

MSJC ANNUAL REPORT

July 2022 - July 2023



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Our Mission

Through the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative, the three branches of the Marianist Family in North America (the Society of Mary – SM, the Daughters of Mary Immaculate – FMI, and the Marianist Lay Community – MLC-NA) unite and multiply the efforts of Marianists to act for social justice. Inspired by Mary's yes and our founders' call to respond to the signs of the times, we commit to creating authentic, inclusive, and diverse community in order to build a more just world and Church. MSJC offers hope, inspiration, and opportunity for action through education, outreach, skill-building and advocacy at the local, national and international levels.

Our Vision

Following the gospel of Jesus Christ and Mary's example, the Marianist Family empowers individuals, families, and communities to build the common good. We dedicate ourselves to promoting human dignity, protecting human rights, and practicing an integral ecology.

Organizational Accomplishments



1 Celebrating MSJC's 25th Year

Throughout 2023, our 25th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee has marked this huge milestone in a variety of ways:

- Facilitating a celebratory toast at the 2023 Lay Marianist Assembly.
- Developing and sharing a [video presentation](#) highlighting MSJC history, past and present volunteer teams, and our work over the years.
- Writing a special [25th Anniversary Prayer](#).
- Producing [two podcast episodes](#), facilitated by Director Sarah Gray, in collaboration with the North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS). One looks back at MSJC's founding, the past 25 years and features Sr. Leanne Jablonski FMI, Jim Vogt, and Fr. Ted Cassidy SM. The second, a conversation between MSJC volunteers Julia Love, Maureen O'Rourke, and Ish Ruiz, reflects on MSJC's present and future.

The 25th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee includes both past and present MSJC volunteers, Steering Committee members, and staff. Barb Belle, Fr. Ted Cassidy, Marge Cavanaugh, Paul Combest, Brian Halderman, Pati Krasensky, Laura Libertore, Jim Vogt and Erin Anderson-White Face have been hard at work planning these celebrations and programs and will continue to help MSJC highlight our history and prepare for our next 25 years.

2

Leadership at the 2023 Lay Assembly

MSJC took on a major leadership role at the Lay Assembly in St. Louis, which was themed *Encounter | Embrace | Engage*. Many of our volunteers worked on the assembly planning team. We facilitated 6 engaging workshops and 1 powerful prayer experience, and we hosted our 25th Anniversary celebration which included a special presentation. MSJC was a leader in creating safe space for dialogue. Additionally, MSJC's Chair, Marge Cavanaugh, was awarded the inaugural Marie Thérèse Award from MLC-NA, which honors, acknowledges, and celebrates the extraordinary service of a Lay Marianist for the Marianist Family. A list of the MSJC-led sessions, and their number of attendees, can be found below.



MSJC Volunteer Team	Assembly Session Title	Attendees
Adele Social Justice Project	<i>ASJP Past, Present, and Future</i>	20
Death Penalty Abolition & Restorative Justice	<i>Circle Process for Community Building and Engagement</i>	15
Integral Ecology	<i>Sustainable Lifestyles and Meetings</i>	20
Integral Ecology	<i>Embracing the Challenge of Climate Change: A Marianist Call to Dialogue, Reflection and Action</i>	25
LGBTQ+ Initiative	<i>Let's Talk About the T in LGBTQ+</i>	45
Racial Justice	<i>Facilitating Difficult Conversations</i>	30
Women & Justice	<i>Feast of Mary Magdalene Prayer</i>	100

3

Communication and Online Engagement

- Our monthly newsletter, *Justice Jottings*, continues to engage 1,600 subscribers (50 more than last year) with MSJC events, reflections by volunteers, and resources to advance justice and take action. The newsletter open rate was an average of 45%.
- MSJC's social media accounts improved outreach as well. We grew our followers on [Instagram](#) by 150 people to a total of 622 and increased our profile visits by 70%. Our [Facebook](#) page has over 1,500 followers and posts reached almost 3,000 people this year.
- MSJC's website continues to be a resource and had over 2,000 site visits throughout the year. Forty people also reached out to MSJC via our website expressing interest in getting connected or learning more about our work.



Volunteer Team Highlights

By the Numbers:

Active Issue Teams & Committees: **9**

Total Volunteers: **70**

Virtual Events: **11**

In-Person Events: **4**

Co-Sponsored Events: **7**

Resources Developed: **10**

Program Participants: **330**

Engagers of MSJC Resources: **825**



Issue Team Highlights:

Adele Social Justice Project (ASJP)

- Planned team in-person meeting (Dayton, January 2023) where team goals were written and a young adult meet-and-greet with over 30 local participants was facilitated.
- Rolled out a new virtual program titled *Kickin' It*, which supported the efforts of all MSJC teams, fostering discussion time with questions written especially for young adults. *Kickin' It* discussions are held immediately after other MSJC issue and project team events.

Death Penalty Abolition and Restorative Justice

- Hosted a virtual discussion, in collaboration with ASJP, led by Cody Huffman called *Our System Is Not Always Just and Fair: Stopping Melissa Lucio's Execution*. There were 12 participants present.
- Helped plan and facilitate the *Community of Practice and Deepening Circles Virtual Experience* hosted by [Catholic Mobilizing Network](#) (CMN).

Immigrant Justice

- Presented a virtual panel discussion and Q&A session titled *Immigration and Your Vote* before the fall 2022 elections. This event had 38 attendees.
- Designed and communicated an *Immigration Newsletter* to over 250 people every month. Each newsletter included an action item people could take, an educational piece on something new in the movement, and a section for prayer and reflection.

Integral Ecology

- Developed [Spirituality Reflection Guides](#) for each of the 7 [Laudato Si Action Platform](#) (LSAP) Goals. LSAP is a multi-year project initiated by the Vatican.
- Hosted quarterly virtual education, reflection, and prayer gatherings in collaboration with other MSJC Issue Teams, Marianist communities, and other initiatives. The two events this year were *Entering into Ecological Conversion in a Marianist Spirit* in March and *Connecting Women's Experiences with Mother Earth's Cry for Justice* in May on the Feast of the Visitation. Each drew 20 participants.

LGBTQ+ Initiative

- Hosted 6th LGBTQ+ retreat (St. Louis, November 2022) with 38 retreatants. The theme, *Being Who You Are Perfectly Well*, was animated by keynote speaker Bro. Mickey McGrath, OSFS.
- Facilitated a special film screening ([Wonderfully Made](#)) and discussion workshop at the 2023 Lay Assembly.
- Organized an in-person volunteer team retreat (Dayton & Governor's Island OH, May 2023), connected with local community members and partners, and extensively planned for the upcoming 2024 LGBTQ+ assembly (more details under *What's Ahead*, pg. 7).

Racial Justice

- Finalized the [Facilitating Difficult Conversations Guide](#) and highlighted it at the 2023 Lay Assembly to 30 participants.
- Met in-person for the first time in October 2022 (Cincinnati).
- Supported the efforts of MSJC in establishing the Antiracist Ad Hoc Committee to move MSJC forward as an antiracist organization.



Women & Justice

- Coordinated annual in-person meeting (Dayton, October 2022) where the team successfully advanced their mission and hosted multiple community gatherings.
- Facilitated two collaborative virtual events: 1) *Pauli Murray Discussion* in November 2022 with the LGBTQ+ Initiative and Racial Justice Issue Team and 2) *Feast of the Visitation May 31st Event* in collaboration with the Integral Ecology Issue Team and Visitation Marianist State Community.
- Grew issue team impact by onboarding two new volunteers to the team.

Project Team Highlights:

Antiracism Ad Hoc Committee

- Formed in October 2022 as an internally focused group to help MSJC advance forward as an antiracist organization. Committee met monthly and has 5 active volunteers and MSJC staff support.
- Developed common understandings of antiracist ideology and values and connected those to MSJC and our commitment to this work.
- Committed to creating an organization-wide assessment tool in 2024 to look at MSJC's culture, practices, work, and language in light of antiracism.

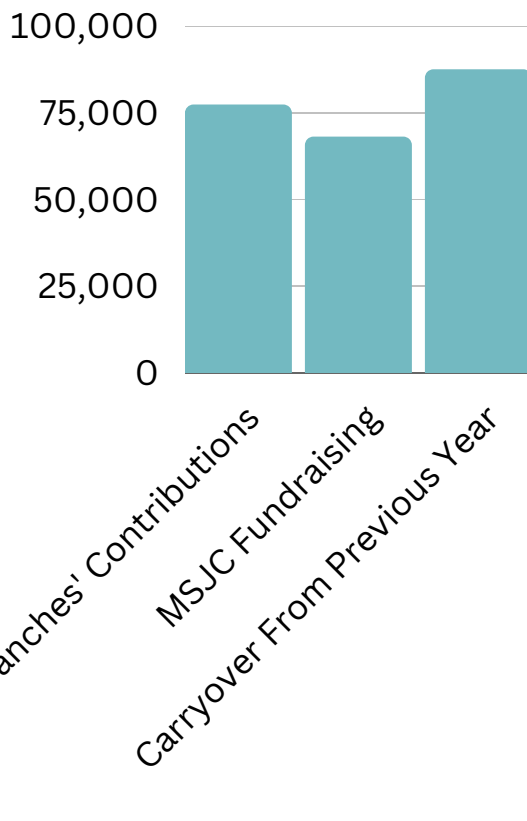
Fundraising Committee

- Supported and offered invaluable insights into MSJC's annual fundraising and stewardship efforts. Committee of 5 volunteers and MSJC staff met quarterly.
- Helped MSJC surpass our fundraising goals this year, both in total revenue and number of new donors.

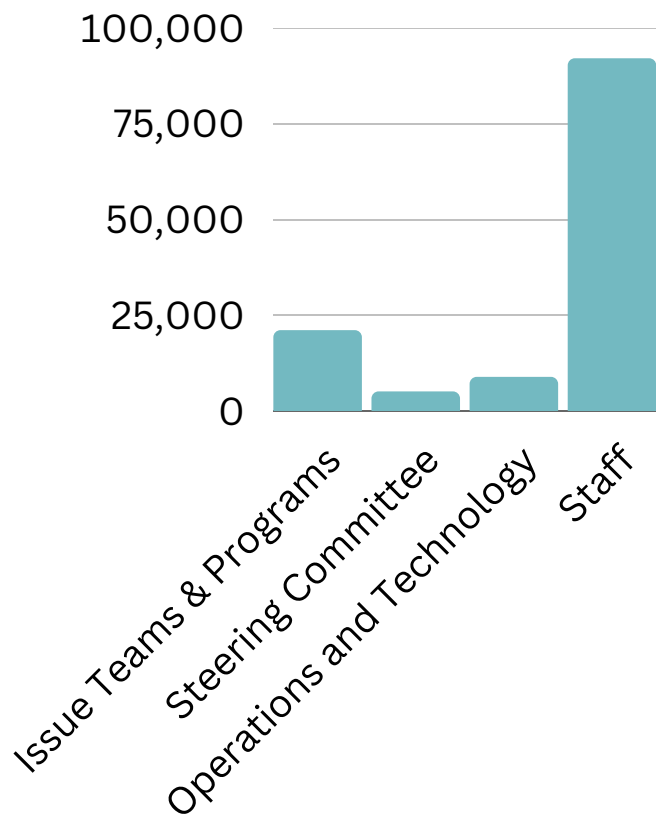
Financial Updates

MSJC surpassed our FY23 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) fundraising goal of \$56,000 through our ongoing special 3-year campaign called *Forging a Future for Justice*, our end-of-year annual appeal, and an MSJC Giving Day in the spring. Because of over 40 donors' commitments to our *Forging a Future for Justice* campaign, we continue to have higher carryover which helps cover our expenses for the upcoming fiscal year(s). This special campaign will be completed in 2023, so MSJC is exploring and pursuing new funding opportunities. This is in addition to the major financial support we received from all three Marianist Family branches and our current yearly fundraising efforts.

MSJC REVENUE FY23



MSJC EXPENSES F23



FY23 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 232,289.11
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TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 126,470.03
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NET CARRYOVER	+ \$ 105,819.08
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What's Ahead

1 Growing Our Volunteer Network

MSJC is rolling out our first yearly volunteer schedule which will help us to:

- Increase our efficiency & effectiveness in recruiting new, capable, and committed volunteers across our issue/project teams and committees.
- Improve engagement and satisfaction for current MSJC volunteers.
- Expand MSJC's capacity to take on projects and create programs with a wider reach.



IMAGO DEI
2024

2 Hosting Imago Dei Assembly

Our LGBTQ+ Initiative team will host *Imago Dei: Embracing the Dignity of LGBTQ+ Persons* (June 2024), an assembly for the Catholic LGBTQ+ community. *Imago Dei* aims to celebrate the 50th anniversary of a 1974 groundbreaking conference centered on LGBT inclusion and ministry which was held in Dayton at the Bergamo Center. We hope to honor those who foresaw the importance of developing pastoral care and outreach, and to envision how we can continue to respond to the needs of the LGBTQ+ community within our Church and world. Ten volunteers have been serving on a planning committee for this assembly since August 2021. Read more details here: <https://marianistsjc.net/imago-dei>. We hope to see you there!

3 Formalizing Organizational Processes

Over the past few years, especially with MSJC's recent transition of staff leadership, we have focused on revamping some of our organizational structures. We will continue to improve our processes, and thus our impact, in the coming year through:

- Implementing a new strategic vision for the coming years and using that vision to create biennial goals for greater impact.
- Executing a yearly fundraising schedule which includes increasing stewardship efforts to our donors.
- Developing an annual Volunteer Engagement & Recruitment Plan to implement across MSJC.
- Making use of professional consultants and other resources for staff professional development.



Donor Honor Roll

A sincere thank you to the individuals, families, institutions, and Marianist communities below that made a donation to MSJC this fiscal year.

\$5,000+

Anonymous*
Marianist Family Council of
North America (All 3
Branches)

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous*
Mary Beaudoin & John Holden*
Marge Cavanaugh*
Bill & Ann Hirt*
Phil Lachmann*
Glenn & Gail Miller*
Matt & Meghann Naveau*
Chuck & Pam Orlowicz*
Marianist Community Philly*
Visitation State Community*
Mike Wasno*
Rich Wokutch*
Tim & Susan Wood*

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Fr. Ted Cassidy, SM
Theresa Davis
Tony & Beth Garascia
George & Margy Lisjak
Hank & Nancy Mascotte
John Melone
LeeAnn & Brandon Meyer
Al Prendergast*
Bro. Rich Schrader, SM
Kay Stone*

Bob Stoughton
Jerry & VonHandorf
Linda Zappacosta*

\$100 - \$499

Anonymous*
Alumni Hall Community
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Mary & Mike Andrews*
Jim Barrette*
Barb Belle*
Cape May Retreat Center
Christine Bohmer Stewart
Bob & Charlotte Buescher
Jack Burke
Tom Burkhardt
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Rosalyn Collier
Rick Connor
Tim & Mary Ellen Dillon
Bro. Bob Donovan, SM*
Deborah Durand*
Patrick Ernst
William Fitzgerald*
Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick, SM
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Governor's Island Community
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Katie Gushoney
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Judy McKloskey
Miranda Melone
Meyer Hall Community*
Judy & David Migliore-Erdman
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Elizabeth Parker
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Kristine Ranciglio
Bro. Tom Redmond, SM
Marceta & Larry Reilly
John Roche
Saint Louis School
San Antonio SM Residence
Philip Schmidt

Teresa Schrader
 Karen Spina
 Bro. Tom Spring, SM
 Stonemill Marianist Community
 Terry Wagner
 Emil Wick
 Aaron & Frances Wolfe-Bertling*

\$1 – \$99

Anonymous*
 Corky & Jeri Albright
 Shirish Amatyia
 Amy Anderson
 Brian Anderson
 Jack Andryszak
 Diana Cassidy
 MaryAnn Cassidy
 Kim Chamness
 Denise Dierig

Mary Anne Dundon
 Linda Flores-Tober
 Kathryn Foos
 Maria Grinko
 Abby Groene
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 Matt & Nancy Kinkley
 Pati Krasensky
 Collin Krejci
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 Sabina Marroquin
 Cecilia Meadors
 Livia Medina
 Terri Morgan
 Paul Naujoks
 Jerry Newman

Jean Nickleman
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 Mary Snyder
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 Jessica Gonzalez Uhlig
 Dick Ullrich
 Marg Van Herk-Paradis
 Sarah Vasquez
 Conor Wood
 Rita Wood
 Jo Ann Zanotti*

* Denotes donors who made a three-year pledge to MSJC's special *Forging a Future for Justice* campaign.



Thank you for your support of the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative!

This Annual Report was submitted in October 2023 by MSJC's Steering Committee:

Chair & Staff

- Marge Cavanaugh (Arlington, VA) – Chair of MSJC
- Sarah Gray (Cincinnati, OH) – Director
- Erin Anderson-White Face (Milwaukee, WI) – Assistant Director

MSJC Issue Teams:

- Miranda Melone (Chicago, IL) – Chair, Adele Social Justice Project
- Mary Beaudoin (Silver Spring, MD) – Chair, Death Penalty Abolition and Restorative Justice
- Tiffany Hunsinger (Dayton, OH) – Co-Chair, Immigrant Justice
- Jennifer Melke-Marks (Dayton, OH) – MSJC Representative, Integral Ecology
- Brian Halderman (San Antonio, TX) – Co-Chair, LGBTQ+ Initiative
- Maureen O'Rourke (Dayton, OH) – Co-Chair, Racial Justice
- Glenn Miller (Cincinnati, OH) – MSJC Representative, Women & Justice

Marianist Family and At-Large Representatives

- Paul Combest (San Antonio, TX) – MLC-NA Representative
- Maimoa Fineisalo (Honolulu, HI) – At-Large Member
- Sr. Leanne Jablonski (Dayton, OH) – MEEC and FMI Representative
- Fr. Tim Kenney (St. Louis, MO) – SM Representative
- Bro. Steve O'Neil (Cupertino, CA) – SM Representative



MSJC

Marianist Social Justice Collaborative

A VOICE OF THE MARIANIST FAMILY ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

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