



Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

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CARA Receives \$240,000 Grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to Research and Mentor Catholic Sisters

Washington, DC -- The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) has been awarded a \$240,000 grant by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to help fund five CARA research projects that will enhance the public understanding of Catholic sisters and their ministries.

1. In partnership with the African Sisters Education Collaborative (ASEC), one sister from Africa will come to CARA for six months as a visiting scholar to learn and experience applied research in the Church. This three-year program will fund one sister per year.
2. CARA will conduct a national study of emerging religious institutes in the United States, duplicating and comparing earlier work done ten years ago.
3. A study of the impact of international sisters studying at Catholic colleges and universities in the United States, how they contribute to the Catholic identity and mission of the U.S. schools and how their education contributes to their ministry back home.
4. A continuation of the annual "Entrance Class of..." surveys sent to all women and men entering U.S. religious institutes each year, providing both a snapshot and trend data on who is entering religious life today.
5. An annual CARA Special Report focused on women's religious life and ministry, globally and nationally, for three consecutive years.

"We are delighted that the Hilton Foundation continues to focus on Catholic sisters as resourceful, efficient, and powerful agents of social change. With the Foundation's continued support we will be able to research the impact of sisters as well as work with sisters from Africa on applied religious research," said, Fr. Thomas Gaunt, SJ, CARA's Executive Director.

About Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate is a national, nonprofit research center that conducts social scientific studies about the Catholic Church. Founded in 1964 and affiliated with Georgetown University since 1989, CARA has three major dimensions to its mission: to increase the Church's self-understanding, to serve the applied research needs of Church decision-makers, and to advance scholarly research on religion, particularly Catholicism. Visit CARA online at cara.georgetown.edu

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PLACING SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AT THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1964

About the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation was created in 1944 by international business pioneer Conrad N. Hilton, who founded Hilton Hotels and left his fortune to help the world's disadvantaged and vulnerable people. The Foundation currently conducts strategic initiatives in six priority areas: providing safe water, ending chronic homelessness, preventing substance use, helping children affected by HIV and AIDS, supporting transition-age youth in foster care, and extending Conrad Hilton's support for the work of Catholic Sisters. In addition, following selection by an independent international jury, the Foundation annually awards the \$2 million Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize to a nonprofit organization doing extraordinary work to reduce human suffering. In 2015, the Humanitarian Prize was awarded to Landesa, a Seattle-based land rights organization. From its inception, the Foundation has awarded more than \$1.4 billion in grants, distributing \$107 million in the U.S. and around the world in 2015. The Foundation's current assets are approximately \$2.5 billion. For more information, please visit www.hiltonfoundation.org.