



information packet

Catholic Social Ministry Gathering

www.catholicsocialministrygathering.org

2020 Young Leaders Initiative



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What is the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering (CSMG)?

- An annual event in Washington, DC organized through the partnership of 16 national Catholic organizations.
- Rooted in the Sacraments, the Word of God and the Church's living Catholic social tradition, the gathering builds solidarity, knowledge, and skills among Catholics involved in social ministry. When we gather as one, we animate the Church's social mission for evangelization in the world.
- 500+ attendees are expected at the 2020 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering from Jan. 25-28, 2020.

What is the Young Leaders Initiative (YLI)?

The Young Leaders Initiative invites the participation of colleges and universities in the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

The Catholic Social Ministry Gathering is a unique opportunity for students to:

- Meet national Catholic social ministry and advocacy leaders.
- Build knowledge of current Catholic social ministry priorities and initiatives.
- Develop advocacy skills to empower students to call for positive change.
- Voice concerns with legislators on issues of human life and dignity in the U.S. and internationally.
- Discover new ways of growth in faith, studies, and future work through Catholic social ministry and advocacy.

Universities and colleges play a vital role in the formation and education of young leaders. We invite institutions and students to participate in this unique and valuable leadership development opportunity.

Past Attendees:

Australian Catholic University
 Cabrini College (PA)
 The Catholic University of America (DC)
 Chaminade University (HI)
 Clark University (MA)
 College of the Holy Cross (MA)
 College of St. Benedict/St. John's (MN)
 College of St. Scholastica (MN)
 Creighton University (NE)
 Dominican University (IL)
 George Washington U. (DC)
 Georgetown University (DC)
 Kent State University (OH)
 Lewis University (IL)
 Louisiana State University (LA)
 Loyola University New Orleans (LA)
 Lyke House – Clark Atlanta University
 Morehouse College (GA)
 Spelman College (GA)
 Marquette University (WI)
 Maryland Institute College of Art Modesto
 Junior College (CA)
 Mount St. Mary (MD)
 The Ohio State University
 Our Lady of the Lake College (LA)
 Purdue University (IN)
 Seton Hall University (NJ)
 Southeastern Louisiana University (LA)
 St. John's University (NY)
 St. Mary's University (TX)
 Trinity Washington University (DC)
 University of Dayton (OH)
 University of Georgia
 University of Maryland-College Park
 University of Missouri
 University of California-Merced
 University of Notre Dame (IN)
 The University of St. Thomas (MN)
 Xavier University (LA)

Who organizes participation in CSMG-YLI?

Universities and colleges designate a campus coordinator who arranges registration, travel, accommodation and all related funding for their group. Campus coordinators invite participation from a select group of student leaders who have demonstrated interest in Catholic social teaching and ministry (usually 2 to 6 student leaders.)



Since our Church is strengthened and enriched by great diversity, the student selection process is an important opportunity for campus coordinators to identify and foster leaders of diverse cultures and abilities. While CSMG does not require the coordinator to attend, we strongly encourage a member of staff (or graduate assistant) with pertinent experience to accompany undergraduate students.

How will students benefit from CSMG-YLI?

CSMG provides students an opportunity to integrate faith, education, and action in pursuit of a better world. During the three-day gathering, students join a community of professional, dedicated Catholic social ministry and advocacy leaders in their annual gathering to pray, learn, network and advocate for change. The experience has proven transformative for students who have attended in the past, influencing their continuing education and even career choices. Meeting leaders in the field opens doors for future contacts, internships and possible employment. Students can then implement programming on campus which further engage students in justice and peace ministries. Opportunities for follow-up, reflection and action back on campus will include national legislative advocacy in students' home districts, and participation in local Catholic advocacy programs.

"CSMG showed me that a student's voice mattered to legislators. I had never done a full legislative visit before (especially not in DC)...It was also a great opportunity to interact with and advocate alongside inspirational advocates of peace and justice...CSMG gave me tools and connections I needed to create impactful programming on my campus..." - Mary Chudy, The Ohio State University

How are CSMG-YLI participants funded?

Coordinators are asked to seek resources on campus allowing students to participate in this unique formative, educational, and professional experience. Possible sources of funding include student affairs, student government, campus ministry or Newman centers, academic departments, experiential or service learning programs, faith and justice centers, and sponsoring religious communities. Campus coordinators need to secure funding from their institution by the time participation forms are submitted (November 21, 2019 deadline) to ensure that registration can be completed by December 31, 2019 and accommodation and travel can be arranged at the most affordable rates.





Suggested Timeline for Participation

Now

- Consider how CSMG can form students on campus for leadership.
- Investigate funding options. Identify others who might want to help.
- The 2020 CSMG will focus on building bridges across ministry areas, and takes place immediately following annual pro-life events. Those working on anti-poverty programs might invite their colleagues working on pro-life programs to collaborate.

Through Fall 2019

- Submit the YLI Interest Form by November 1, 2019 (see form online) to indicate your intent to join us.
- Select student participants (ideally from 2 to 6 students, and with even numbers of men and women students so that rooms can be shared to reduce cost)
- Begin preparatory meetings. Use this sample agenda if helpful:
- Determine if a staff person will accompany students to CSMG.
- Look out for an e-mail from CSMG staff confirming participation in YLI and inviting your group to register. Complete online registration for CSMG by December 31, 2019. **It is important that you not register until you have received confirmation of participation and instructions from CSMG staff.***
- Complete hotel accommodation and travel arrangements before the close of the Gathering's discounted hotel room rate in January (watch for announcement of date on the CSMG web page.)
- Take advantage of informative resources and opportunities to prepare those attending the Gathering.

January 2020

- Attend CSMG (Jan. 25-28) in Washington, DC

February – May 2020

- Bring the experience back to campus!



"I come away from the conference both encouraged in having met a diverse, vibrant community of Catholics committed to social justice but also aware of my own responsibility to bring my new knowledge of these many pressing social justice issues back to the Holy Cross campus in my work and beyond." - Paige Cohen, College of the Holy Cross



Catholic Social Ministry Gathering Collaborating Organizations:

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

Catholic Charities USA

Catholic Climate Covenant

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Catholic Labor Network

Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Mobilizing Network

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men Ladies of Charity, USA

National Association of Black Catholic Administrators

National Catholic Partnership on Disability

National Catholic Rural Life Conference

National Council of Catholic Women

Roundtable Association of Diocesan Social Action Directors

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

- Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- Department of Justice Peace and Human Development
- Office of Cultural Diversity
- Department of Catholic Education
- Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities
- Department of Migration and Refugee Services

CSMG 2020 Young Leaders Initiative Team:

Co-Chair: Samantha Kennedy, University of Dayton, Campus Ministry

Co-Chair: Emily Schumacher-Novak, USCCB Dept. of Justice, Peace and Human Development

Barbara McCrabb, USCCB Secretariat of Catholic Education

Danielle Roberts, Catholic Relief Services University Engagement

Alyssa Beasley, Creighton University, Center for Social Justice

Fr. Etido Jerome, Xavier University of Louisiana, Campus Ministry

Lindsay McDermott, Fellowship of Catholic University Students

Victoria O'Keefe, St. John's University (NY), Residence Minister for Social Justice Fr. Patrick

Baikauskas, OP, Director of Campus Ministry, Catholic Center at Purdue

For further information, visit www.CatholicSocialMinistryGathering.org.