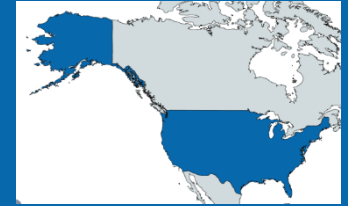


America

Constellation: AM North C3

United States



NEEDS

Continent: **America**

Constellation: **AM North C3**

Country: **United States**

Cry of the Earth

- air pollution
 - large emitter of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels
- water pollution from runoff of pesticides and fertilizers
- limited natural freshwater resources in much of the western part of the country require careful management
- Deforestation
- Mining
- Desertification
- species conservation
- invasive species

Cry of the Poor

- The criminal justice system—from policing and prosecution through to punishment—is plagued with injustices like racial disparities, excessively harsh sentencing, and drug and immigration policies that improperly emphasize criminalization
 - As a result, the United States has the largest reported prison population in the world.
 - Specific policies often have a particularly harsh impact on youth, racial minorities or low-income populations accused of or victimized by crime.
 - Jail and prison conditions are in many respects unsafe and inhumane
- The US has frequently invoked national security as a justification for policies that violate international law -- the torture of detainees in the US “war on terror,” secretive targeted killings abroad, and indefinite detention without trial at Guantanamo Bay.
 - large-scale surveillance by the National Security Agency is hampering the ability of journalists and lawyers to do their work and corroding US democracy

Commitments

Constellation 3 USA

1. We commit ourselves to “Sowing Hope for the Planet” and will make sure there is a contact person from every congregation.
2. We commit ourselves to focus on migration.
 - The USA is a great destination country for migrants
 - We encourage our congregations to send sisters, associates, volunteers and others to work for a time on the US/Mexico border
 - We will work with the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) to better coordinate our efforts.
 - We will meet on Aug. 15 at our larger constellation meeting to share the information from this Plenary Assembly and to be more concrete about the actions we will take.

Campaigns and actions in response to the Cry of the Earth

Climate crisis

Green Pioneer Homes

No Harm to Creation Committee

Support for U.S. bipartisan Climate legislation; oppose rollbacks to (COVID) related climate de-regulation, Paris

- ineffective detention and deportation policies
 - migrant families forcibly separated at the border (sending assistance and workers to the border)
- stagnation of wages for lower-income families
 - gradual development of a "two-tier" labor market in which those at the bottom lack the education and the professional/technical skills of those at the top and, more and more, fail to get comparable pay raises, health insurance coverage, and other benefits
- inadequate investment in deteriorating infrastructure
- rapidly rising medical and pension costs of an aging population
 -

Aligned Climate Lobbying, Province Newsletters and province announcements; voter voice advocacy software
Climate Crisis Policy Adopt-A-District to pass "Earth Bill"

Achieve net-zero climate pollution economy-wide by 2050. Accelerate the deployment of clean renewable energy, with the goal of net-zero climate pollution from the electricity sector by 2035

Advocacy for the proper shutdown of Indian Point Along the Hudson River

No More Plastic, <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>
Addressing Water Stressed communities: Water Catchment

In Guatemala, work with people to learn skills and techniques to adapt to climate as well as direct service during climate emergencies such as hurricanes, mudslides

Biodiversity

Purchase of 52 acres of forested land

Jubilee for the Earth

2010: Bugs, Bees, Butterflies and Your Backyard

Development of protection for bees

Ecological Sustainability

Protests in support of clean air and addressing climate change

No Harm to Creation Committee

Sanctuary of Peace on monastery property

Advocacy for the Great Lakes

Investment in sustainable infrastructure in all communities, particularly in BIPOC and low-income communities

Comprehensive energy audit of motherhouse

Focus on Extractivism

Grand Rapids Climate Resolution

Land Conservancy in Wisconsin

Permaculture Gardens

Buildings built using LEED Gold Guide

Renewable Energy

2MW solar system at 6 sites in 5 states

Climate change and Renewable Energy Policies and Practices

Green New Deal, Climate Crisis Policy advocacy work
Clean Air Act

Solar panel installation on congregational property

Accelerate the deployment of clean renewable energy, with the goal of net-zero climate pollution from the electricity sector by 2035

Geothermal and solar

Consumer Powers INC - Clean energy conversion, Letter writing, public hearing, shareholder action

Motherhouses have been fitted with LED lights and our vehicle fleet has a percentage of hybrid cars and one electric car

Green Generation Program, Solar Array, and Energy Audit

Seeking renewable energy sources/reducing consumption

Water

Lake Erie Project

Collection of rain water for irrigation of plants

Promote a regulatory path that is in line with principles of stewardship, sustainability, and justice by reinstating regulations that reduce pollution

Elimination of Single Use Plastics

Awareness programs presented to Sisters and Associates over the years

Water bottle refilling stations

water treatment system

Rain Gardens, Berms and Swales

Advocacy for clean potable drinking water

Reducing Water Usage

Land

Protest against mountain top removal

No Harm to Creation Committee

Mountain Top Mining advocacy
Protect public and sacred lands
Preservation of forest and ecosystem
Preservation of woodlands
Acting for the Amazon rainforest

Campaigns and actions in response to the Cry of the Poor

Respect for all Life

Ohioans To Stop the Death Penalty
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility
International education funds
Catholic Mobilizing Network
Corporate stand against the death penalty
Corporate Stance for Consistent Ethic of life
Stop the Gun Violence
Educational Opportunities and support for children with developmental disabilities

Support for Indigenous

Las Casas
Pastoral Ministry since 1998 on Native American reservations

Healthcare

CommonSpirit advocacy for universal healthcare, closing the disparity gaps with people of color, access to health in rural America
Engagement with variously publicly held corporations with Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility and other faith/values based investors
Access to quality affordable, healthcare
Advocacy on Phazma/medication prices
Helped create a local health care center
Nursing Ministry and nursing education

Poverty

Advocacy on international debt relief

Working with Food Banks during the pandemic
Charity Health Care
Alternative Investments and/or Program Funding to support Affordable Housing, Economic Opportunity; Pedal Past Poverty; grants to persons and organizations
Charitable donations to many local & global programs
Ending homelessness
Empowering Women to move out of poverty through Education

Children

Child Tax Credit Campaign
Domestic Shelters
Stop online child trafficking
Pre-K education/afterschool programs
Violence Prevention Grant (CommonSpirit) provides workshops and services for youth and women.
Financial support of children from Pre-K through secondary school/afterschool tutoring+

Migrants

Comprehensive Legislative Reform of Immigration Law
Legal Aid
Justice for Immigrants; Interfaith Immigration Coalition
Pathway to Citizenship for Immigrants
Housing for immigrants
Campaigns for family reunification; ending detention; stopping deportation; health care for undocumented
Comprehensive Immigration Reform
CP Province Immigration Legal Fund
Healthcare for the Migrants+Location: Tucson, AZ, USA+Partners: Catholic Charities
Literacy Centers and Immigration Advocacy Network
Financial support for agencies that protect immigrant/refugee rights

Anti-Trafficking

Trafficking Free Zones
U.S. Catholic Sisters against Human Trafficking

Cry of the Poor, Anti-trafficking, Campaign: Corporate
Stance on Human Trafficking+Location: +Partners:
Abolish Human Trafficking/Slavery -
education/advocacy
Support of a Safe House and its Programs
Street Ministry to Trafficked Women
Counseling and other assistance to women victims of sex
trafficking; Child Protection Services from Domestic
Slavery
Collaborate with safe house
Financial Support for Survivors of Human Trafficking
Clothing donations

Education

Scholarships for Working Families Grant
Primary, secondary and college education focused on
needs of girls and persons who are poor
ADS Literacy Centers
Cry of the Poor, Education, Direct Response: Provide
scholarship monies to needy students

Women's Rights

English as a Second Language to empower women
Empowerment of women through education and
developing parenting skills