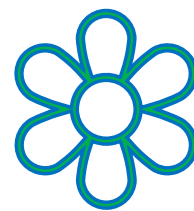


MERCY WELLSPRINGS NEWSLETTER



Vol 2, Issue 2 - June 2025

LIVING THE VALUES OF MERCY WELLSPRINGS

Compassion – respect dignity of each person, extend tenderness and care to whole of creation

Respect – recognize each one uniquely made in God's image, celebrate beauty & integrity of creation

Justice – uphold and support the rights of all persons and Earth

Collaboration - engage others as partners, welcome diversity and inclusion

Deep Listening - hear the voices of people, of Earth beings, and of Earth herself



Mercy Wellsprings Board of Directors

WELCOME SUMMER!!

As we approach halfway through 2025, we are filled with gratitude for the continued support and inspiration that guides our mission. Whether it's through our Formation sessions, key partnerships, or personal reflections, Mercy Wellsprings continues to evolve living the values of Mercy. In this edition, we are excited to share the latest updates that showcase the incredible work moving forward. Together, we are creating a ripple effect of mercy and transformation—thank you for being a part of this journey!

“Mercy is more than Charity – for it not only bestows benefits, but it receives and pardons again and again – even the ungrateful.” Catherine McAuley

FORMATION SESSIONS UNDERWAY

Over the past few months, Mercy Wellsprings hosted several Formation sessions with our Members, Board, and the Boards of our sponsored ministries. Led by Dr. Anne Walsh, Formation Consultant, the sessions focused on the first module of our Formation document—centered on the story of Catherine McAuley and the founding of the Sisters of Mercy. This foundational story reminds us why we are united in service to mercy and the mission of our sponsored ministries.

The Formation Program

Module 1: The Story of Catherine McAuley

The story of Catherine McAuley is explored, her life and the events that led to her founding the Sisters of Mercy. We have gathered many to do this module together and to reflect on the story of Catherine McAuley.

Module 2: Early Expansion

News of the work that Catherine McAuley and her Sisters of Mercy were doing spread rapidly. Consequently, Catherine received many calls for assistance. The foundations of Sisters of Mercy which occurred in Catherine's lifetime are reviewed.

Module 3: The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy



Formation Session March 2025

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The traditional corporal and spiritual Works of Mercy, their scriptural foundations and their conventional and contemporary manifestations are reviewed and reflected on.

Module 4: The 8th Work of Mercy

The 8th Work of Mercy proposed by Pope Francis in 2016 is explored. The module reviews how the Cry of the Earth invariably becomes intertwined with the Cry of the Poor.

Module 5: Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland

The establishment of Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland is explored, tracing its history from the various original foundations located in Ireland and Rhode Island. The ministries of the Sisters and those who work alongside them today are also reviewed.

Module 6: Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland Ministries

The various ministries in which Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland and the wider Mercy family are involved are reviewed, focusing on the call to the common mission of mercy which brings us all together.

Module 7: The Wider Mercy Family & Mercy Values

The wider Mercy Family to which Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland and Mercy Wellsprings belong are reviewed. There is a brief look at some ministries and international initiatives, focusing on the common mission that brings everyone together.

Participants have been asked to self-study Modules 2–7, with optional review sessions being offered between July and October. Later in the year, we will schedule additional time to reflect on the learnings and insights gained. The Formation Program will continue to grow and evolve as we hold more sessions and incorporate feedback from key stakeholders.

MERCY WELLSPRINGS BOARD UPDATE

On April 25, 2025, Mercy Wellsprings held its first official Board meeting of the year, following a planning session in February and a Formation session in March. During the April meeting, key items were reviewed, and next steps were identified.

As part of our establishment, development of the Mercy Wellsprings logo is underway. After gathering ideas internally with the Sisters, we have now engaged m5 Marketing Communications to support a holistic branding approach. We expect to have logo options to share soon.

Governance also remains a priority, with policies currently being drafted in collaboration with the Board and its committees.

In the implementation phase of transferring property and assets to Mercy Wellsprings, the Board will meet in June with Elizabeth Duff and Sister Patricia March to review the current financial information. This will help guide the creation of a thoughtful and practical plan for the transfer process—an important step that will take time and care to complete.

