



September 2021

## **Open Position: Executive Director, Wisconsin Religious Collaborative**

**An Invitation** to individuals with a discerning and open mindset, visionary, as well as deeply knowledgeable and experienced in the systems and the inner workings of religious life.

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### **Wisconsin Religious Collaborative Overview**

The Wisconsin Religious Collaborative (WRC) as an organization is designed to meet the needs expressed by the leadership of religious institutes in Wisconsin and Illinois. WRC is structured to foster collaboration in governance and management and allows leaders and members to give their energy, time and attention to mission.

**WRC Mission:** The Wisconsin Religious Collaborative exists to provide a sustainable membership organization that promotes good stewardship by sharing resources and professional expertise in finance, management, pastoral care, governance, and other areas in order to sustain mission and meet the needs of individual religious institutes in Wisconsin and their members.

**WRC Vision:** It is our hope that developing a structure to foster collaboration in internal governance and management functions will allow leaders and members to give their energy, time, and attention to mission.

The WRC holds a firm belief that various institutes can walk together, share resources, be bold and be a model for the Church and the world. There is energy to be intentional in respecting the gifts and charisms of all institutes while breaking new ground to meet needs and foster new initiatives.

Many WRC members are experiencing profound change, but their needs differ because they are on different places along the path. All institutes are very conscious that religious life is in a significant transition. Some institutes have made the decision not to take any new members and are planning for the fulfillment of mission. Others are looking at ways to evolve their sponsored ministries, so they can continue to be of service and reflect the charism of the founding members, but not be dependent on the Sisters for leadership or administration. WRC is structured to serve the variety of needs which have surfaced and will continue to surface in the institutes.

### **WRC Open Position: Executive Director**

The WRC Board of Directors is underway with a search for the next Executive Director. We are now actively seeking candidates through our networks and personal contacts. We are in search of candidates with a discerning and open mindset, visionary, as well as deeply knowledgeable and experienced in the systems and the inner workings of religious life. Before reading through the position overview below and steps to take should you choose to apply, we have several questions for you with respect to this opportunity. They are intended to be thought provoking. They are deep. Proceed if you so choose.

1. Is your next ministry decision leaning toward one of inspired, mission-driven engagement in service to religious life?
2. Does it bring a smile to your face and joy to your heart, when you imagine being central to ensuring collaboration in governance and management so that leaders and members of the nine (9) religious institutes are able to give their energy, time, and attention to mission?



3. Does it ignite your visionary mindset to know that essential to this role is a deep respect and attentiveness to religious institutes in various stages of fulfillment, balanced by a strategic, collaborative approach to leadership so that WRC can continue to influence and shape the future direction for religious life and serve as a model for the Church and the world?

These are the very reasons this role exists. These are the very reasons we are in search of individuals drawn to this role, rather than individuals applying to one of many open positions. If you are practically jumping out of your chair with an emphatic and joyful YES in answer to each question, then you certainly are a strong candidate for the role of Executive Director for the Wisconsin Religious Collaborative. We invite you to apply.

Please submit, a cover letter with your resume or CV, via email to [tmalm.tmcg@gmail.com](mailto:tmalm.tmcg@gmail.com) and to the attention of Therese Malm, our WRC Executive Director Search Collaborator. Below is a brief position overview with Essential Duties and Responsibilities for the Executive Director role. A more detailed job description will be shared with those that apply.

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### **WRC Executive Director Position Overview**

The Wisconsin Religious Collaborative (WRC), a group of nine (9) institutes of women religious in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, is seeking an executive director well-grounded in understanding the mission and charism of religious life. The executive director must have leadership experience related to religious communities and be capable of assuming diverse responsibilities and overseeing the administration and implementation of programs. The Executive Director will be responsible for updating the strategic plan of the WRC and must ensure practical as well as visionary components are foundational to the plan.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities include the following. Other duties may be assigned.**

A visionary Executive Director with experiential knowledge of institutes of consecrated life who has a well-grounded understanding of the mission and charism of consecrated religious and is able to:

1. Build a strong collaborative partnership with the member institutes to assure that WRC has a long-range strategy which achieves its mission and towards which it makes consistent and timely progress in alignment with values and assumptions of the WRC.
2. Provide leadership in developing program, organizational and financial plans with the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and carry out plans and policies authorized by the board. Programs will foster collaboration in governance and management.
3. Facilitate effective networking of the leadership of member institutes and potential service providers (both service providers internal to member institutes and external service providers).
4. Communicate effectively with the Executive Committee of the Board and provide, in a timely and accurate manner, all information necessary for the Board to function properly and to make informed decisions.
5. Maintain official records and documents, and ensure compliance with federal, state and local regulations.
6. Maintain a working knowledge of significant developments and trends in religious life.