2017 National Study on Catholic Campus Ministry

The 2017 National Study on Catholic Campus Ministry was conducted by the Secretariat of Catholic Education as part of a plan to renew a national dialogue about campus ministry and to rejuvenate the vision for Catholic Campus Ministry. Of the 1,911 campus ministers identified nationally, 1,100 responded to the survey for a 57% response rate. All 50 states and the District of Columbia were represented. A symposium was held at Notre Dame University in October 2017 to discuss the findings and consider the implications for the future of campus ministry. The symposium included members of the Research Team, members of the Alliance for Campus Ministry, practitioners, bishops, collaborators and stakeholders. Through the study we hope to better understand the current landscape of campus ministry and to develop guidelines for the formation and preparation of Catholic campus ministers.

The higher education landscape in the United States consists of approximately 3,200 four year institutions. There is a Catholic pastoral presence at 816 of those institutions, which means the Catholic Church has a pastoral presence at 1 in 4 (24%) four year institutions. There are 1,108 Community Colleges in the United States and the Catholic Church has a pastoral presence at 25 of those institutions, 1 in 44 (2%) representation.

The most common ministry models found through the study include: Office based (31%), Missionary (24%), Newman/Catholic Center (20%), Parish based (14%) and Diocesan (6%). These models correspond to institutional settings: Catholic colleges and universities tend to have office based ministry (31%); Public institutions vary among missionary (24%), Newman/Catholic Center (20%), Parish (14%), and Diocesan (6%) models of ministry; Private non-Catholic institutions primarily use Newman/Catholic Center, Parish based or Missionary models.

V Encuentro

The V Encuentro sponsored by the USCCB is a process of evangelization, consultation and mission that was officially launched in 2016 to discern ways for the Church in the United States to better respond to the ever-growing Hispanic presence and to help Hispanic Catholics strengthen their Christian identity and their response as missionary disciples for the entire Church. More than 163 dioceses have already participated

As of November 11, 2017, eighty-eight dioceses had completed their consultation process that culminated with Diocesan Encuentros which helped develop a working document for Hispanic Ministry in each diocese. These working documents will help draft reports for the regional phase and will culminate at the V Encuentro National Event to be celebrated September 20-23, 2018 in Grapevine, TX with approximately 3,000 delegates from participating dioceses across the country. If you have participated let us know about your experience. If you are interested, it’s not too late to participate this Spring in the V Encuentro.

“There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit has been quite busy and feeling very much at home in these Diocesan Encuentros,” said Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller of San Antonio and chairman of the USCCB Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church. “There are plenty of stories and visible signs that the personal and pastoral conversion that our Holy Father speaks of in The Joy of the Gospel, has been taking place in these gatherings in dioceses across the United States.”
The Young Leaders Initiative: Pray, Connect, Learn Advocate

We hope to see you as part of the Young Leaders Initiative at Catholic Social Ministry Gathering 2018 on Feb. 3-6 in Washington, DC. Learn networking and advocacy skills rooted in Catholic Social Teaching. More than 30 colleges and universities have joined Catholic leaders from around the country as they go to Capitol Hill visiting members of Congress.

Through the Young Leaders Initiative, college students participate in the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in order to:

- Meet national Catholic social ministry and advocacy leaders.
- Build knowledge of current Catholic social ministry priorities and initiatives.
- Develop advocacy skills to empower students to call for positive change.
- Voice concerns with legislators on issues of human life and dignity in the U.S. and internationally.
- Grow in faith, studies, and future work through Catholic social ministry and advocacy.

You can indicate your interest in the Young Leaders Initiative at CSMG 2018 by completing the Young Leaders Initiative Interest Form or get more info here. You can also plan now to implement these easy fundraising ideas to help fund your trip. Reflection materials on the 2018 theme are here.

If you've already completed your campus' YLI interest form, then thank you! Please use the confirmation email that you received to access the special YLI registration code and instructions on how to register your group.

Share the Journey

In the spirit of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, the first American Saint and founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, let us promote the dignity and rights of every person.

- January 7-13 Migration Week
- January 14 World Day of Migrants
- February 8 Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita
- June 20 World Refugee Day