

Thy Kingdom Come!

**Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi
North American Territory
Report 2023**

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Identity

The Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi are an approved Society of Apostolic Life of pontifical right whose members assume the evangelical counsels in the lay state through private vows. We dedicate ourselves entirely to the service of the Church and all people according to our charism and live fraternal life in common. The Society is federated with the Religious Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ and the Society of Apostolic Life of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi together with the laity who are individually associated to the Federation. We form part of Regnum Christi, a spiritual family and apostolic body that shares the same charism. (Cf. CRC Constitutions 1 and 2)

The purpose and mission of Regnum Christi to make present the mystery of Christ who goes out to meet people in the concrete realities of their lives, reveals the love of his heart to them, gathers them together and forms them as apostles, Christian leaders, sends them out, and accompanies them as they collaborate in the evangelization of people and of society (Cf. CRC Constitutions 4 and 6).

The Holy See established the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi as an autonomous juridical entity in 2018 after years of formal renewal beginning in 2011. This was the first official approval of the Consecrated Women since our beginnings in 1969; previously our status was dependent on the Legion of Christ as the juridical person. The formal discernment process of reflecting on our vocation and mission and updating our Constitutions and norms has allowed us to be strengthened and confident in our identity and flourish in our apostolic mission. “Our identity integrates our consecration, the lay state, and the charism of Regnum Christi in an inseparable way. These elements constitute a style of life and a way of being present in and relating to the world” (Communique of the General Assembly of 2020, #60).

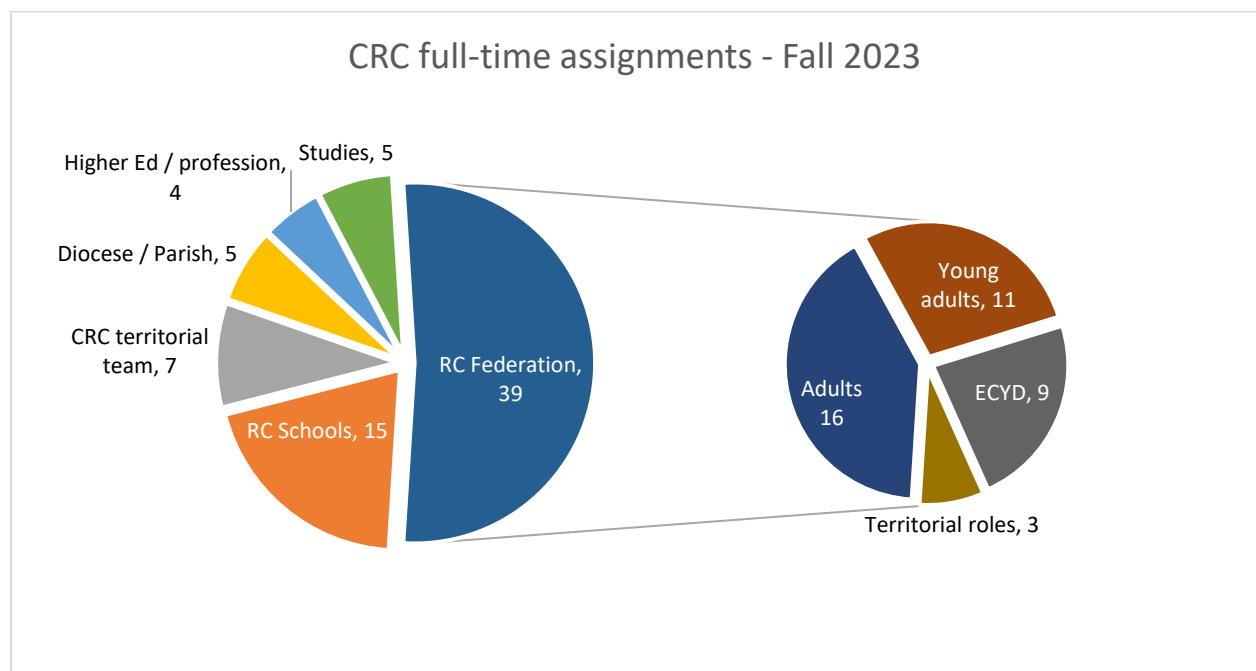
Statistics

Currently in the territory of North America there are 83 Consecrated Women who live in nine communities across the United States and one community in the Philippines for a total of 10

communities in the territory. In 2018-2019, there were 91 Consecrated Women in the territory, so this is a slight decrease. The current average age of the Consecrated Women in the territory is 42.8.

Internationally there are 497 Consecrated Women in 51 communities across 15 countries, which is down from approximately 900 in 2011. The territory of North America is the second largest territory as per number of Consecrated Women (2nd to the territory of Mexico City) and is the territory with the most communities.

The Consecrated Women are active in a variety of apostolic activities throughout the territory. The following charts and graphs show the basic areas of evangelization, the number of Consecrated Women working in each one, and how the communities are engaged in mission.



RC Federation Roles: 39	RC Schools / Overbrook Academy: 15	CRC Territorial Team: 7	Parish / Diocesan Roles: 5	Employed by Institutes of higher learning / professional work 4
3 Territorial Roles 9 ECYD 11 Young Adults 16 Adults	12 in RC Schools 3 at Overbrook Academy	Territorial Director, territorial secretary, finance officer / development, communications, ongoing formation / safe environment, vocations director	Chicago 2 Cincinnati New Orleans San Antonio Dallas – part-time	1 Licensed counselor 1 at Divine Mercy University 1 at Lumen Christi Institute in Chicago 1 at Duke University

* Five Consecrated Women are pursuing graduate degrees on a full-time basis.

** Eight Consecrated Women have not been assigned a full-time apostolate for health or personal reasons.

STRATEGIC FOCUS OF THE COMMUNITIES

DM Atlanta	To evangelize the whole family through personal accompaniment and the formation of formators with particular attention to vocational accompaniment.	10
DM Chicago	To evangelize, form, and accompany lay leaders through our RC charism and within the strategic initiatives of <i>Renew My Church</i> .	5
DM Cincinnati	To reach, touch and engage families via ECYD, with particular attention to vocational accompaniment.	7
DM Dallas	To form and accompany leaders and formators in The Highlands School community, ECYD/Regnum Christi sections and the Dallas diocese, with particular attention to vocational accompaniment.	9
DM Washington DC	To form and accompany girls and women as missionary disciples who will evangelize culture, through programs and events in the vicinity of Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, in collaboration with the spiritual family and the local Church.	7 (One is studying at Divine Mercy University)
DM New Orleans	Pastoral work with youth and young adults (college students), with particular attention to vocational accompaniment and formation of ECYD and RC formators	4
DM Houston	To evangelize families through Regnum Christi and ECYD, with particular attention to vocational accompaniment. *Regnum Christi includes adults & college/young adults; ECYD includes ECYD age and RC high school.	10 (One works in San Antonio.)
DM Manila	To build the foundation of Regnum Christi by forming formators through Everest Academy and the Regnum Christi sections and apostolates.	9
DM Detroit	To accompany, form, and launch apostles for the Kingdom of Christ and build up the Regnum Christi spiritual family by basing our evangelization efforts on the Everest community.	8 (One works at Duke University in Raleigh, NC, and one is studying at Notre Dame.)
See of the Territorial Director	To support the mission of the territorial director and the communities to foster the flourishing of the Consecrated Women and Regnum Christi.	14 (Three at Overbrook Academy and three not living in community.)

In the area of vocations, since 2015 we have had 13 women participate in our residential discernment program (living with a community of Consecrated Women). Of those 13, three are now consecrated. The age of the discerners ranged from 21 to 38 years old. Over 60% of those who do the discernment year have been RC Missionaries, and we have found that young women who had no contact with Regnum Christi before beginning the discernment process did not move on to the candidacy.

The new status of the Consecrated Women as a separate juridical person requires financial autonomy. Previously the financial and corporate structure was through the Legion of Christ. Since 2018, a tremendous effort has been made to set up the infrastructure and financial planning to sustain our Society of Apostolic Life. In the territory of North America, we increased our fundraising revenue on a national level from \$200,000 in 2018 to \$700,000 in 2022. The communities have been gradually increasing their contributions to cover a larger portion of the overhead costs for the Consecrated Women in the territory. Each of our communities is self-sustaining and we are intentionally growing our fund for elder care. In the past five years, we bought five homes and currently, all but one community own a home. Two communities have already paid off their mortgage and the remaining debt is approximately \$1MM. We are working on a plan to be completely financially autonomous from the Legion by 2026.

Strategic Plan

Internationally, the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi are in the first phase of global strategic planning which has included analysis from all the communities of Consecrated Women, looking at insights gained in distinct areas of evangelization. This is the first world-wide strategic plan undertaken by the Consecrated Women and is being done in a spirit of discernment to see how our charism can be sustained in time and of listening to where the Holy Spirit is leading. The strategic plan will take into account considerations offered by the Regnum Christi General Convention in the spring of 2024. The plan will be finalized in 2025 and implementation will begin. The Consecrated Women in the North American territory reviewed the territorial strategy as part of this process, and our updated vision and priorities for 2023-2026 are as follows:

Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi North American Strategic Plan (2023-2026)

Vision: In 2026 the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi in the North American territory are wholeheartedly living their mission with joy and confidence. The communities are discerning the needs in their locality and diocese and are courageously and creatively stepping out in mission. There is an increase in new vocations. They are financially autonomous and working towards long-term sustainability.

Strategic Priorities:

- 1. Support each Consecrated Woman of Regnum Christi in wholeheartedly living her mission with joy and confidence.**
- 2. Foster vibrant communities in mission that are discerning and courageously stepping out.**
- 3. Build a culture of vocations and of vocational promotion.**

4. Achieve financial autonomy and build towards long-term financial sustainability for our mission.

[Insights, Signs of Life and Challenges with our Evangelizing Mission](#)

As part of the recent analysis our communities did in 2022 for the territorial strategic plan, we identified the following points:

- Favoring longer term apostolic assignments provides the necessary time for in-depth and consistent accompaniment of the people we serve and strengthens the accompaniment of the “bridge” moments (transitions in life stages and on their spiritual journey). We also see vocational work benefiting from this stable presence. The long-term assignments also support the Consecrated Woman herself in her apostolic projection and growth in mission.
- Evangelizing a changing culture is contingent upon having Consecrated Women invested in youth and young adults and upon new methods, creative innovation, ongoing formation, and courage to adapt to time and place to remain relevant.
- Fruitfulness in evangelization is exponential when we are engaged with local community realities (localities, parishes, schools, universities, diocese, other programs, both Regnum Christi and non-RC, etc.).
- We note growth in confidence, commitment, co-responsibility for the mission, significant steps being taken towards sustainability, more stability among our communities and individual Consecrated Women, and improving physical health.
- In general, there is a growing appreciation for the Consecrated Women of RC. Our presence and work are valued both in and outside RC circles. We play a role in collaboration with the whole spiritual family and strive to build bridges with the other entities in the Federation.
- There is a desire to further integrate our growing understanding of personal projection and mission with the needs of the localities and territories and financial sustainability.
- We have seen the fruitfulness of Consecrated Women missioning together, either with other Consecrated Women or with Legionaries or lay people.
- There is a need for continued growth in maturity, confidence, freedom, accountability, and courage. We notice that we are still in a process of growth, and this creates tension between different values where we are still trying to find a healthy “balance”: personal mission vs. local needs, fraternal life vs. apostolate, individual vs. community, collaboration vs. autonomy, our institutions (sections) vs. other institutions, rigidity from our historical past vs. freedom in mission flowing from our identity, scarcity vs. abundance.
- We acknowledge the need and value of being inserted in the reality of people’s lives through institutions (local church – diocese, parish; schools, and universities) and not just our own

structures. We are still trying to figure out how to interrelate between our “institution” as a society of apostolic life and as a federation and other Church institutions.

- We are feeling the need to find creative ways to make a real impact in the evangelization of culture. There are a lot of pastoral challenges from generational gaps, and life stages in addition to the diversity of where people are at in the stages of evangelization or thresholds of discipleship. Culturally there is a growing need and desire for us to go out and meet people where they are.
- We have grown in confidence in our vocational promotion, but this is coupled with a growing challenge due to our cultural reality. Our vocational work is linked to our consistent accompaniment in ECYD/RC, healthy and happy communities, experiences of the whole RC family, and requires more work of healing and growth in personal identity with the young people we are accompanying.
- Self-sustaining communities and territories are essential for the sustainability of our Society. Although we have taken great strides, our financial reality is fragile, and one change of assignment may have a major impact on a community budget or territorial plan. This reflects a need to develop a more stable financial model. The work of the Consecrated Women is valuable, and just remuneration for our work should be given high priority.