

Reflections on the things I heard during the five-day long virtual conference

1. Investment in research:

There is so much to research on in the life of catholic sisters either due to lack of finances or lack of skills.

To overcome this challenge, there is need to Mobilise resources and training personnel to carry researches. In addition to the associates of CARA, we need mentors and senior researches to lead the research process.

Creating data base at: *Congregation level, Diocesan level, National Conference of Religious*

So as to feed the Data Centre Sr Jane referred to yesterday.

Skills and Research needs:

- **Training in writing fundable research proposal, and work with mentors**
- **Training in both qualitative and quantitative research methods**

2. Disconnect between Charism and Ministry:

The sisters are doing great work but we are either just following emerging trends of:

Social work (counselling, drug abuse), Or entrepreneurship, Or Human trafficking

Without connecting it/them to the charism, yet it is the charism that points for us the way to follow;

We duplicate ministries or services within the same region without reference to our charism. --

We see an orphanage succeeding and another one failing. Why? Have we understood our charisms? Are we connecting our ministry/ies to the charism?

Need to engage in research that can help sisters rediscover or state their charisms, reflect on it in order have a sense of direction and strengthened our ministries.

3. Lack of data on Catholic sisters:

This is due to lack of documentation or poor documentation

Demographic information

- When asked how many sister are in the congregation. The response is about 500. Human being are not about, they are whole number, exact.
- Year and age of entry into the congregation
- Year of Profession

Trajectory of sisters: what has happened in their life from the entry up to now

Resources: internal (income of the sisters not known)

Inventories: properties

Human resources: how many qualify in a particular field? How many graduated at the different levels of education?

Mission stations: when were they opened? How were they opened? Was it the initiative of the Bishop or of our leadership team?

Need to engage in research that help the sisters document information on the human resources, assets, Trajectory of sisters and demographic information