

Dominican Sisters Conference

Area Meeting @ Mission San Jose – February 1, 2014

Regional Action Proposals

- Investigate regional recycling. Use it.
- List serve for sharing best practices
- Trafficking – labor and sex work
- Green businesses
 - Engage with green contractors and cleaning companies
 - Use environmentally friendly cleaners, and take the hangers back
- Local resources
 - Find resources in our own areas to help us live more simply
 - Share with congregations in the area
- Get better awareness of going green
 - Educate through our group's common goals through providing pamphlets or a designated group of sisters to circulate to the public (eg., Nuns on the Bus)
 - Provide the DVD we saw today to share in our communities to keep awareness in our residences
 - Educate selves and others regarding our roles and power as consumers whose individual choices all affect the Earth community
 - Importance of education
- Social justice alerts
 - Respond to social justice alerts
 - Be more attentive to responding to issues by writing, signing, and emailing
 - Share written newsletters of justice promoters across our congregations electronically (Options for Justice)
- Water issue and Fracking
 - Learn about desalination
 - Fracking's relationship to the water issue in the area
 - Be a collective voice in California in opposition to fracking which wastes so much water and endangers the environment
 - Advocate to supervisors – pro-rating water reduction
 - Pay attention to fracking in California
- Food
 - Consider eating lower on the food chain (given resources needed for diet heavy in animal products)
 - Vegetarian choices
 - Awareness of and action on buying and eating locally and in season
- OPWest
 - Work together – One Voice!
 - OPWest group address one of the issues mentioned in the DVD and create an action

- Create a group that alerts us to take social action for the common good
- Cultivate a heightened awareness of our daily choices
- Prayer specific to this issue in local and congregational prayer
- As we replace light bulbs, move to LED (long lasting, mercury-free)
- Waste
 - Be more conscious about our waste – We are blessed to have the resources to recycle and compost, make better use of them
 - Keep the conservation going in our homes and work – Brainstorm with each other what we can do collectively and individually to reduce waste
- Transportation
 - Bicycle to ministry
 - Carpool
 - Consider electric cars in the future
 - Purchase Priuses
- Chevron/Richmond refineries

National Action Proposals

- Our institutions across the country (hospitals, schools, etc.) could collaborate by buying items and food that is socially responsible
- Investigate green burial
- Get educated on how our roles as consumers affect Earth – am I willing to be inconvenienced?
- OPWest and the DSC could send letters to Obama regarding fracking
- What are we doing together with our investments
 - Continue involvement in corporate shareholder meetings/resolutions and train more sisters to do this
 - How can we unite our efforts more?
 - Investigate, be aware of portfolios of one's congregation – share this info with other congregations
 - Invest in socially responsible entrepreneurship
 - Education in socially responsible investing - have newer members attend – Proxy voting – all our institutions
- Travel
 - Consider other ways of experiencing the National Convocation that would cut down on travel by creating spaces around the country
 - Flash meetings
 - Use Skype
- Make decisions with sustainability as a priority value
- Share with each other what we are doing on a national level – trade-offs and awareness's
- Political responses to:

- Organizations such as change.org
 - Local/national politicians encouraging earth friendly legislation
- Dominican Sisters to “speak truth to power” on a national level (like Sr. Simone) to educate/encourage need to change the needs of our global climate
- Focus of DomLife: Consciousness raising
- Encourage our sisters across the country to push for better recycling and composting centers in their own communities and take the effort to do it in their homes
- Fracking and mountain top removal

International Action Proposals

- Water
 - Study and speak to access to clean water for everyone
 - Develop and support efforts to purify water in underdeveloped countries
- Green organizations
 - Organizations whose values we share – support and join them
 - Support Green Peace, etc.
- Commit to receiving, opening, and acting on emails
- Responsible investments
 - Continue and enlarge our commitment to responsible investing
 - Small business loans to non-profits and community based relief
 - Support socially responsible/responsive efforts ow/goth funds and personell when possible
- Continue disaster preparedness – how do we tie into organizations working on this?
- We as a 1st world country need to listen to what other are telling us
- Become aware of company policies on earth sustaining practices, and commit to encourage actions like those of Campbell (water for everyone)
- Collaborate/use websites to provide members with relevant info re: climate change and other practices
- Keep in contact with DSI
- Human trafficking