

Retirement Fund for Religious

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News

Message from the Executive Director

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As we enter this season of growth and renewal, the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) is delighted to unveil our latest initiative, a new video series titled Basic Elements of a Comprehensive Retirement Plan. In this free series, we provide a fresh outlook and renewed focus for religious institutes as they consider retirement planning.

The series is designed to aid religious communities in implementing retirement planning and to prevent the process from becoming overwhelming.

Our videos are presented by experts in various fields, including financial management, facilities and property management, and the philosophy of aging and eldercare. With the increasing age of community members, religious congregations need a retirement plan that addresses their physical, spiritual, psychosocial and financial needs.

At the NRRO, we believe our educational materials are appropriate for all religious institutes and hope they will be used to engage leadership planning and member involvement. Our goal is to help institutes in their efforts to provide a secure and comfortable retirement for their elder members. Our videos and educational resources are free of charge because they are funded through the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. They can be watched once or many times and in any order that is useful.

For additional resources, please visit the NRRO website at usccb.org/nrro.

With deep appreciation,

Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM
Executive Director

New NRRO Video Series

The NRRO has recognized the growing demand for virtual educational content for retirement planning among religious institutes. In response to this need, the NRRO has developed a free video series called Basic Elements of a Comprehensive Retirement Plan that covers essential topics such as financial planning, health care, long-term care and ways to align planning with religious values and mission.

Planning helps enable religious institutes, like the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate featured here, to care for the needs of aging members.

Clockwise, from left: Sisters Dorota Lelek, Marzena Barcikowska and Irena Olkowska.



The NRRO Adapts to Growing Demand for Virtual Educational Content

The NRRO understands the importance of meeting religious institutes' needs in innovative ways. Last summer, we conducted an education-focused survey that revealed the growing demand for virtual educational content. This discovery led us to develop a new video series that offers a framework for religious institutes to begin retirement planning.

The Importance of Comprehensive Retirement Planning for Religious Institutes

Planning for retirement is a critical issue for religious institutes because they are responsible for caring for their elderly members. Institutes need to plan ahead to take care of retired members' physical, spiritual, psychosocial and financial needs. Recognizing this need, the NRRO is pleased to offer a free video series, Basic Elements of a Comprehensive Retirement Plan, that covers broad topics to help institutes ask the right questions.

The series comprises five brief sessions, each presented by an expert in its respective subject matter. The videos are relevant to everyone in religious institutes, from leadership to members to the staff of care facilities.

Our goal with this series is to provide essential information as a starting point for communities in the early stages of retirement planning. We also aim to refresh the efforts of institutions that have already begun retirement planning. The starting points that we present can benefit institutes with both younger and older age cohorts. The material covered in these presentations is relevant to religious institutes of all types—women and men, large and small, apostolic or monastic.

NRRO Calendar

May

15-19 2023 Retirement Needs Analysis mailed

June

26-30 Direct Care Assistance checks mailed

August

1-3 CMSM Assembly, Kansas City, MO

8-11 LCWR Assembly, Dallas, TX

16 NRRO Webinar, topic TBD

How to Access the New Video Series

Visit usccb.org/basicelements to view the free video series, Basic Elements of a Comprehensive Retirement Plan.

Video Topics and Presenters

The video series covers a range of essential topics, including financial planning, health care, long-term care and ways to align retirement planning with religious values and mission. The series provides viewers with the knowledge and tools to plan for a secure retirement.

John Knutsen, NRRO education and outreach manager, notes, “With the aging of institute members, it is essential to have a well-thought-out plan that addresses their physical, spiritual, psychosocial and financial needs. Religious institutes are vested in this topic because it directly affects their financial security and the care and support of their fellow community members.”

The Value of Retirement Planning

We invite all members of religious institutes to engage with our resources to start or continue to plan for retirement. The video series Basic Elements of a Comprehensive Retirement Plan—as well as other educational resources and supports—is available to help.

Engage with the NRRO for Support in Planning for a Secure Retirement

To learn more about our mission and how we can support you and your institute, visit our website at usccb.org/nrro. Contact us with any questions or feedback. Together, we can ensure that our aging women and men religious receive the care and support they deserve in their later years.

Basic Elements of a Comprehensive Retirement Plan

Video Sessions

Introduction/Overview

presented by
Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM

Philosophy of Aging and Eldercare

presented by
Brother Stephen Glodek, SM

Eldercare Delivery: Supporting Members in Need of Care

presented by
Ms. Dayna Larson-Hurst

Attending the Spiritual, Physical and Psychosocial Needs of Elder Religious

presented by
Sister Paula Cooney, IHM

Financial Management for Religious Institutes

presented by
Ms. Linda Birochik

Facilities and Property: A Time to Build, a Time to Sell, or a Time to Do Nothing

presented by
Sister Ginger Downey, OLVN



Members of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, Halethorpe, MD, meet to watch the new NRRO video series.

Clockwise, from left: Sisters Mary Alexis Fisher, Mary Trinita Baeza, Brenda Cherry, Rita Michelle Proctor, Mary Virginie Fish, Mary Lorraine George, Mary Stephen Beauford and Mary Avila.



National Religious Retirement Office

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Stay Connected

Please send changes in address, phone, email or congregational leadership to the NRRO, c/o Karen Cañas (kcanas@uscceb.org), so that we may keep our records and mailing lists updated.

The National Religious Retirement Office coordinates the national collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious and distributes these funds to eligible religious institutes for their retirement needs. Our mission is to support, educate and assist religious institutes in the United States to embrace their current retirement realities and to plan for the future.

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