

VOCATION VIBES

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The Northeast Dominican Six Congregational Vocation Ministers (CVM's) began their third year of collaboration in promoting Dominican life and mission at a two day planning session September 5-6 at Mariandale Center in Ossining. Assisted by facilitator Lauren Hanley, SSJ, The CVM's, along with DLCNE liaisons, Pat Magee (Hope) and Honora Werner (Caldwell) set goals and action steps for the year ahead. In the context of prayer, the group engaged in faith sharing on the future of religious life. They voiced their commitment to that future and to the need for Dominican women to exercise their prophetic call in new ways.

The CVM's will continue to meet monthly at various congregational sites and periodically with DLCNE liaisons, Pat and Honora. They will divide responsibilities of the ministry among themselves. These include responding to Internet inquiries from Vision magazine's online survey, attendance at local and national vocation gatherings and workshops, participation in the college preaching conference and in diocesan vocation events and serving as contact with various organizations.

The CVM's plan to invite congregational members to assist them in carrying out the ministry and will connect with the Think Tank soon to be convened by the DLCNE. This group will explore possibilities both for vowed membership and other forms of association.

At their September meeting in Sparkill, the CVM's received a final copy of the booklet developed for women discerning membership and expressed gratitude to Barbara Schwartz (Amityville) for finalizing it.

Advertising strategies and ad layouts were discussed and schedules developed. With the assistance of Barbara Schwartz, an ad is being prepared for publication in "America", "US Catholic" and in vocation issues of selected diocesan newspapers in areas where a significant number of members live and minister. A schedule for responding to Internet inquiries was developed and a budget for the year was prepared for submission to the DLCNE.

The next meeting of the CVM's will be held November 2nd in Amityville.

Michaela Connolly, OP
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