



MISSION

PROJECT SERVICE

MPS NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE NO. 2

We are pleased to share with you the holiday edition of the Mission Project Service bi-annual newsletter. Our intent is to use this platform to share noteworthy MPS information, as well as helpful tools and resources to support your fund development efforts.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Merry Christmas MPS Members, Partners and Friends!

2017 was a great building year for MPS. We have now grown to over 400 members around the world. BUT THE WORK HAS ONLY BEGUN! There are over 500,000 missionary sisters, brothers, priests and lay men and women whose ministries and projects need funding support. Please share this MPS Newsletter with all those missionaries you know- we can only be helpful to those who know about our resources and engage them.

We have three important goals for 2018, each designed to make us more useful for more missionaries:

- Add 200 more foundations and other funding sources to our Funding Guide, both in our hard-copy book and on our website.**
- Improve our “searchable database” to allow Members to more quickly match project needs with potential funders.**
- Expand our existing partnerships with UISG, USG, the USCCB and ASEC (African Sisters Education Collaborative).**

We are all in this together, so please do not hesitate to make suggestions and other requests as to how we can better serve you.

I close with a message that I received in a Christmas card from the Trappists: “Jesus has come to earth to be close to us; let us not be afraid to need Him.”

We need His continued advocacy, and He comes to us through each other- let Christ the Savior be born again through the work of our hands!

MPS Adds Strategic Member: Fr. Lord Winner, CMF

Father Lord Winner, CMF, a Claretian missionary and Assistant Mission Procurator for his congregation, has joined the Mission Project Service leadership team. Father Winner currently lives at the Claretian General House in Rome and will help guide MPS from that location. Father Winner currently serves as a strategic consultant for MPS, while he is completing his doctoral studies. He will become more actively engaged with MPS from mid-2018.

Many missionaries and grant-making organizations already know Fr. Winner for his extensive experience in grant research, writing and training in the overall process of “project cycle management.” He has provided more than fifty ‘project management and fundraising trainings’ to missionaries in Asia and Africa. Now he shares his knowledge as resource person for the Congregations in Rome. Welcome to Father Winner and congratulations to MPS for having access to such a great resource for its future!



Fr. Lord Winner, CMF

MPS Workshop: Port au Prince, HAITI

Sponsored by the Haitian Religious Conference and organized by a local missionary, Oblate Haiti Provincial **Loudeger Mazile, OMI**, MPS provided a workshop for over 50 missionary sisters, brothers and priests on October 6-8. The workshop was held at the headquarters of the Haitian Religious Conference. Joining MPS for the weekend was **Charlie Rotunno**, the Executive Vice President of the Raskob Foundation (USA) and the newest member of our workshop teaching team, **Fr. Bill Johnson, SJ**.

Rotunno helped the participants better understand what foundations are looking for in terms of written applications that they review. Two projects can be equally worthwhile but it is the one that better explains the importance and impact of the project that is more likely to be selected for funding.

In addition to the 3 days of lecture, practicum and discussion, each participant was provided a hard copy of the newest **MPS Funding Guide**, known in missionary circles as “the Green Bible.” Participants were also given access to the MPS website and learning library. The workshop was underwritten by the **US Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Latin America Committee**, who sponsored 2016 workshops in Peru and Paraguay and plans to underwrite another workshop in 2018 in **Buenos Aires, July 16-18**.



MPS Workshop participants and presenters in HAITI, 2017.

How Do I Organize An MPS Workshop In My Country?

Almost all MPS workshops are given not to a single order or congregation of religious but to a wider group of missionaries in a country. Because of this, the best way to proceed is to suggest to the local religious conference or the local episcopal conference to sponsor a workshop and become the “project holder” with a funding agency. Representatives of either conference can then contact MPS and receive direction on potential underwriters of the workshop. Average cost of a workshop for 50-60 missionaries is \$8,000-\$10,000. This includes all costs except travel of participants to the workshop. NOTE: the Hilton Fund For Sisters will also consider funding requests for workshops designed to assist women religious in a country, but not for just one congregation of sisters exclusively. MPS has given workshops on every continent in the world. Invite us to yours and see what a difference it can make! The best way to get the most out of your MPS Funding Guide is to attend a local MPS Grant Writing Workshop.

2018 MPS Workshop Locations

July 16-18, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2019 MPS Workshop Locations

April, Claretianum at Lateran University, Rome, Italy

MPS Workshop Participants at UISG Headquarters in Rome, 2017



Spotlight On: The increasing significance of women religious in Africa

From its peak in 1966, of 181,000 sisters, there are now less than 49,000

women religious in the United States. While the contributions of US sisters, to the Church and nearly every positive aspect of society is enormous, they continue to make these contributions with a declining population. In Africa, however, it is the opposite story. Just in the most recent decade from 2005 to 2015, women religious have increased 30%, from 28,000 to 37,000! And in some countries, like Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania, the increase is 40% or more! Mission Project Service, with leadership support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation's Sisters Initiative looks to partner more with the Initiative's biggest partners in Africa: the **African Sisters Education Collaborative**, known as **ASEC**.

Like Hilton's Sisters Initiative, Mission Project Service seeks to promote a vibrant global sisterhood and hopes to collaborate in the future with ASEC, to increase the skills of sisters who seek project funding. Given the continued growth of sisters in Africa (and nearly every other mission continent) there will be more valuable projects, both pastoral and human-development, that need funding. We hope we are able to be a contributor to these ministries.

Check out ASEC and learn more: www.asec-sldi.org

Statistical Source: CARA Special Report, Summer 2017 Issue

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORY

Over the years we have been humbled and gratified to hear stories about the profound impact the MPS Funding Guide has made in the lives of Catholic Missionaries and the people they serve. Important projects from small to large have been funded and much good has been done across the Globe.

We'd like a chance to formally celebrate in your funding success! If your ministry has benefitted from the information contained in the MPS Funding Guide, we'd love to hear from you – simply drop us a line [HERE!](#) **Every few months, we will randomly draw a name from our success stories submissions. Selected individuals will receive one half- hour of grant writing advisory services free of charge!**



LET'S ENGAGE!

Please help us build our social presence by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter. Don't forget to visit the [MPS Blog](#) where we share grant writing advice and expertise. Simply click the appropriate link below to get connected!



[Visit the MPS Blog](#)

PS: NOT A MEMBER YET?

**MPS Member Benefits (40% discount in month of December
(use coupon code DEC40 in checkout))**

- Two membership options to choose from - Basic or Premium
- Newly released 9th edition of the MPS Funding Guide - hardcopy and digital
- Content-rich web-based Resource Library
- Facebook page, MPS blog and newsletter
- On-line grant application advisory services (Premium Members only)

[Join MPS Now](#)

Many thanks to the Hilton Fund For Sisters for their continuing partnership with MPS in providing our resources to missionary sisters around the world!



PLEASE FORWARD THIS e-NEWSLETTER!

There are many Catholic Missionaries who remain unaware of MPS and the MPS Funding Guide. Please use the buttons below to share the MPS Newsletter with others who may benefit!



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