



SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
OF CARONDELET

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CHAPTER IMPLEMENTATION

We commit ourselves to:

- Make changes incrementally.
- Provide for ongoing communication, evaluation, and adaptation.
- Give special consideration to the inclusion of younger members in the decision-making process.
- Honor the uniqueness of the cultures within our congregation.
- Assure coordination and attention to the life and ministry of sisters and their CSJ presence in local, civic, and church communities.
- Honor the themes, concerns, and fears that emerge in the process of designing a new structure.
- Honor any unit's desire not to join a newly imagined structure at this time.

ADDITIONAL CHAPTER DECISIONS

Amalgamation of Hawai'i with Los Angeles

In December 2014, the Vice Province of Hawai'i submitted their request to the Congregational Leadership Team to amalgamate with the Los Angeles Province. Since that time, the leadership teams and members of both the Vice Province of Hawai'i and the Los Angeles Province have worked together and with the Congregational Leadership Team to assure that the lives of all sisters involved will be enhanced by this move. The Congregational Leadership Team recommended the approval of the amalgamation of the Vice Province of Hawai'i with the Province of Los Angeles, effective July 1, 2017. The members of the Extraordinary Congregational Chapter affirmed this recommendation by acclamation.

Reconsideration of the Composition of the 2019 Congregational Chapter

The 2013 Congregational Chapter determined the composition of the 2019 Congregational Chapter. The delegates at the 2017 Extraordinary Congregational Chapter supported, through a "leaning," the concept of increasing the number of voting delegates identified in 2013 for the 2019 Congregational Chapter. The members of the Extraordinary Congregational Chapter asked the Congregational Leadership Team with the Congregational Leadership Group to consider ways to increase the number of sisters participating as voting delegates at the 2019 Congregational Chapter.



ACTS OF CHAPTER

Extraordinary Congregational Chapter

Saint Louis, Missouri
April 21-25, 2017

ACT OF CHAPTER: Direction for Governance Across the Congregation

CONTEXT

The purpose of this Extraordinary Congregational Chapter was to discern and decide about a direction for governance across the congregation including all levels of governance.

In response to the call from our 2013 Congregational Chapter to “continue intra-congregational conversations and discernment about oneness and structures,” a Process Design Team was established in March 2015. They designed intra-congregational processes patterned on the discernment model of “See – Reflect – Act.” The movement toward a direction for governance across the congregation was envisioned as a communal discernment involving all members of the congregation that came to completion at the Extraordinary Congregational Chapter in April 2017.

The Chapter body agreed on the following direction for governance across the congregation.

We desire to deepen relationships among us and seek new ways that the mission and our charism can respond to the needs of our times while strengthening congregational unity. Therefore, the Chapter has decided that the direction for governance across our congregation will move toward a newly imagined simplified governance structure characterized by subsidiarity, mutuality, and collegiality. This new structure may eventually replace the current governance structures at the congregation, province, and vice province levels.

ACT OF CHAPTER: Directives for Implementation of this Direction

1. The 2017 Extraordinary Congregational Chapter approves the establishment of an Innovation Committee of sisters to facilitate the development of models, processes and timelines for moving toward a newly imagined simplified governance structure to be presented at the 2019 Congregational Chapter.

The committee will be appointed by and accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team in consultation with the Congregational Leadership Group. There will be opportunities for ongoing dialogue and consultation throughout the congregation as models for governance are developed.

The committee will be composed of sisters having diverse necessary skill sets and will include at least one member from each province and vice province.

2. The Chapter approves the establishment of an Animation Committee that will develop processes and offer experiences for intra-congregational sharing for the purposes of deepening relationships across the congregation and offering opportunities for personal and communal transformation. The committee will be appointed by and accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team in consultation with the Congregational Leadership Group.