

DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING
A Program of the NCCB Committee for Pro-Life Activities

DIOCESAN NFP PROGRAM - PROFILE SHEET
1991 SUMMARY

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DIOCESAN NFP PROGRAM--PROFILE SHEET

In the Fall of 1990, the Diocesan Development Program (DDP) initiated an annual national survey. Diocesan NFP coordinators or contact persons were asked to complete a "Profile Sheet" that would:

- 1) provide the DDP with a clearer understanding of diocesan NFP efforts, by focusing on the unique needs of individual dioceses, and
- 2) to enable the DDP to provide the diocesan bishops and NFP coordinators with a national "picture" of diocesan NFP program activity.

The following information is the report of the 1991 Diocesan NFP program activity.

In January 1992 **187** Profile Sheets were mailed to the dioceses. **Ninety-seven** or **52%** completed and returned their Profile Sheets.

Some critical trends continue to hold constant when we compare the 1991 survey to the 1990 survey. These include:

a)The majority of dioceses do not have a full time NFP coordinator.

In the majority of dioceses coordinating NFP activities is one of many other responsibilities held by one person; e.g., the Family Life director.

b)Few NFP programs receive adequate financial support from their dioceses.

A common financial arrangement is for the NFP program to "share" the resources of its umbrella department; e.g., the budget of Family Life; or the facilities of the education department of a the Catholic Hospital.

c)The majority of the diocesan NFP teachers are volunteers.

d)Although NFP is officially supported in diocesan marriage preparation programs, it is given limited attention.

The average time allotted for NFP education in marriage preparation in 1990 was 10 - 30 min.
This average holds true for 1991.

Due to additions in the 1991 Profile Sheet, new pieces of information have been gathered.
Among them are:

a)Forty-nine percent of the responding dioceses indicated that up to 25% of their clients were non-Catholics. Twenty-eight percent indicated that up to 50% of their clients were non-Catholic.

b)The majority of the responding dioceses have indicated that they have had some type of NFP program for ten years or more.

c)Both the Ovulation Method and the Sympto-thermal Method of NFP are evenly distributed among the majority of the responding dioceses.

The strengths and weaknesses of diocesan NFP program activity are seen in the following data. It is suggested that each diocesan NFP coordinator compare the results of this survey with their own program. Such a comparison can provide a basis for strengthening continued efforts.

1991 PROFILE SHEET SUMMARY*

I. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

1) Does your diocese have a person(s) who serves as the NFP Coordinator(s), either in an official or unofficial capacity?

93 [96%] YES

4 [4%] NO

2) If the answer to question (1) was "Yes" who is responsible for coordinating NFP programs and services in your diocese: e.g., Family Life Director, Director of Catholic Charities, Engaged Encounter Couple, Pre-Cana Couple, Diocesan NFP Coordinator, Respect Life Director, etc.?

Frequency: NFP Coordinator:

30	Family Life Director
5	Family Life Assistant Director
4	Catholic Charities Director
43	Diocesan NFP Coordinator
4	Respect Life Director
5	NFP Center Director
4	Other

3) If the answer to question (1) was "Yes" this position is: (Check only one.)

34 [37%]	full time paid
35 [38%]	part time paid
4 [3%]	full time volunteer
20 [21%]	part time volunteer

4) If the answer to question (1) was "No" who refers couples to NFP providers in your diocese?

Comment: Three dioceses reported not having a person responsible for coordinating NFP programs and services. Couples are referred to NFP providers through: Offices of Family Life; Marriage Preparation programs; parish priests; and through couples who have already received NFP instruction. One diocese did not respond to the question.

**Totals, percentages, and comments were compiled from 97 dioceses.*

5)How many years has NFP been made available as a diocesan program?

Comment: Eighty-three dioceses or [86%] reported as follows

Frequency: Years:

11 0 - 9 yrs.
72 10 years or more
14 No response

6)Describe the total number of paid and volunteer staff involved in NFP programs in your diocese. As an example: "We have a part-time paid director, eight part-time paid individual teachers, three part-time volunteer teaching couples, and a volunteer part-time individual teacher for a total of 16."

Comment: Total NFP work force as reported by ninety-six dioceses consists of 1,286 individuals. The following is a description of those involved in NFP ministry:

1,054 [82%] are volunteers.
231[18%] are paid (definition of payment includes those who receive stipends only).
167 [13%] of total salaried are part time paid.
64 [5%] of total are full time paid.

7)NFP services in your diocese are delivered by: (Check all that apply.)

- a)Diocesan NFP Program
- b)Catholic Hospital(s)
- c)Secular Hospital(s)
- d)Independent NFP Teachers
- e)Other

Comment: A total of ninety-three dioceses responded to this question. The majority of dioceses relied on a variety of institutions and groups to deliver NFP services. Only a couple of dioceses relied on a single group or program to deliver NFP services.

8) If delivered by the diocese, your program is:

Frequency:

- 8 [8%] a) Its own department
51 [52%] b) Part of the Marriage and Family Life office
7 [7%] c) Part of Catholic Charities
2 [2%] d) Part of Pro-Life Activities
10 [10%] e) A service of the Catholic hospitals
19 [20%] f) Other: Delivered by various diocesan institutions, departments, or approved agencies.

9) Does your diocese have an NFP Advisory Committee?

30 [30%] YES 67 [69%] NO

10) Did your diocese complete the DDP quarterly reporting forms for last year?

42 [43%] YES 55 [57%] NO

11) Does your diocese have its own NFP teacher training program?

22 [23%] YES 75 [77%] NO

12) If the answer to question (11) was "No", who trains your teachers?

Frequency:

- 51a) CCL
- 31b) Pope Paul VI Institute (Creighton)
- 15c) Family of the Americas
- 6d) NFP Center of Washington, D.C., Inc.
- 6e) Northwest Family Services
- 3f) Twin Cities NFP Center
- 11g) Other: Among the NFP teacher training programs listed were: LARF; WOOMB; "What Every Woman Should Know" NFP Program; and Illinois NFP Association.

Comment: The following results represent the frequency each provider was mentioned. The majority of dioceses use a mixture of providers. This is due to NFP teachers moving from one diocese to another or the simple proximity of a particular provider to a diocese.

13) Why was your NFP provider(s) chosen for training your teachers; e.g., methodology, affordable fees, convenient, local, etc.?

Comment: Sixty-six dioceses or [88%] responded to the question.

Frequency:

- 29 [44%] Methodology.
- 18 [27%] Affordability.
- 5 [8%] Choice based on both methodology and affordability.
- 14 [21%] Mixed rationale.

Comment: Those dioceses with a mixed rationale for why a provider was chosen was do to other criteria; e.g., proximity; quality of program; materials; good working relationship with the provider; and past training of teachers.

PROGRAM BUDGET

14) Do you have an annual budget for your NFP program?

67 [69%] YES 27 [28%] NO 3 [3%] No response

15) If the answer to question (14) was "Yes" what is the current annual budget for your NFP program?

Frequency: Current Annual Budget:

27	0 - 9,000
7	10 - 29,000
12	30 - 49,000
6	50 - 69,000
1	70 - 89,000
1	> 90,000
13	No dollar amount given

16) What amount of the total in question (15) comes from diocesan funds?

Frequency: Amounts in Percentages:

29	100%
12	More than 50%
13	Less than 50%
13	No response or determinable percentage.

17) Other than diocesan funding, what additional sources of income are used to support NFP programs in your diocese? (Check all that apply.)

Frequency: Sources of Funding:

7a)	Federal grants
3	b) Individual parishes
45	c) Client fees
6	d) Catholic organizations
6	e) NFP program fund raising activities
13	f) Other: Private donations, gifts from parishes, use of facilities, grants, etc.

Comment: These numbers represent the frequency a specific source of funding was mentioned. Many programs use a variety of funding sources to offer their services.

18) If answer to question (14) was "No", how is the NFP program sustained in your diocese?

Comment: No further information was supplied that was not provided in Question 17.

PROGRAM SERVICE

19) Which NFP method(s) is currently taught in your diocesan program? (Check all that apply.)

Frequency: Methods:

77	a) ST
60	b) OM
13c)	BBT
4d)	Other

Comment: Because most dioceses use a variety of providers or teachers having been taught in different NFP methods, various NFP methods are offered. The frequency of each method reflects this reality in dioceses throughout the country.

20) How many individuals (couples count as 2) in your diocese received instruction in NFP during the last 12 months? (Give your best estimate.)

Comment: Eighty-three dioceses responded to this question for a total of 15,920.

21) Of the total number of individuals instructed in NFP, how many were non-Catholics? (Check only one.)

Frequency: Estimates in Percentages:

48	Some 1% - 25%
27	Many 26% - 50%
3	Most 51% - 75%
19	No response

22) Does the diocese have a policy which strongly encourages engaged couples to participate in an NFP course of instruction?

46 [47%] YES 51 [53%] NO

23) Is NFP included in your various diocesan marriage preparation programs?

89 [92%] YES 8 [8%] NO

24) If the answer to question (23) was "Yes", on the average, how much time is allotted to NFP education? (Give your best estimate.)

Frequency: Time Allotted for NFP Education:

26	a) 5 min. - 15 min.
28	b) 20 min. - 30 min.
22	c) 35 min. - 45 min.
13	d) 1 hr. - 2 hrs. +
8	No response

Comment: Some respondents mentioned that written material was handed out to individuals as opposed to an actual presentation.

25) Continuing education in NFP was provided in the diocese, during the last 12 months, for:
(Check all that apply.)

Frequency:

51	NFP Teachers
29	NFP clients
25	Clergy
8	Other: pre-Cana couples, student groups, etc.

26) Does your diocese have guidelines on human sexuality?

34 Yes 63 No

27) If the answer to question (26) was "Yes", is NFP incorporated in your Diocesan Human Sexuality guidelines?

22 Yes 12 No

28) Do you publish an NFP newsletter?

15 Yes 82 No

29) NFP is promoted in your diocese through: (Check all that apply).

Pre Cana, Engaged Encounter, Parish Marriage Preparation, Catholic Schools, Religious Education Programs, RCIA, Bulletins, TV/Radio, Diocesan Paper, Public Talks, etc.

Comment: Practically every diocese uses a variety of means to try and promote NFP. The frequency and the extent to which these means are utilized varies greatly from diocese to diocese.