



Social Justice and Hispanic Ministry Collaboration

Suggestions for Social Justice Diocesan Staff

Forty percent of the U.S. Catholic population, and 54% of Millennial Catholics, are Hispanic. Our communities can become more vibrant, and our efforts more successful, when we take the time to listen, learn, and include the voices and gifts of the diverse faces of the body of Christ.

This double-sided handout can help social justice diocesan staff (this side) and Hispanic ministry diocesan staff (opposite side) form or strengthen relationships so that you can become aware of common interests, good work that is already happening, and potential areas for collaboration.

Here are some key people you should consider developing relationships with, if you have not already:

- Your **diocesan director of Hispanic ministry** (or staff from the diocesan office that oversees pastoral initiatives with Hispanic Catholics)
- Your regional and diocesan team of accompaniment coordinators for the process of the **V National Encuentro** of Hispanic/Latino Ministry (vencuentro.org)
- Coordinators of **Hispanic lay leader formation**
- **Deacons** and **religious sisters** who work with Hispanic Catholics in your diocese
- Leaders already working with Hispanic Catholics (through **CCHD-funded groups**, community **organizations**, etc.) on issues that particularly impact the Hispanic community, such as immigration, workers' rights, affordable housing, families' wellbeing, etc.
- Where possible, **Hispanic leaders at parishes** who coordinate efforts around catechesis, youth ministry, or movements (Renovación Carismática Católica/Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Jóvenes para Cristo/Youth for Christ, El Camino Neocatecumenal/Neocatechumenal Way, etc.)

These resources can assist you:

- **V National Encuentro** (vencuentro.org) is a four-year process of ecclesial reflection and action around the theme, "Missionary Disciples: Witnesses of God's Love." Parish, diocesan, regional and national V Encuentro events are currently underway in your diocese and [region](#).
- [WeAreSaltAndLight.org resources on diversity](#) including links to Building Intercultural Competencies for Ministers (BICM), *Best Practices for Shared Parishes*, and [Building Relationships through One-to-One Relational Meetings](#)
- **Success Stories from WeAreSaltAndLight.org**
 - [Justice-themed popular religious celebrations lead to wide Hispanic engagement](#)
 - [Immigration team fosters participation and respect for human dignity](#)
 - ["All in one place together": Pentecost and immigrant lives](#)
 - [Hispanic encuentro for formation, leadership and response](#)
 - [Parish engages parishioners and builds leaders through weekly "house" meetings](#)
 - [Students stand in solidarity with migrants](#)
 - [Yakima seminarians take on "the smell of their sheep"](#)
- **CCHD-Funded organizations** may be engaging Hispanic Catholics in leadership development and organizing. Visit the [PovertyUSA.org map](#) to find out what is happening in your area.
- **Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network/La Red Católica del Campesino Migrante** (cmfwn.org) can provide assistance to dioceses for formation and training for migrant ministry. They also offer immersion experiences.

To encourage diocesan-level collaboration between Hispanic ministry and social justice ministry leaders, the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development is offering a limited number of [small grants](#) of \$1,000 in 2017.



Hispanic Ministry and Social Justice Collaboration

Suggestions for Hispanic Ministry Diocesan Staff

As disciples of Christ, we share his mission to “bring glad tidings to the poor... proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord” (Lk. 4:18). As the families we work with experience challenges around immigration, safety, workers’ rights, and access to affordable housing and quality education, God moves and inspires us to help individuals and communities raise their voices.

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Here are some key people you should consider developing relationships with, if you have not already:

- Your **diocesan colleagues who work in social justice, social concerns, or human life and dignity**
- Your **Catholic Charities colleagues** who work in parish social ministry, advocacy, and immigration/legal services
- Organizations that receive funding from the U.S. Catholic bishops’ **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**. These organizations often work on issues that particularly impact our communities, such as immigration, workers’ rights, affordable housing, etc.
- Your regional office for **Catholic Relief Services**
- Where possible, leaders of **parish social concerns** or social justice efforts

These resources can assist you:

- WeAreSaltAndLight.org and SomosSalYLuz.org include helpful bilingual resources on topics such as [Building Relationships](#) through One-to-One Relational Meetings, [Sacraments and Social Mission](#), the [Two Feet of Love in Action](#), and [Catholic Social Teaching](#).
- **Success Stories from WeAreSaltAndLight.org**
 - [Justice-themed popular religious celebrations lead to wide Hispanic engagement](#)
 - [Parish celebrates diversity, forms leaders of many ethnicities](#)
 - [Immigration team fosters participation and respect for human dignity](#)
 - [“All in one place together”: Pentecost and immigrant lives](#)
 - [Hispanic encuentro for formation, leadership and response](#)
 - [Parish engages parishioners and builds leaders through weekly “house” meetings](#)
 - [Yakima seminarians take on “the smell of their sheep”](#)
- Visit the [PovertyUSA.org map](http://PovertyUSA.org) to find organizations in your area that receive funding from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, and which may be working on issues that particularly impact families and communities that you work with.
- The [Diversity Outreach Initiative](#) provides scholarships for Catholic leaders from diverse backgrounds to attend the annual [Catholic Social Ministry Gathering](#), an important training opportunity from the U.S. Catholic bishops and 16 collaborating organizations to pray, connect, learn and advocate with others about issues that impact our communities.

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