# MERCY WELLSPRINGS **NEWSLETTER**



Vol 2, Issue 3 - September 2025

# LIVING THE VALUES **OF MERCY WELLSPRINGS**

<u>Compassion</u> – 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



Brent Meade, Jim Meaney, Ann Manning (back row) Sr Elizabeth Davis, Sr Diane Smyth, George Furey (Chair), Meghan

Mercy Wellsprings Board of Directors

# **LOOKING AHEAD TO FALL 2025!!**

As we enter Fall 2025, we are deeply grateful for the ongoing support, encouragement, and shared commitment that continue to guide our mission. In this edition, we are pleased to share recent updates that reflect the meaningful progress being made across our work.

Together, we are fostering a ripple effect of mercy, compassion, and transformation. Thank you for walking alongside us on this journey.

"The simplest and most practical lesson I know... is to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow. Let us take one day only in hand, at a time, merely making a resolve for tomorrow. Thus we may hope to get on, taking short, careful steps, not great strides." Catherine McAuley

### **SUMMER UPDATE**

Over the past few months, activity has slowed slightly due to the summer season and the absence of Anne Walsh. Formation Consultant who is on sick leave. Despite this, several important developments have taken place.

Work progressed on the logo design in collaboration with M5, and updates were made to the Mercy Wellsprings page on the Sisters of Mercy website. In addition, discussions were held regarding the sponsored ministries and the management of their properties and assets. Further efforts were also made to refine governance policies and related documentation.

While progress is being made, a significant amount of work remains—particularly around transition planning and execution. This area will be a key priority in the coming months as the team continues to move forward with purpose and intention.

# **Formation Update**

Due to Anne Walsh's sick leave, no additional Formation sessions have been held over the past few months. However, the Formation Program materials were shared with all members of the Mercy Wellsprings Board, as well as with the Boards of the sponsored ministries. Everyone was and is encouraged to engage in self-study and personal reflection during this time. With Anne's absence, we will be determining next steps and will communicate those soon. Formation materials

### Mercy Wellsprings' Members



Rick Singleton, Sr Rosemary Ryan, Sr Diane Smyth (Chair), Barbara Hawley (back row) Sr Patricia March. Sr Charlotte Fitzpatrick



Sisters of Mercy & Collaborators in Peru

# **Contact Us**

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can be found <u>here</u> on the Sisters of Mercy – Mercy Wellsprings webpage. We hope that Anne continues to recover and feels better soon.

#### **Discussion with Peruvian Sisters**

In June, members of the Board met with the Sisters from Peru. It was an informal but informative discussion on the work that the Sisters do in Peru. It was great to hear, firsthand, their reflections on the extraordinary work they do through their ministries, under difficult and often dangerous circumstances. The work that is done through the **Misericordia Mission Fund** truly represents the compassionate spirit of Catherine McAuley and the enduring legacy of the Sisters of Mercy.

## **Discussion with Sister Judith Moroney (New Zealand)**

In July, some of us had the privilege of meeting with Sister Judith Moroney from the Sisters of Mercy in New Zealand. Sister Judith shared valuable insights into their journey of transitioning their ministries to a Public Juridic Person (PJP) entity— Whānau Mercy Ministries. While there are differences between their approach and our work with Mercy Wellsprings, there are also meaningful parallels. We felt there may be opportunities to learn from their experience as we continue our own transition journey.

# **Website / Webpage Development**

While we are not quite ready to develop the Mercy Wellsprings website, time was spent in updating the <u>Mercy Wellsprings page</u> on the Sisters of Mercy website. This is a foundational step toward establishing a dedicated website for Mercy Wellsprings. Please check it out!

### Mercy Wellsprings Logo

We have been working closely with m5 Marketing Communications to develop a logo that captures the identity and spirit of Mercy Wellsprings. We are excited to share that the design process is nearly complete, and we will soon be unveiling a logo that will represent Mercy Wellsprings into the future.

### MERCY WELLSPRINGS BOARD UPDATE

On June 11, the Board held a focused discussion with Sister Patricia March and Elizabeth Duff on the property and assets of the sponsored ministries. Follow-up meetings over the summer helped deepen our understanding of the current relationship between the Sisters of Mercy and the sponsored ministries. This ongoing work is strengthening our foundation as we move into the next phase of transition planning.

On September 8, the Board met to review key updates and outline next steps for committee formation and transition planning. Governance remains a priority, with policy development continuing 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 October with further consideration of a more detailed plan regarding transitioning property and assets to Mercy Wellsprings. This will provide a roadmap for us to move forward with our transition - an important step that will take time and care to complete.