

LCWR Region 9

Legislative Network Report

Spring 2021

Earth Day – Apr 22, 2021

ACTION: At the fall 2019 LCWR 9 meeting, members agreed that beginning with Earth Day 2019, religious congregations in Wisconsin will observe annually a period of “contemplative mindfulness” inspired by the principles of *Laudato Si*. The LCWR Region 9 Legislative Network (Leg-Net) will provide promotional reminders to save the date and a common prayer resource for all religious congregations in LCWR 9. All are requested to use it on **Earth Day or during that week**. Prayer resource was distributed in early April. It should have been shared with the person who will facilitate this observance in your congregation. All LCWR 9 women religious are encouraged to observe this day in solidarity.

Representative at Network Meetings

ACTION: Leadership of each congregation will continue to encourage their representative to Leg-Net to participate in semi-annual meetings. Meeting currently by Zoom. **Next meeting: June 28, 2021.**

SUMMARY OF Legislative Network FOCUS AND ACTIVITY:

- Congregations/provinces based in Wisconsin have more than 2,000 members. Although not all these live in Wisconsin, the Leg-Net can work to engage more than 1,000 Catholic Sisters in the state. The unique niche of this group has been legislation affecting social justice issues in Wisconsin. Four members of LCWR 9 are members of the Legislative Network: Rose Jochmann OSF, Ellen Sinclair SDS, Kathy Slesar OP, and Toni Harris OP.
- Since the last LCWR 9 meeting (October 2020), the Legislative Network met by Zoom on Nov 9, 2020, and March 29, 2021.
- Actions and Issues:
 - Providing prayer resource for Earth Day 2020 as planned.
 - Planning to meet quarterly so as to better address collaboration with WRC.
 - Post Nov Election: The Legislative Network recommended that letters from members of our congregations be written to President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris as well as to our federal and state elected officials urging them to work together for the healing of our nation and offering our prayerful support. Sample letters were provided.

(Submitted by Toni Harris OP – April 2021)