

Where We Are Today

January 25, 2022

Moving forward in mission and ministry is the intent of The Bold Moves Resolution presented at the Sister Assembly on August 21, 2021 and voted on by the Sisters on October 9, 2021. The “Whereas statements” preceding the resolution lay out the rationale.

My report today attempts to provide a little more context.

Fundraising, Finances and Operations

The Ministries Foundation, a ministry of the Province, was established to assist the Province in funding ministries the Sisters founded. Since its recognition by the state as a 501C3 nonprofit organization in 1993, the Foundation has raised significant funds to assist in supporting several CSJ ministries.

As a separate 501c3, the Ministries Foundation has been tasked with supporting and governing itself and to raise operating funds for LIS, SJW, SMHC, and Sarah’s and funds for special projects for WW and the Justice Office, and to help continue to support Peace House Community annually.

The Ministries Foundation receives no financial support from the Province. It supports itself AND supports approximately 90% of the cash needs of St. Mary’s Health Clinics and approximately 50% of the three Province ministries (LIS, SJW, Sarah’s).

Currently, the Foundation provides CSJ ministries with approximately \$2 million annually.

The Ministries Foundation raises funds from individual donors, organizations, other foundations, estate gifts and special events like the Gala.

With one exception, the Foundation has been unable to apply for grants from corporations and other foundations that demand audited financial disclosures. The exception is St. Mary's Health Clinics which is its own 501(C)(3) organization. The Foundation raises approximately \$500,000 in grants for SMHC annually.

The amounts the ministries expect annually from the Ministries Foundation are line items in the ministries' budgets. Funds raised by the Ministries Foundation from donors it has developed relationships with support the operating budgets of these ministries.

The Ministries Foundation does not have input in how the ministries budget, spend or operate. The MF has no say in the ministries' missions, outcomes, or results. It asks for such information in Partners In Ministries grant proposals and reports but really can't act on any of it.

The Ministries Foundation operates like an ATM.

The Bold Moves 2030 redesign shifts oversight responsibility for LIS, Sarah's, St. Joseph Worker and Wisdom Ways to a newly structured foundation.

- Present donors and the public involved in charitable giving are aware of the declining number of Sisters of St. Joseph and have legitimate questions about the future of CSJ ministries.
- A newly configured foundation sends a message that it would continue the CSJ mission by supporting and reimagining current ministries and by being responsive to new social needs and calls for justice.
- A newly configured 501(C)(3) foundation would be able to apply for grants that require the release of financial audits.

- It also would be eligible to apply for membership in the Charities Review Council that provides data to donors about the viability of member charitable organizations.
- Donors, particularly younger donors, rely on data from the Charities Review Council for assurance that their gifts are being given responsibly.
- Further, a reconfigured foundation would be able to mount a capital campaign to give more visibility to the CSJ mission and broaden the base of donors. It will tell a story of accountability, outcomes, and a strong future.

Changes in Governance

Question	Currently	Proposed
Where are the ministries housed?	The Province 501(c)(3)	The newly restructured “foundation” 501(c)(3)
Who holds civil responsibility/accountability for the ministries?	The Province Leadership Team and Council	The Board of Directors of the newly restructured “foundation” which includes Sisters who are on the Board
Who holds canonical responsibility/accountability for the ministries?	The Province Leadership Team and Council directly	The Province Leadership Team and Council through the Reserved Powers or a Sponsorship Council within the Board of Directors

Who supervises the directors of these ministries?	A Province Leadership Team Member	The person responsible for the “Program Arm” of the newly structured “foundation” 501(c)(3)
Who makes decisions about new ministries as they evolve and may seek funding?	A function of the Sister Assembly is to approve current and emerging ministries as eligible for CSJ Ministries Foundation funding	The Board of Directors of the newly structured “foundation” which includes Sisters who are on the Board