

MERCY WELLSPRINGS NEWSLETTER



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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



Our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Sister Elizabeth Marrie. We give thanks for her life of dedicated service with the Sisters of Mercy, and for her meaningful contributions to the Formation Booklet for Mercy Wellsprings.

HAPPY ST PATRICK’S DAY!!

As we continue into 2026, we are hopeful for some signs of spring soon in Newfoundland. It has been a snowy winter so far.

With that hope, we continue the important work of moving Mercy Wellsprings into a fully functioning charitable entity in Newfoundland. We have made some strides in many areas since the start of year and are excited and remain committed to our transition journey and to strengthening the legacy of the **Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland** — a legacy that continues to inspire and guide us.

“Each day is a step we take towards eternity, and we shall continue thus to step from day-to-day until we take the last step which will bring us into the presence of God.”

Catherine McAuley

WINTER UPDATE

Over the past few months, we have continued to advance the work related to Formation and logo development with m5, and are ready to share where we are with those two areas. The transition planning, and governance and policy development continue to move ahead. Although progress is being made, a considerable amount of work is still required before Mercy Wellsprings is fully established as a separate charitable entity.

Formation

In 2025, we launched a Formation Program that included a Formation Manual and we facilitated sessions for the Members and Board of Directors of Mercy Wellsprings, as well as Board members of the Sponsored Ministries. Although many attended an initial session, scheduling conflicts made ongoing participation difficult. To ensure access, all participants received the [Formation Booklet](#), which offers seven modules for self-study and reflection. Planned follow-up sessions were postponed due to the illness of our Formation Consultant, Anne Walsh.

In fall 2025, the Mercy Wellsprings Board revisited the Formation strategy in light of these challenges. They chose a new approach: delivering content in shorter, more frequent segments to make it easier to access, digest, and integrate.



Thanks & Happy Retirement to Alison Power, St Patrick's Mercy Home



Blessings on St Patrick's Day

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Another key action that will continue is working with the Congregational Canon Lawyer, Sister Bonnie MacLellan. We look forward to working with Sister Diane and Congregational Leadership to ensure we are considering everything we need to consider as it relates to Canon Law.

MERCY WELLSPRINGS BOARD UPDATE

On March 17, the Mercy Wellsprings Board held its first Board meeting for 2026. During this meeting many topics were discussed including Formation, the Logo, where we are with transition planning as well as governance and policy development. It was agreed we will continue on the path that was set for transition planning outlined on the last Newsletter. We continue to work toward the goal of sustainability aligned with [Mercy Wellsprings' Foundational Statement and Guiding Principles](#).

This new initiative, “**Mercy Wellsprings Formation Moment,**” will be shared bi-weekly by email and posted on the Mercy Wellsprings pages of the Sisters of Mercy website. We hope these brief reflections support you in your ongoing Formation journey. The plan is to start these postings by the end of this month with an exciting announcement for the first edition.

Why is Formation Important?

The purpose of Formation is to prepare leaders within the various ministries to fully assume responsibility for their roles, ensuring that each ministry remains vibrant and faithful to the Mercy charism well into the future. Formation also seeks to deepen understanding of the Mercy story—not only by telling it but by embodying it in the values, relationships, structures, processes, and programs of the organization, so that mercy is lived out in every aspect of our shared mission.

Mercy Wellsprings Logo

We are excited to announce that we are ready to share the logo of Mercy Wellsprings. This work was done with m5 Marketing Communications and we are grateful for their time and creative insights that helped us capture the identity and spirit of Mercy Wellsprings in this awesome Logo. Stay tuned for the unveiling of the Logo soon.

Strategy - Transition Planning

Over the past few months, representatives from Mercy Wellsprings have met with all the Boards of the Sponsored Ministries to review where we are with transition planning including reviewing the Six Stages of Implementation. It was an opportunity for not only Mercy Wellsprings to provide an update but also for the Sponsored Ministries to discuss any concerns, questions, challenges we need to consider as we move forward with our transition planning.

The sessions confirmed that we are heading in the right direction. In identifying and confirming the links between the Congregational Leadership Team and the Seven Sponsored Ministries, we were able to identify key next steps that need to be taken by the Congregational Leadership as well as Mercy Wellsprings to move the transition planning and execution forward. We thank everyone for their time and feedback and will look to do another round of sessions in the spring.