

Nonmember Connection

Susan Kenney

Loretto Community Co-Member

Sue is on the Leadership Team called the Loretto Community Forum made up of Vowed sisters and Co-members. Their President is Barbara Nicholas. They exploring the various models other Communities have chosen as leadership options are less and numbers decline.

I met with her on September 8 and I believe she was to connect with Sr. Jean Steffes on September 10.

I supplied responses to her questionnaire and a copy of our draft article ahead of the call:

QUESTIONS TO COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE TRANSITIONED:

Please see the attached draft article for an overview. This is not for distribution beyond your team as it has not yet been published.

How did you come to the decision to change your form of government?

WRC is not technically a new form of government but rather a collaborative of member institutes coming together to address these issues going forward. The idea for the collaborative emerged out of discussions at LCWR regional meetings.

What were the major issues that had to be addressed?

Differences across sizes, status, priorities, and cultures of different member institutes.

What were the major stumbling blocks?

Defining exactly what shared services to develop and how to implement across varied institutes.

What are the pluses and minuses of your decision?

The intangible benefits of being members of the collaborative include collaboration and connection, networking and information, idea and resource sharing and these are proven valuable. The tangible benefits of access to vetted partners and solutions for shared services has taken longer than originally thought and are hard to define and implement across the varied institutes.

What do you wish were different about the new form?

We're still emerging so I cannot articulate yet what we could have done differently.