Mission Concrete Steps – Table Responses

Enter into a communal discernment process that would invite one concrete step to intensify our influence regarding lifting the dignity of the human person and all of creation. (Is there a new initiative being birthed where we could place out money/energy...)

Establish a fund to support Sisters’ salaries in direct ministry to the poor.

Implications: use savings, interest and/or live with less.

To create a social justice center at our Presentation motherhouse to educate ourselves, as well as others, who might be interested, on racism and other issues which will propel us forward into action to make a better world.

Rooted in the Gospel and Nano we would like to address the need of immigration through the following possible concrete steps:

- Opening our doors here at Mt. Loretto and on missions to immigrants
- Hearing the needs of immigrants
- Provide sanctuary for them
- Directing them to social service agencies
- Financially support the needs of immigrants

Implications:
- Stretches us and expands our hearts
- Calls us to radical hospitality
- Is a risk

Use Doorways, Social Media, Webpage and highlight one justice issue/mission focus at a time. For example, an issue might educate on human trafficking and then highlight how members and associates are addressing the issue.

Implications – some may say, “Why don’t you say your prayers instead of...(issue)” Or some may choose not to be our donor! Make/help people think a new way!
Name discrimination as a community theme to apply radical hospitality to our mission and expect each sister/associate to incorporate it to his/her ministry/volunteer work/prayer.

For example –

- Host/attend anti-discrimination workshops
- Monitor our language; use respectful and inclusive conversation
- Value each person – act with respect
- Open CMF house as shelter to people who are homeless, immigrants, refugees
- Send emails/make phone calls to congress
- Put myself in places with diver groups of people

A commitment to focus on homelessness in Dubuque and beyond. It would include a commitment to do strategic planning and to allocation of resources (personnel and resources)

Concrete steps we could take that would reflect our commitment to Radical Hospitality

1. We can educate a variety of publics to various urgent needs
2. Connect with those who can respond to the needs

Modeling radical hospitality when living our gospel values by going on pace beyond society’s norms.

Implications:

- Awareness of others and self and societal needs
- Willingness to draw upon other sources
- Deeper gospel living
- Supporting one another

Personal and systemic change of heart as Nano did

Implications:

- Financial and legal risks no matter what
- Acting out of scarcity
- Become beggars
Training on how to appropriately engage and interact with other cultures, races, religions, disabilities, mental health issues, potentially violent situations, sexual orientations and those we perceive as different from us to reduce fear, increase understanding and allow outreach.

Use our resources toward immigration needs.
   Implications: education, housing, citizenship

We will practice non-violence of mind and heart, speech and action.
   Implications: by our example we will support healing and peace to our divided world

Finance lobbying on issues that were surfaced today (i.e. homelessness, immigrants, human trafficking, etc.)
   a) Hire a full-time lobbyist to advocate for these issues at the Iowa State legislature
   b) Financially support existing lobbying efforts for these issues in states where our sisters reside.

Provide for the marginalized throughout the year, not just during the holidays.
   “Journey” with Marginalized in Mutuality (education, earth care, women/children...)

Radical involvement in systemic change
   Implications: comfort the suffering and challenge the comfortable