grateful for your input.

The RFC could not have convened these important meet-ups without the time, hospitality, generosity and support of so

many who hosted these gatherings. To all who partnered with us in this endeavor: thank you.

Additionally, we are grateful to the **Member Area Liaisons** who stepped forward in 2019 to tend to this important new initiative of the Conference. Member Area Liaisons, representatives who've agreed to help facilitate programming, connecting and networking at the local level, gathered back in September for a couple days of prayer and planning.

We asked a few of the Member Area Liaisons to talk about why it's important to them to collaborate locally. Take a listen online: relforcon.org/member-areas

RFC MEMBER AREAS

MEMBER AREA LIASONS

DELAWARE VALLEY
Megan Brown, RSM

HEARTLAND
Cathy Arnold, OP

HUDSON VALLEY
Elaine Bebyn, MPF

LAKE ERIE/OHIO RIVER
Elaine Davia, CBS
Sharon Cahill, HM

MID-ATLANTIC
Paul Schloemer, OFM

MIDWEST
David Hirt, OFM Cap
Marsha Speth, SP

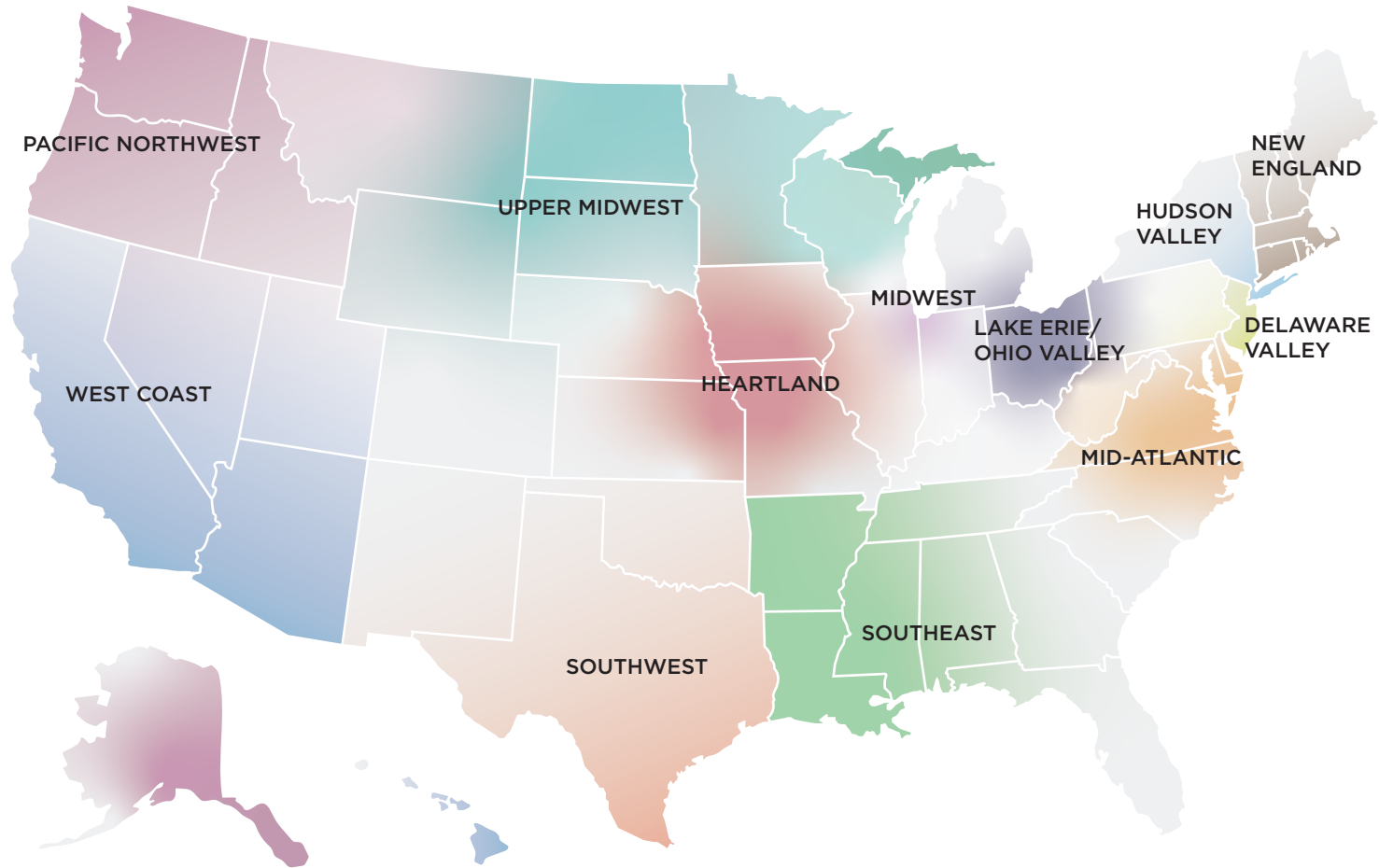
NEW ENGLAND
Frank Hargerty, SSE
Michelle Bisailon, DHS

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
Beverly Dunn, SP

SOUTH
Helen Marie Miksch, CDP
Loretta Armand, SHSp

UPPER MIDWEST
Lisa Maurer, OSB

WEST COAST
Linda Buck, CSJ





ABOVE: At the 2019 Congress Helen Cahill, OP received the Mary Emil Penet, IHM award for outstanding contributions to formation ministry.

2019 CONGRESS

Courageous hope is contagious! As Pope Francis reminds us: "Hope is the essence of the Christian message... prophets of hope have eyes turned toward the future."

The **2019 RFC Congress** brought together nearly 300 formators, leaders, associates and volunteers in Louisville, KY. Together, they explored being prophets of hope and discerned the emerging now and future of religious life with faith and courage. From galvanizing presentations to the moving liturgies to the energy of our exhibitors, we showed our Church and world that courageous hope is alive and well. It was a remarkable three days!

Whether you were able to join us in Louisville or not, we are thankful to all those who helped make the 2019 Congress a great success.

We hope you'll join us **November 4-7, 2021** for the next Congress in Chicago.

We have created a virtual photo album of some of our favorite pictures from the 2019 Congress. Take a peek: bit.ly/RFCCongress19







COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Conference continues to be blessed by many opportunities for collaboration in building up religious life today. We were once again involved in co-sponsoring **2019 Catholic Sisters Week** and **Religious Brothers Day** celebrations. The RFC is a member of Catholic Theological Union's (CTU) **Formation Council** while also collaborating with the **Institute of Religious Formation**. Further, we had a strong presence in 2019 at the **Religious Education Congress**, **Religious Brothers Conference**, **Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM)**, **Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR)**, **Leadership Pathways Board**, **Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR)**, the **Hilton Convening of Grantees**, the **Resource Center for Religious Institutes (RCRI) National Conference**, and the **Communicators for Women Religious (CWR) Conference**.

The Conference also had the pleasure of working with several religious communities and organizations to engage each other in one-on-one consultations and sharing of ideas and best practices. In 2019, for example, the RFC collaborated closely with the **North American Conference of Associates and Religious (NACAR)** to envision further avenues for partnership.

Like all of you, we know that we're better together.





MEMBERSHIP

RFC's **member-collaborators** continue to be the heart of the Conference. In spite of headwinds of decreasing numbers of some religious communities, the RFC in 2019 sustained almost 200 women's and men's member communities, and several associate and individual members. We also welcomed a number of new communities to the Conference!

Our congregations were begun by Spirit-filled founders and foundresses who saw the needs of the world and the Church and responded with courageous hope. In our time we, too, are called to do no less. It is a privilege for the Conference to partner and collaborate with formators as we prepare the next generation of religious and encourage lifelong learning and conversion for all our members.

For a listing of RFC's current congregational members, visit: relforcon.org/membership/list

TECHNOLOGY AND RESOURCES

Another area in which the RFC is cultivating courageous hope is through growing our **use of technology** to reach as wide an audience as possible, both in the United States and in other countries. While technology cannot replace the critical work that's done in community, it enables us to gather participants virtually and share a wide variety of high-quality input with a greater expanse of formators and leaders.

In 2019 we were able make significant investments in technology to bring our constituents even more **resources** for ongoing formation and supplemental material to our core programs. Made possible by our member communities and those who responded to our annual appeal, we plan to continue to grow these offerings in the future.

In May the RFC launched a new **mobile app** that can be downloaded (for free!) from either the Apple or Android app stores to better connect with and engage formation ministry.

Once downloaded, users can access a wide array of key content quickly. Features of the app include: a *news section* that updates right from our blog, carrying the latest news and notes from the RFC; a *pray section* that contains links to a wide array of prayer resources (e.g., daily readings, morning, evening, and night prayer, online retreats, etc.); a *capture section* that allows users to send us pictures from events (e.g., workshops, member gatherings, etc.); a *learn section* that hosts a list of various resources related to the Catholic Church and religious life; a *journal section* that gives folks the option of typing notes into the app and saving for later reference; and a *prayer wall* that invites users to connect their social media platforms and post prayers and intentions.

If you haven't already, [download the RFC app](#) from the app store today!

RELIGIOUS FORMATION CONFERENCE

MOBILE APP

Search in the app store or go to www.ParishSolutionsCo.com/RFC

The PARISH SOLUTIONS COMPANY

PROGRAM OFFERINGS AND SERVICES

ForMission

A 2-year theory/content and skills development program for vowed religious women and men who are new to or seek to enhance their competence and skills as Ministers of Formation, *ForMission 2019* engaged 33 participants from three distinct cohorts, representing 31 congregations/provinces and 13 countries of origin. *ForMission* met for two residential sessions: (1) January 2019 at Oblate Renewal Center, San Antonio, TX; (2) May-June 2019 at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL. The theme of the January residential session was “Communion / Communal Life” and the May-June residential session focused on “Spirituality for Apostolic Religious Life”.



Each residential session brought *ForMission* participants into dialogue with presenters/practitioners’ expertise in the fields of theology, scripture, culture/interculturality, and spirituality. Each residential immersion included 1-2 days of skill development and praxis. As a peer learning community, participants supported and challenged one another by sharing experiences, offering insights, affirming personal growth, and inviting each other into deeper levels of personal transformation thereby acting as a guiding force for communal transformation upon returning to the sending congregation/ province and local community.

Between residential sessions, from their home base, formators regularly engage in supervision and study groups, write and submit papers and theological reflections, and maintain regular contact with a member of the *ForMission* mentor and facilitator team.

LIFE COMMITMENT PROGRAM

An 8-day experience for women and men religious discerning and/or anticipating the profession of final vows, the *Life Commitment Program*, gathered 14 women and 5 men in July 2019, from 12 countries of origin, at Marillac Spirituality Center, Leavenworth, KS. Participants engaged with skilled and seasoned presenters/practitioners on topics of the vows – poverty, celibacy, obedience – community and communal life and religious life as a prophetic enterprise in the 21st century. Participants shared their stories, hopes and challenges, with peers immersed in an atmosphere of prayer, dialogue, personal and communal reflection, and recreation.



Compromiso de Vida

Preparations have begun to launch a form of the *Life Commitment Program* in Spanish. Two facilitators are engaged in developing culturally appropriate content and process elements of the program. The intention is to activate **Compromiso de Vida in August of 2021**.



WEBINARS

The Conference offered 5 webinars in 2019 embracing elements of both initial and ongoing formation:

March 20, 2019

Massimo Faggioli, PhD

History and Ecclesiology of the Sex Abuse Crisis

April 16, 2019

Daniel Horan, OFM

Rejoice and Be Glad

co-sponsored by the National Association of Vocation and Formation Directors (NAVFD) of Canada

June 26, 2019

John Tourangeau, O. Praem

*Gospel Values and Essential Conversations:
Confronting Abuses of Power in Religious Life*

*co-sponsors - Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM)
and National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC)*

October 15, 2019

Marianne Farina, CSC

*Being a Sign of Courageous Hope: Practicing
Compassionate Listening*

December 18, 2019

Marcelline Koch, OP


The Incarnation of Love

RFC webinars regularly attract an international audience and are viewed by individuals and groups, with registration ordinarily ranging from 150-500. Live webinars are open, without charge, to anyone or group that pre-registers for the event. Webinars are archived for future (or repeat) viewing at no charge to RFC members and are available to others for a modest fee.

"HOPE IS THE ESSENCE OF THE CHRISTIAN
MESSAGE...PROPHETS OF HOPE HAVE EYES
TURNED TOWARD THE FUTURE."

- Pope Francis

"RFC WEBINARS REGULARLY
ATTRACT AN INTERNATIONAL
AUDIENCE AND ARE VIEWED
BY INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS."

A group of five women are smiling and standing in front of a pink banner. From left to right: a woman with short dark hair in a white button-down shirt; a woman wearing a grey cardigan over a white turtleneck and a grey headscarf; a woman with dark hair and glasses in a grey polo shirt with a logo; a woman with blonde hair in a maroon top; and a woman with blonde hair and glasses in a grey sweater. The banner behind them has white text and a graphic of white and pink wavy lines.

Religious Formation Conference
relforcon.org

TOGETHER IS TRULY THE BEST PLACE TO BE!

TOGETHER PROGRAM

SUMMER 2019

The summer of 2019 was dedicated to a variety of projects to prepare for the 2019-2020 *Together* cohort. The *Together* handbook was revised and edited with the help of the Local Advisory Committee. The details of orientation week were finalized and much work was done on improving and preparing the *Together* living spaces before the new cohort arrived. The *Together* coordinator had the opportunity to visit the 2018-2019 cohort's communities, Sister Tracy in Cincinnati and Sister Sushma in Louisville. The goal of these visits was to meet the participant's mentors, leadership team, and sisters in community.

FALL 2019

Together began its second year and we welcomed the 2019-2020 cohort: **Jane Aseltyne, IHM**, from Michigan, **Haerok Na, SC** from South Korea, and returning students **Sushma Bodra, SCN** from India, **Tracy Kemme, SC** from Cincinnati. During orientation week, the group was invited to lunch with the RFC staff and the new students attended the CTU orientation day at which they received information regarding their program of study and learned the ins and outs of CTU. The group also toured Hyde Park and enjoyed the day at the Chicago Jazz Festival in Millennium Park. Sisters Ellen Dauwer, SC and Barbara Reid, OP joined the group to welcome them and share the history and goals of the *Together* program. We attended Sunday Eucharist at St. James, a lively and multi-ethnic parish, and later enjoyed a delicious brunch at the Valois restaurant, a well-known favorite of former President Obama, in Hyde Park.

Our Thursday night formation gathering has focused on a variety of discussion topics pertinent to religious life. Community-building and evenings of reflection deepen our capacity to create healthy and whole common life. We are fortunate to have access to input from excellent local presenters and dialogue partners. In the fall semester we welcomed the following presenters: Paul Michalenko, ST engaged us in conversation on transitions; Barbara Reid, OP invited us to reflect on the prophetic nature of religious life; and Ellen Dauwer, SC, challenged us to cherish our commitment to ongoing formation. Richard Benson, CM, CTU's academic dean, visited *Together* to meet and share some time with the community of sisters.

We reflected and shared heart-based and Spirit-filled stories rooted in our diverse community charisms. As an inter-congregational and inter-cultural community, we create opportunities to grow in our understanding, respect and appreciation of one another. One evening we gathered on the shore of Lake Michigan, a mere three blocks from our home, to share our personal vocation stories. It affirmed for us that *Together* is a witness to the presence of the disciples of Jesus.

SPRING 2020 SEMESTER

The *Together* community has spent its formative experience supporting and growing with one another spiritually and communally. The community gathers one night a week to share and reflect on themes such as the vowed life, discipleship, theological reflection, scripture, communal life, and personal growth.

During the spring semester, we welcomed presenters: Connie Schoen, OP, Don Senior, CP, Dianne Bergant, CSA, and Chrissy Zaker. We had a lovely Valentine's Day gathering with our friends from Hesburgh Sabbatical, Institute of Religious Formation, and CTU students on campus. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, *Together* participants engaged in online classes for the May term. Formation nights were conducted via Zoom.

To learn more about the *Together* program, visit together-formation.com

"WE REFLECTED AND SHARED HEART-BASED AND SPIRIT-FILLED STORIES ROOTED IN OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY CHARISMS. AS AN INTER-CONGREGATIONAL AND INTER-CULTURAL COMMUNITY, WE CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW IN OUR UNDERSTANDING, RESPECT AND APPRECIATION OF ONE ANOTHER."

RFC MEMBERSHIP

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE RELIGIOUS FORMATION CONFERENCE

In 2019 we sustained strong RFC membership. When a congregation, monastery, or a unit of a congregation such as a province or region joins the RFC, the Conference considers that all its vowed members belong and enjoy the privileges of RFC membership. Congregations holding membership in the Religious Formation Conference, their leadership, formation personnel, and all their vowed members are the Conference's primary collaborators, as all work together toward the transformation of religious life for the sake of mission to the world today.



The Conference attracts program participants from a diverse set of member congregations. Membership provides reduced rates to all programming and access to a library of online resources.

COLLABORATING GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

There were many intersections of courage and hope in 2019. We are grateful for those with whom we collaborated in 2019 and continue to do so today. The RFC always welcomes new possibilities for partnership and collaboration.

The Brothers Think Tank
 The Catholic Health Association (CHA)
 Catholic Theological Union (CTU) and its Formation Council
 The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)
 The Center for the Study of Consecrated Life (CSCL)
 Communicators for Women Religious (CWR)
 The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) and its Formation Committee
 The Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR)
 The GHR Foundation
 Giving Voice (GV)
 The Institute of Religious Formation (IRF)
 The J. S. Paluch Company
 The Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) and its Leadership Pathways Program
 The Leadership Collaborative
 The Mexican American Catholic College (MACC)
 The National Association of Vocation/Formation Directors (NAVFD; Canada)
 National Catholic Sisters Week (NCSW)
 The National Conference of Vicars for Religious (NCVR)
 The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO)
 The National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC)
 The Religious Brothers Conference (RBC)
 The Resource Center for Religious Institutes (RCRI)
 The USCCB: Office of Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations

FORMATION FOR MISSION

Significant financial support for the RFC comes from the membership dues paid by our primary collaborators in mission, those religious congregations, provinces, and other units belonging to the Conference. Many of them choose to assist the Conference in other ways as well: through financial donations, membership on the RFC Board, on standing or ad hoc committees, and the provision of in-kind, voluntary service to the Conference. In this they are joined by foundations, vendors, and others who support the mission of the Conference.

CONGREGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

A Nun's Life Ministry	Holy Union Sisters	Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary	Sisters of St Joseph of Orange
Catholic Theological Union	Hospital Sisters of St Francis	Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters	Sisters of St Joseph of Peace
Christian Brothers Services	House of Charity-New Orleans (Sisters of Charity Federation)	Sisters of Bon Secours	Sisters of St. Francis of the Immaculate Conception
Conference of Major Superiors of Men	J.S. Paluch Company	Sisters of Charity BVM	Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet
Congregation de Notre Dame	Marianist Province of the US	Sisters of Charity Halifax	Sisters of the Holy Names
Congregation of Divine Providence - San Antonio	Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers	Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati	Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate
Congregation of the Humility of Mary	Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate - US Province	Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth	Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament -Victoria, TX
Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word-Houston	Norbertine Fathers of Delaware	Sisters of Charity of Nazareth	Sisters of the Precious Blood
Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word-San Antonio	North American Conference of Associate and Religious (NACAR)	Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth	Sisters of the Presentation - NY
Congregation of the Sisters of St Agnes	Office of Religious - Archdiocese of Chicago	Sisters of Charity Seton Hill	Sisters of the Presentation - Dubuque, IA
Daughters of Charity - Province of St Louise	Orbis Books	Sisters of Christian Charity Eastern Province	Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary
Daylesford Abbey	Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ	Sisters of Mercy Mid-Atlantic Community	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary - Immaculata, PA
Discalced Carmelite Nuns of Concord, NH	Religious Formation Conference - Region 3	Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community	Society of the Holy Child Jesus
Dominican Sisters of Peace	Religious of Jesus and Mary	Sisters of Mercy of the Americas	Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph
Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL	Saint Luke Institute	Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community	World Library Publications
Dominicans Sisters of Mission San Jose	School Sisters of Notre Dame-Atlantic Midwest Province	Sisters of Providence - Renton, WA	
Edmund Rice Christian Brothers	School Sisters of Notre Dame-Central Pacific Province	Sisters of St Dominic - Racine WI	
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration		Sisters of St Francis of the Neumann Communities	
Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement		Sisters of St Francis of Tiffin, OH	
		Sisters of St Joseph of Brentwood, NY	



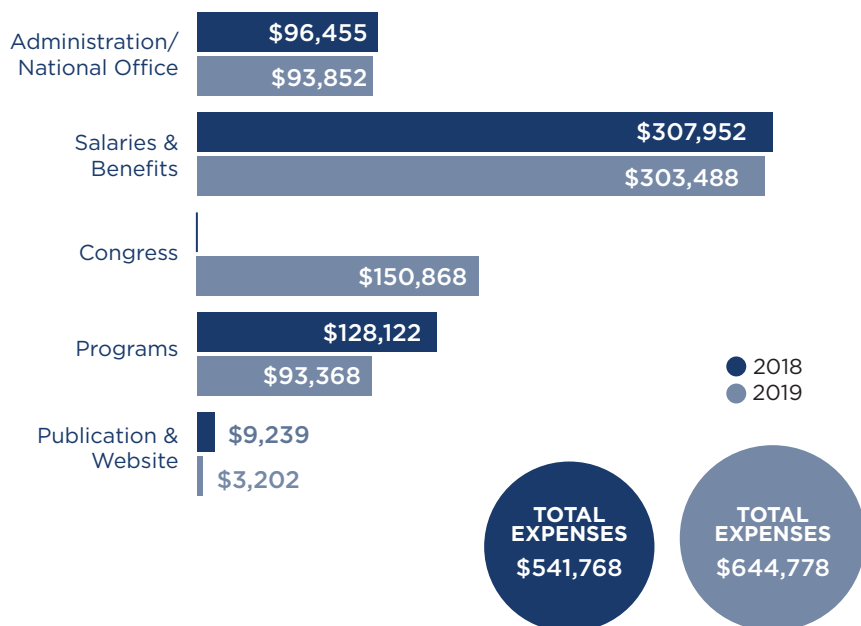
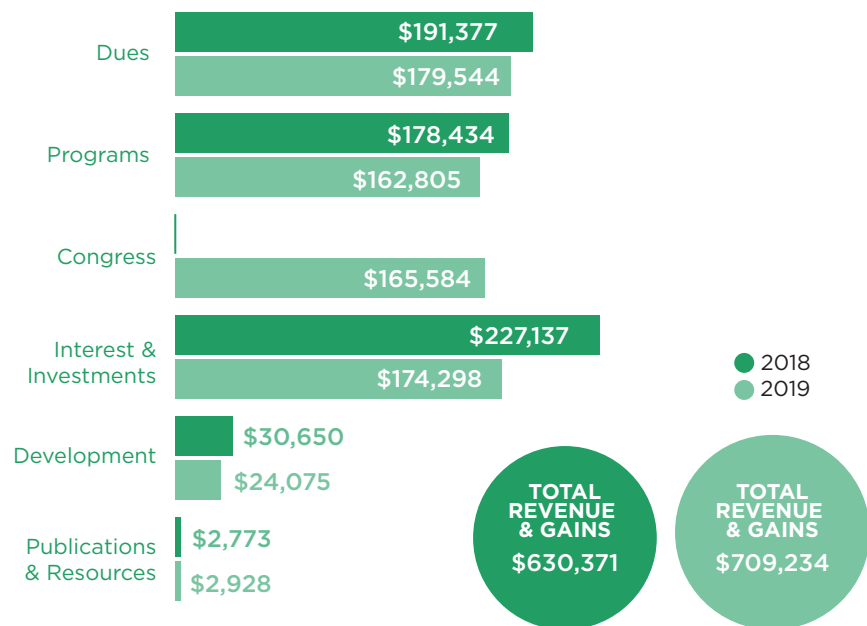
WHAT HOPE OR COURAGE DO YOU BRING WITH YOU TO THE 2019 CONGRESS?

During a ritual of unity at the 2019 Congress, participants were asked to trace their hands on colored paper and respond to this question. The hands of hope and courage adorned our Eucharistic table at the closing Mass.

RFC FINANCIALS

INCOME	2018	2019
Dues	\$191,377	\$179,544
Programs	\$178,434	\$162,805
Congress	-	\$165,584
Interest and Investments	\$227,137	\$174,298
Development	\$30,650	\$24,075
Publications and Resources	\$2,773	\$2,928
Total Revenue and Gains	\$630,371	\$709,234

EXPENSES	2018	2019
Administration/National Office	\$96,455	\$93,852
Salaries and Benefits	\$307,952	\$303,488
Congress	-	\$150,868
Programs	\$128,122	\$93,368
Publication and Website	\$9,239	\$3,202
Total Expenses	\$541,768	\$644,778
Net Income	\$88,603	\$64,456



NATIONAL BOARD AND COMMITTEES



BOARD MEMBERS

Adriana Calzada, CCVI
 Maco Cassetta, CND
 Wayne Fitzpatrick, MM
 Nancy Gerth, SCN
 Kathleen Goike, IWBS
 Richard Hall, OMI
 James B. Herring, O.Praem.
 Mary Ann Nelson, OP
 Anna Hang-Nga Nguyen, SCC
 Elyse Marie Ramirez, OP
 Carol Regan, SUSC
 Gregory Timothy Smyth, CFC
 Corrina Thomas, FSPA
 Mary R Walsh, CSJ
 Noreen Walter, SCL
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (ex officio)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Richard Hall, O.M.I. (Co-Chair)
 Noreen Walter, SCL (Co-Chair)
 Mary Ann Nelson, OP (Secretary)
 Mary Walsh, CSJ (Treasurer)
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (ex officio)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mary Walsh, CSJ (Chair)
 Wayne Fitzpatrick, MM
 James Gaffney, FSC
 Leora Linnenkugel, OLVM
 Dorothy Pagosa, SSJ-TOSF
 Carol Regan, SUSC
 Reneta Webb
 Katherine Kandefer, BVM (staff)
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (ex officio)
 Ryan Hoffmann (ex officio)



MARY EMIL PENET AWARD COMMITTEE

Corrina Thomas, FSPA (Chair)
 Mary Glackin, IHM

BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Kathleen Goike, IWBS (Chair)
 Maco Cassetta, CND
 James Herring, O.Praem.
 Anna Hang-Nga Nguyen, SCC
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (ex officio)

CONGRESS 2019 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Nancy Gerth, SCN (Co-Chair)
 Ryan Hoffmann (Co-Chair)
 Rachelle Kramer, Liturgist
 Marci Madary, NACAR Liaison
 Mary Ann Nelson, OP
 Elyse Marie Ramirez, OP
 Corrina Thomas, FSPA
 Adriana Calzada Vazquez, CCVI
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (staff)
 Kathy Kandefer, BVM (staff)s
 Connie Schoen, OP (staff)

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

John M. Williams (Chair)
 Michaela Huelbig
 Kevin Keating (Investment Manager)
 Christopher Strub Kelly

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Elyse Marie Ramirez, OP (Chair)
 Gregory Timothy Smyth, CFC
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (ex officio)
 Ryan Hoffmann (ex officio)

SUCCESSION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Noreen Walter, SCL (Chair)
 James Herring, O.Praem.
 Carol Regan, SUSC

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Wayne Fitzpatrick, MM
 Richard Hall, O.M.I.
 Ryan Hoffmann (staff)
 Corrina Thomas, FSPA
 Ellen Dauwer, SC (ex officio)
 Sue Weber (consultant)

RFC STAFF



Ellen Dauwer, SC
Executive Director



Ryan Hoffmann
Associate Director



Connie Schoen, OP
Program Director



Kathy Kandefer, BVM
Operations Manager



Karina Conrad, CDP
Together Program
Coordinator





ReligiousFormation CONFERENCE

5401 S. Cornell Avenue, Suite 304 
Chicago, IL 60615

773.675.8362 

rfc@relforcon.org 

facebook.com/relforcon 

twitter.com/relforcon 

relforcon.org 