



National Religious Retirement Office

2020 Annual Report



Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

In most areas of the United States, the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection is held in December. As 2020 came to a close, we simply could not imagine what the response to the collection might be. Our nation was facing unprecedented challenges, and countless Catholics were unable to attend Mass in person due to Covid-19.

I am humbled to report that the 2020 appeal raised \$20.7 million. While this amount represents a decrease compared to previous years, we are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support—especially in such difficult times. For me, these gifts are a beautiful expression of the appreciation US Catholics have for the service and witness of our elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

In 2020, how we worked changed, but why we worked did not. Hundreds of US religious communities still face a profound deficit in retirement funding. The center of our mission—the essence—continues to be distributing collection proceeds to help these communities plan for retirement needs and provide for their older members. Our efforts to assist them are sustained and blessed by God’s grace and your prayers, advocacy, and generosity.

We offer our deepest thanks.

With gratitude,

Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM

Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM



Essential Mission

Challenging times compel us to focus on the elements of our life and work that are most foundational—that are essential. At the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), our *essential* aim is to help US religious communities address their retirement-funding shortages so they can provide for elderly members.

Donations to the 2020 Retirement Fund for Religious collection totaled \$20,787,478. These gifts underwrite vital financial assistance for hundreds of US religious communities. Although operations differed last year, our fundamental work continued thanks to those who share and support our vision of providing a safe, modest retirement to our nation’s elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Without you, the programs and progress detailed in these pages would not be possible. You are *essential* to more than 26,000 senior religious who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Thank you!

Cover photo
Top, from left: Sr. Ursula Marie George, OSU, 95; Fr. Edmund Smith, OSB, 83; Sr. Emilia Irene Lara, MGSpS, 89; Sr. Theresa Hathaway, SSMO, 88; Sr. Elizabeth Sohler, SSMO, 89.
Bottom, from left: Br. James Bartos, OSB, 79; Sr. Mary Hope Doudard, SSCJ, 87; Abbot Gregory Duerr, OSB, 84; Sr. Catarina Santa Cruz, SSCJ, 88; Sr. Mary Guadalupe Jumarang, OSF, 75.

Essential Mission

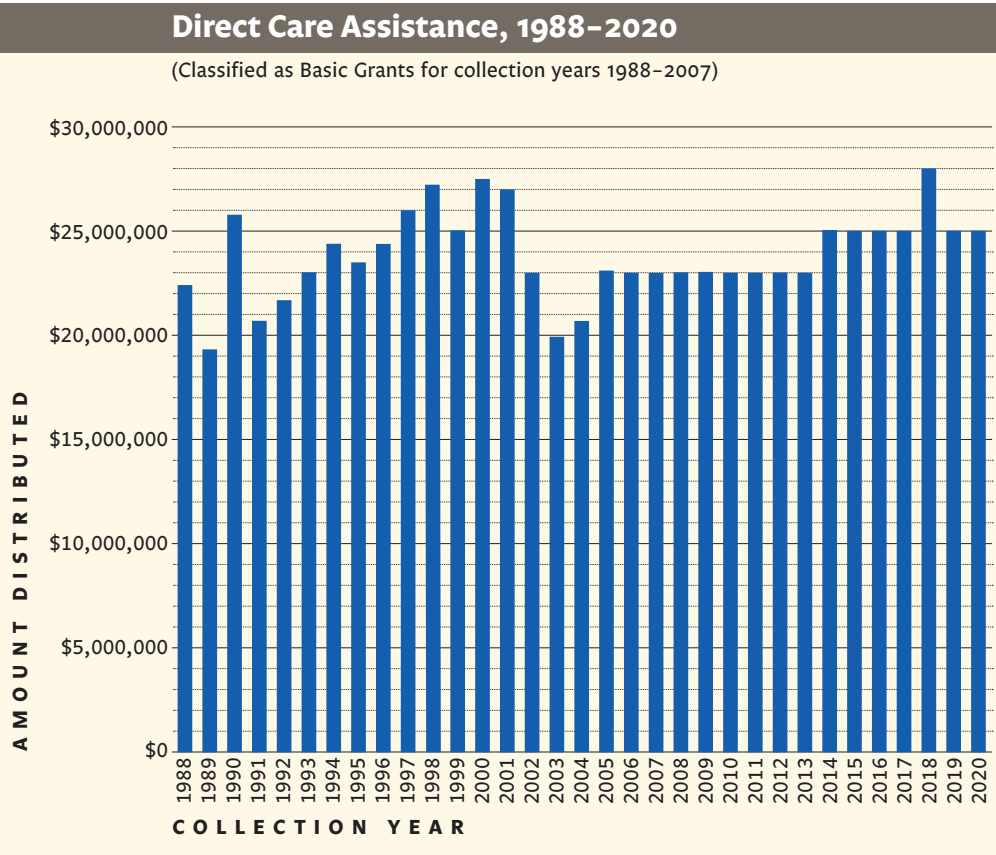
Direct Care Assistance

Since the Retirement Fund for Religious collection was launched in 1988, the heart of the NRRO mission has been to distribute the proceeds to eligible US religious communities for the ongoing needs of their elderly members. Each year, the majority of donations are allocated for Direct Care Assistance. Religious communities combine this funding with their own income and savings to help supply nursing care, medications, and more. Over time, this foundational program has provided critical financial support to several hundred US religious communities.

Direct Care Assistance, 2020

\$25,000,000

to 321 religious communities



Direct Care Assistance since 1988

\$786,845,875

Direct Care Assistance at Work

Growing up in the aftermath of the Mexican Revolution, Sister Emilia Irene Lara, 89, was inspired by missionaries she met during her childhood and eventually decided to pursue religious life. In 1962, she entered the Missionaries Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit, an international religious community founded in Mexico and now with a province in the US. Over the years, she served in remote areas of Mexico and in Venezuela, Puerto Rico, and the US mainland. Often, she ministered to migrant workers and their families. “Sometimes, we did catechesis right in the fields,” she recalls.

Today she lives in her congregation’s Los Angeles-based provincial headquarters, an intergenerational residence that houses both retired sisters and those in active ministry. Annual distributions of Direct Care Assistance help her community to meet retirement expenses.



See inside back cover
for photo identifications.



Essential Mission

Resources and Support

Educational programming, services, and other funding distributions complement and expand the impact of Direct Care Assistance. Together, these initiatives enable religious communities to stretch retirement dollars, improve eldercare delivery, and plan for future needs.

Webinars

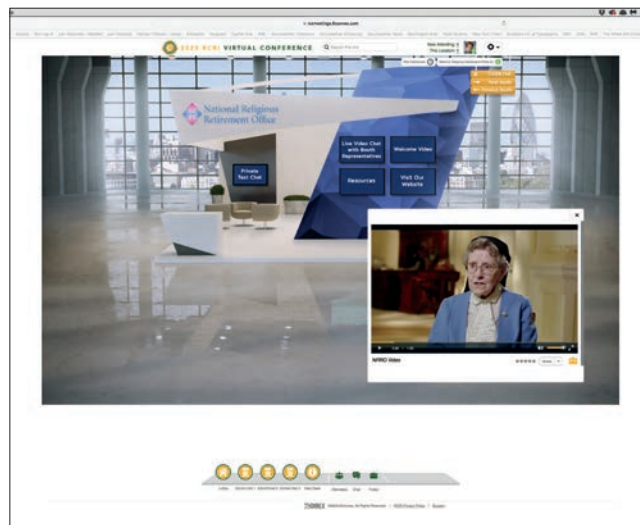
Since 2011, the NRRO has partnered with the Avila Institute of Gerontology to provide free quarterly webinars. Presentations address topics ranging from dementia care to government-assistance programs. In 2020, each live webinar attracted participants from an average of 100 locations across the country. Many others viewed the archived presentations.

The November 2020 webinar addressed the challenges religious communities faced in caring for elders during the coronavirus pandemic.



Online Resources

On-demand and downloadable resources offer information and guidance that promote long-term retirement planning and enhanced eldercare delivery.



In 2020, the NRRO collaborated with the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, Conference of Major Superiors of Men, and Resource Center for Religious Institutes to provide programming and downloadable materials during virtual national events.

Retirement Needs Analysis

A primary NRRO service, the Retirement Needs Analysis (RNA) enables religious communities to better assess their retirement-funding outlook. An RNA is completed for each community that applies for Direct Care Assistance. Need is calculated based on demographics, current cost of care, and assets available for retirement.

In 2020, NRRO Grants Specialist Monica Glover compiled 531 RNAs to help religious communities evaluate their retirement funding.



Other Funding

The NRRO's other funding programs provide additional, targeted financial assistance for specific needs related to retirement planning.

Planning and Implementation Assistance, 2020: \$805,866

Through comprehensive financial and consultative support, Planning and Implementation Assistance helps participating religious communities address critical retirement-funding issues.

Management and Continuing Education Assistance, 2020: \$83,676

Communities may apply for up to \$5,000 in Management and Continuing Education Assistance per year to purchase financial software, underwrite fiscal and demographic analyses, or fund participation in workshops and conferences.



The Order of the Most Holy Trinity and of the Captives (Trinitarians) of Baltimore participated in Planning and Implementation Assistance, which helped them address property-related concerns and increase available retirement funding. From left: Fathers Bill Axe and Victor Scocco.

From Our Sponsors

Dear Friends,

As people of faith, we all recognize the many ways that God’s love and care sustained us during the coronavirus pandemic of 2020. For elderly religious, the love of God was expressed in the generous response of Catholics to the 2020 Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

Even with the hardships of the pandemic, the collection raised \$20.7 million for our beloved sisters and brothers, who have given so much in their lives to serve the Gospel and the Church. We are grateful for every gift and every prayer.

US bishops initiated the collection in 1988 with the central goal of helping religious communities address their retirement-funding shortages. Since then, more than \$888 million has been distributed to assist communities in meeting the ongoing needs of senior members. Still, too many communities continue to experience significant deficits in funding.

Given this pressing need, the National Religious Retirement Office’s Management Committee made the decision to maintain distributions of Direct Care Assistance at \$25 million. Prudent investments underwrote the portion of funding that exceeded what was collected in the 2020 appeal.

As sponsors of the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are committed to promoting financial and educational initiatives that assist religious communities in addressing the gap between the needs of aging members and the funds available to support them. Our grateful prayers are with all whose love and generosity advance this primary mission.

In Christ,

+ José H. Gomez

Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Elise D. Garcia, OP

Sister Elise D. García, OP
President, Leadership Conference of Women Religious

Mother Anna Grace Neenan, OP

Mother Anna Grace Neenan, OP
Chairperson, Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious

Very Rev. Adam Gonzales, OCD

Very Reverend Adam Gregory Gonzales, OCD
President, Conference of Major Superiors of Men



Fiscal Review

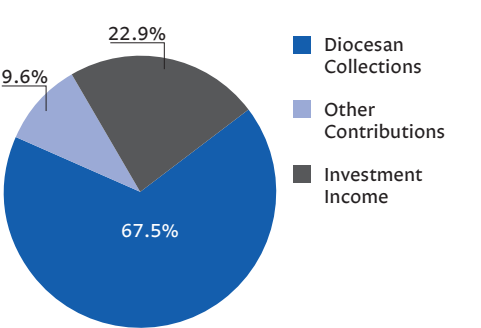
The National Religious Retirement Office’s most recent financial statement is shown below. The information is derived from the audited financial statements of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020.

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

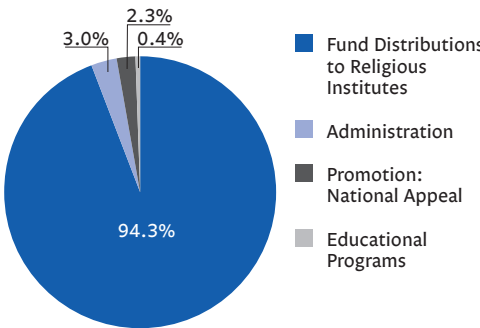
Year ended December 31, 2020	
Operating Revenue	
Contributions	
Diocesan national collection	\$12,253,996
Other	1,751,286
Income on investments	4,152,618
Total Operating Revenue	18,157,900
Operating Expenses	
Distributions to religious institutes	25,910,242
Programs and support services	
Administration	828,046
Education	106,736
Promotion	642,758
Total Operating Expenses	27,487,782
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from Operations	(9,329,882)
Nonoperating Activities	
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	2,534,553
Total Nonoperating Activities	2,534,553
Change in net assets	(6,795,329)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	77,074,820
Net Assets at End of Year	\$70,279,491

As of December 31, 2020	
Assets	
Marketable securities	\$3,792,115
Contributions receivable	13,102,433
Long-term investments— at market (held by USCCB)	53,573,883
Total Assets	70,468,431
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	188,940
Total Liabilities	188,940
Net Assets	
Without donor restrictions	57,177,058
With donor restrictions	13,102,433
Total Net Assets	70,279,491
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$70,468,431

2020 Sources of Operating Revenue



2020 Operating Expenses



Contributions

(Arch)diocesan Contributions

The following are (arch)dioceses that participated in the 2020 parish-based appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious and the amounts they submitted.

Alabama		Florida		Louisiana	
Birmingham	\$50,000.00	Miami	\$115,196.30	Alexandria	\$12,076.30
Mobile	41,807.25	Orlando	41,126.74	Baton Rouge	151,629.86
Alaska		Palm Beach	92,012.42	Lafayette	70,889.39
Anchorage	42,738.43	Pensacola–Tallahassee	54,634.08	New Orleans	180,949.12
Fairbanks	4,817.56	St. Augustine	146,666.75	Shreveport	30,508.00
Juneau	6,498.50	St. Petersburg	215,191.99	Maine	
Arizona		Venice	201,557.00	Portland	68,865.06
Phoenix	68,808.47	Georgia		Maryland	
Tucson	5,958.00	Atlanta	229,713.59	Baltimore	278,018.37
Arkansas		Savannah	90,053.69	Massachusetts	
Little Rock	133,005.46	Hawaii		Fall River	64,291.98
California		Honolulu	76,301.73	Springfield	49,779.55
Fresno	55,959.11	Idaho		Worcester	104,469.00
Los Angeles	302,169.18	Boise	6,000.00	Michigan	
Monterey	19,888.39	Illinois		Detroit	407,251.33
Oakland	89,994.67	Belleville	51,465.40	Gaylord	126,428.08
Orange	227,176.60	Chicago	554,160.84	Grand Rapids	167,830.56
Sacramento	47,427.00	Joliet	200,129.45	Kalamazoo	68,813.50
San Bernardino	192,910.14	Peoria	79,765.00	Lansing	103,363.04
San Diego	286,903.65	Rockford	165,918.34	Marquette	26,393.04
San Francisco	49,815.78	Springfield	95,000.00	Saginaw	170,344.50
San Jose	89,842.37	Indiana		Minnesota	
Santa Rosa	20,596.37	Evansville	12,901.83	Crookston	35,841.76
Stockton	41,684.99	Fort Wayne–South Bend	113,523.34	Duluth	28,411.32
Colorado		Indianapolis	157,450.30	New Ulm	31,156.89
Colorado Springs	45,596.06	Lafayette	117,531.99	St. Cloud	79,504.01
Denver	147,393.14	Iowa		St. Paul and Minneapolis	420,292.68
Pueblo	23,002.14	Davenport	56,668.20	Winona–Rochester	42,557.92
Connecticut		Des Moines	48,605.70	Mississippi	
Bridgeport	75,605.49	Dubuque	146,486.69	Biloxi	23,722.65
Hartford	172,793.51	Sioux City	42,486.00	Jackson	54,683.29
Norwich	69,860.20	Kansas		Missouri	
Delaware		Dodge City	13,000.00	Jefferson City	129,446.73
Wilmington	104,883.70	Kansas City	101,155.72	Kansas City–St. Joseph	92,793.85
District of Columbia		Salina	40,335.81	Springfield–Cape Girardeau	77,535.94
Military Services	582.25	Wichita	30,100.00	St. Louis	281,308.08
Washington	375,000.00	Kentucky		Montana	
		Covington	39,180.59	Great Falls–Billings	13,787.00
		Lexington	32,205.66	Helena	23,865.15
		Louisville	81,500.00	Nebraska	
		Owensboro	25,971.14	Grand Island	32,726.15
				Lincoln	24,216.33
				Omaha	169,515.45

Nevada	
Las Vegas	\$38,776.07
Reno	26,554.40
New Hampshire	
Manchester	136,804.16
New Jersey	
Camden	90,054.90
Metuchen	163,394.40
Newark	283,370.62
Passaic (Eastern Church)	12,000.00
Paterson	134,000.08
Trenton	147,549.20
New Mexico	
Gallup	13,829.69
Las Cruces	9,191.43
Santa Fe	46,691.33
New York	
Brooklyn	154,899.81
Buffalo	672,000.00
New York	448,199.66
Ogdensburg	10,016.89
Rockville Centre	585,448.00
North Carolina	
Charlotte	176,019.31
Raleigh	136,478.23
North Dakota	
Bismarck	34,382.05
Fargo	29,713.95
Ohio	
Cincinnati	388,000.00
Cleveland	381,061.78
Columbus	104,863.04
Parma (Eastern Church)	1,434.41
Steubenville	17,354.33
Toledo	103,792.57
Youngstown	224,171.36

Oklahoma	
Oklahoma City	\$71,021.74
Tulsa	14,298.42
Oregon	
Baker	10,928.83
Portland	104,221.73
Pennsylvania	
Allentown	21,445.93
Altoona–Johnstown	34,722.50
Erie	145,173.80
Greensburg	47,472.96
Harrisburg	45,119.01
Philadelphia	75,901.95
Pittsburgh	372,572.05
Scranton	50,029.74
Rhode Island	
Providence	104,844.00
South Carolina	
Charleston	102,393.65
South Dakota	
Rapid City	6,531.65
Sioux Falls	17,000.00
Tennessee	
Knoxville	40,292.11
Memphis	41,902.61
Nashville	38,299.84
Texas	
Amarillo	21,875.16
Austin	42,469.89
Beaumont	64,354.00
Brownsville	21,371.18
Corpus Christi	68,708.31
Dallas	66,815.09
El Paso	2,212.15

Texas, continued	
Fort Worth	\$202,803.89*
Galveston–Houston	344,990.04
Laredo	3,247.19
Lubbock	8,376.00
San Angelo	48,655.51
San Antonio	184,414.43
Tyler	3,710.60
Victoria	32,888.45
Utah	
Salt Lake City	22,631.92
Vermont	
Burlington	44,027.09
Virginia	
Arlington	373,606.22
Richmond	75,361.82
Washington	
Yakima	10,000.00
West Virginia	
Wheeling–Charleston	67,050.45
Wisconsin	
Green Bay	200,557.17
La Crosse	112,517.76
Madison	57,475.46
Milwaukee	256,058.87
Wyoming	
Cheyenne	33,463.40
Total	\$18,193,846.82

* Includes bequest.

(Arch)diocesan Distributions

The (arch)dioceses listed to the right sponsor programs independent of the national appeal and distribute funds directly to local religious institutes. Data submitted by these (arch)dioceses help ensure the accuracy of the National Religious Retirement Office formula for fund distribution nationally.

Boston	\$811,837.44
Covington	135,205.87
Norwich	10,000.00
Ogdensburg	96,613.18
Philadelphia/Allentown/Harrisburg	790,100.00
Total	\$1,843,756.49

Contributions

Other Donors

In 2020, individuals and organizations donated to the Retirement Fund for Religious through bequests, institutional philanthropy, and direct donations. These contributions totaled \$2,593,631 and included stock donations and matching gifts.

Listings are alphabetical.

Bequests (\$5,000 or more)
\$100,000 and over
Anonymous
\$50,000–\$100,000
Anonymous (3)
Wayne Subcasky
\$10,000–\$20,000
Mary C. Foster
Maurice Lapierre
Individual Donations (\$5,000 or more)
\$50,000 and over
Anonymous
\$10,000–\$30,000
Anonymous (7)
Mr. Nicholas Bertok Jr.
Mr. Harry C. Brown
Ms. Marsha L. Budde
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Burns
Mr. and Mrs. Semyon Kruglyak
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Larkin
Ms. Julie A. Schumacher-Foley
\$5,000–\$9,999
Anonymous (3)
Mr. Warren W. Ambler
Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Berry Jr.
Mr. Mauricio Botero-Velez
Mr. and Mrs. Rich Brousil
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Flaherty
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Holmes
Mr. and Mrs. Michael E. Hora
Ms. Maribeth Koslow
Mr. and Mrs. L. Phillip Reinig
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Schafale
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Scudellari
Mr. and Mrs. Keith R. Wieland

Gifts from Organizations (\$5,000 or more)
\$500,000
Anonymous
\$100,000–\$499,999
Anonymous (2)
\$30,000–\$50,000
Anonymous (3)
Sisters of St. Francis
\$5,000–\$20,000
Anonymous (3)
Greater Milwaukee Foundation—Paraclete Fund
Rapid Cut, Inc.
Stock Donations
Anonymous (9)
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene C. Brisbane Jr.
Mr. Ed Hopfner
Mr. Philip J. Paschang
Matching Gifts by Organizations
ExxonMobil Foundation

Acknowledgments

Committees

The following committees oversee and assist in the work of the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO). The Commission on Religious Life and Ministry establishes guidelines and criteria for the NRRO. The Assistance Review Committee recommends distributions of Planning and Implementation Assistance, and the Management Committee gives final approval of fund allocations and oversees operations.

Commission on Religious Life and Ministry	Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR)
Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM)	Sister Carol Zinn, SSJ Executive Director
Reverend Frank Donio, SAC Executive Director	Sister Elise García, OP President
Very Reverend Adam Gregory Gonzales, OCD President	Sister Jane Herb, IHM President-Elect
Very Reverend Brother Kevin Griffith, CFC President-Elect	Sister Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ Past President
Very Reverend Brother Patrick McNamara, FMS Vice President	Sister Maureen O’Connor, OSF Treasurer
Very Reverend Timothy P. Kesicki, SJ Secretary/Treasurer	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
Very Reverend Jeffrey Kirch, CPPS Board Member-At-Large	Most Reverend James F. Checchio
Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR)	Reverend Michael J.K. Fuller Interim General Secretary
Sister Mary Bendyna, OP Executive Director	
Mother Anna Grace Neenan, OP Chairperson	
Sister Megan Mary Thibodeau, SOLT Assistant Chairperson	
Mother Margaret Mary Waldron, CK Secretary	
Sister Judith Ann Duvall, OSF Treasurer	

Assistance Review Committee	Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Conference of Major Superiors of Men	Sister Mary Thomas, PBVM
Very Reverend Brian F. Terry, SA	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious	Most Reverend Elias R. Lorenzo, OSB
Sister Joanne Holloman, FMA	
	
Father Terry	Sister Holloman
	
Sister Thomas	Bishop Lorenzo

Management Committee	Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Conference of Major Superiors of Men	Sister Carol Zinn, SSJ Executive Director
Reverend Frank Donio, SAC Executive Director	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious	Reverend Michael J.K. Fuller Interim General Secretary
Sister Mary Bendyna, OP Executive Director	
	
Father Donio	Sister Zinn
	
Sister Bendyna	Father Fuller

About

National Religious Retirement Office

The staff of the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) coordinates the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious, distributes funds to eligible religious institutes, and provides educational and consultative services related to retirement planning and eldercare.

Staff



Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM
Executive Director



Mrs. Monica Glover
Grants Specialist



Ms. Karen Cañas
Program Associate



Sister Georgette Lehmuth, OSF
Education and Outreach
Manager

Affiliated Independent Consultants



Sister Anna Marie Tag, RSM



Ms. Dayna Larson-Hurst

Annual Report Supplement

The *National Religious Retirement Office 2020 Annual Report Supplement* includes a list of financial distributions to religious communities made possible by the 2020 collection. This supplement also provides a list of the coordinators in each (arch)diocese who collaborate with the NRRO to manage the Retirement Fund for Religious appeal at the local level.

To access this list electronically, please visit retiredreligious.org/about-us/annual-report. Printed copies of the supplement can be obtained by contacting our office.

For more information about the Retirement Fund for Religious or about making a bequest, please contact:

Retirement Fund for Religious
National Religious Retirement Office
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017-1194
Phone (202) 541-3215
Fax (202) 541-3053
Email retirement@usccb.org

Visit retiredreligious.org to learn more about our mission to assist elderly religious or to download campaign resources.

Go to usccb.org/nrro to access resources for religious institutes.



Support for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps hundreds of US religious communities—like the Missionary Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit—to better provide for aging members. *From left: Sisters Emilia Irene Lara, Maria Guadalupe (Lupita) Malvais, Antonia López, Ernestina Hernández (seated), Ana Gabriela Castro, María (Gloria) Rodríguez, Elva Mendez, Beatriz Cortés, Marta L. Tobón. (Photo taken 2017)*



National Religious Retirement Office

Sponsor of the Retirement Fund for Religious

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious

Leadership Conference of Women Religious

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



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