

Charter of the Marianist Family Council of North America

The Council was called into existence in July, 1999 by the Daughters of Mary, the Society of Mary, and the Marianist Lay Network of North America.

Vision Statement

We, the Marianist Family, strive to bear witness to the gospel through our lives and through our service characterized by simplicity, dialogue, discernment, and enablement for mission. In alliance with Mary, we work together in faith and hope to serve the needs of persons for dignity, liberation, and justice.

Mission Statement

In order to transform the world into the reign of God, we, the Marianist Family, as members of the Church, collaborate in a variety of ways and settings to form persons and communities of faith.

Purpose

The purpose of this Marianist Family Council is to encourage the implantation of the Marianist Family in North America and to facilitate the cooperation of all its members in implementing the Mission of the Marianist Family in the North American culture. At the present, the Council supports two major initiatives: the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative and a joint venture on Marianist lay formation.

Membership

The Council shall be composed of two delegates from each of the leadership groups of the major branches of the Marianist Family in North America. They shall be chosen by the leadership group of each branch by whatever means it chooses.

The Council shall elect its own chair, who shall serve a two-year renewable term. The Council shall establish its own calendar of meetings.

Objectives

The Council seeks to:

- devise ways of initiating, encouraging and collaborating with the Marianist Family, of recruiting new members, of working together at initial and continuing formation and ministerial outreach efforts.

- establish and maintain channels of communication with the World Council of the Marianist Family and with local family Councils in North America.
- encourage the development of common symbols, rituals, and terminology.
- encourages joint celebrations of the Marianist Family.
- encourage the publication and dissemination of Marianist Family documentation, in communication and cooperation with the North American Center for Marianist Studies.
- establish guidelines for collaborative funding of Marianist Family events, activities, and projects.