

# NETWORK Connection

PEOPLE WORKING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE - SECOND QUARTER 2012



Faithful  
to the Gospel

Then and Now

**NETWORK**

40th Anniversary

1972-2012

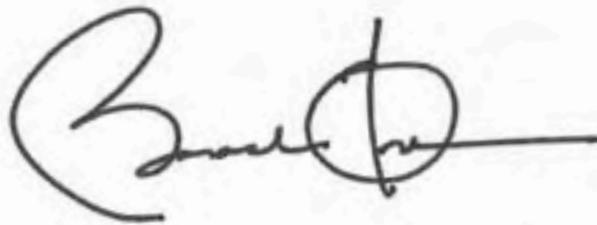
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 22, 2012

I send greetings to all those attending NETWORK's 40th Anniversary Celebration.

Moments like this allow us to reflect on the abiding truth that each of us has the power to create a better world for ourselves and our children when we strive to do God's work here on earth. Motivated by faith to serve as our brothers' and our sisters' keepers, committed advocates and community leaders can lift up the lives of others and move our Nation forward.

I am grateful for your support for our shared commitment to social justice, and I wish you all the best as you celebrate this special milestone.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, written in a cursive style.

# NETWORK

A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

**NETWORK—a Catholic leader in the global movement for justice and peace—educates, organizes and lobbies for economic and social transformation.**

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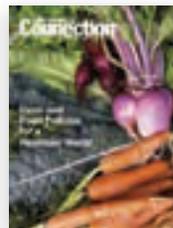
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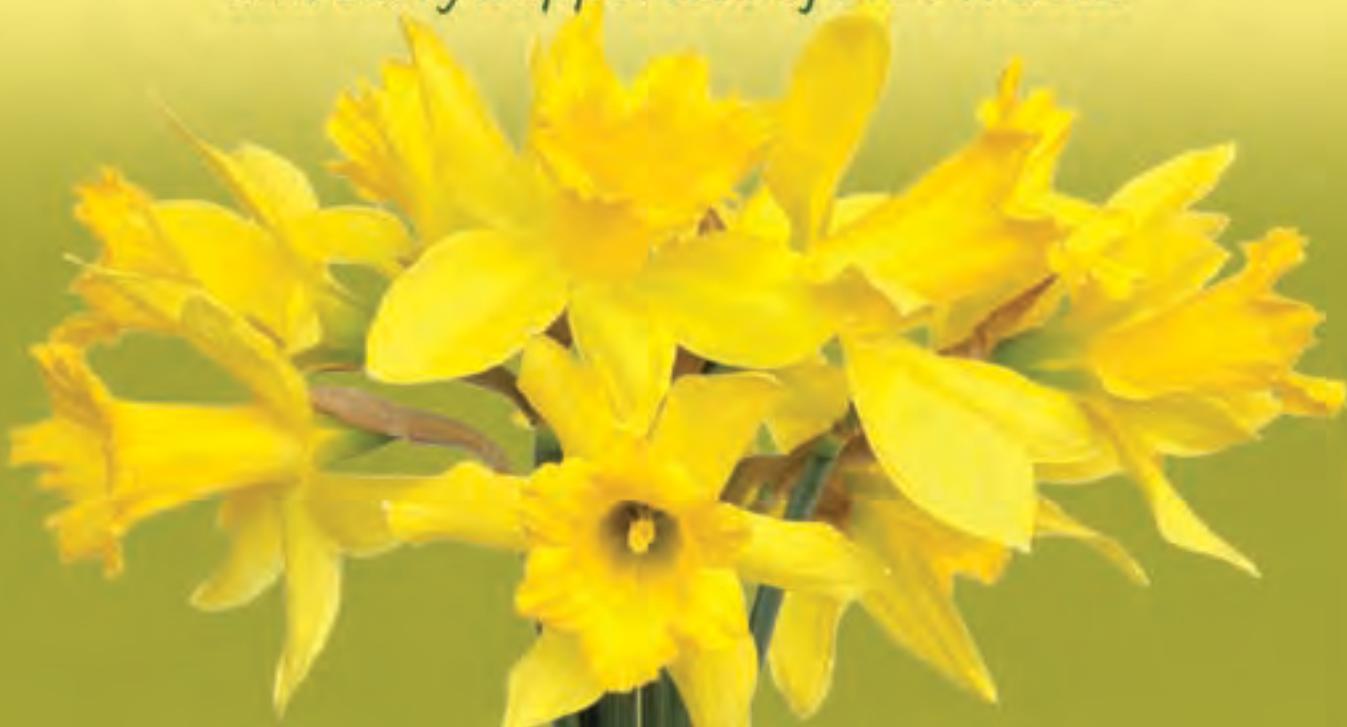
Cover photos—*Top photo*: Michigan participants in the 1976 NETWORK Legislative Seminar, Washington, DC. *Top row*: Beth Linn, OP, Carol Fleming, OP, Alexandra Gatzka, IHM, Joan Michalik, IHM, Mary Sheehan, CSJ, Anne Sochocki, IHM, Maria Cyril Delisi, IHM, Ardeth Platte, OP, Connie Parron, IHM, Blanche Cushing, OP. *Bottom row*: Janet Kurtz, SSJ, Margaret Patrick, OP, Theresa Grekowitz, IHM, Catherine Lenihan, IHM, Judy Dutka, IHM, Carol Coston, OP (NETWORK Executive Director), Marilyn Glagoss, IHM, Joan Kusok, IHM. • *Left photo*: On the steps of the U.S. Capitol with the NETWORK banner, June 1979. • *Right photo*: Early NETWORK leaders Nancy Sylvester, IHM, and Carol Coston, OP, 1983.



As we celebrate NETWORK's 40th anniversary, we have decided to fill this commemorative *Connection* with the wisdom and dreams of some of the women and men who helped weave our faith-filled journey of justice. We sincerely wish we had the space to include much more, but this can be only a sampling. We invite our readers to consider your own dreams and experiences as you reflect on the words of others who have "walked the walk" of justice and peacemaking. —Stephanie Niedringhaus, NETWORK Communications Coordinator



Thank you to the visionary founders  
and early supporters of NETWORK



Congratulations and thanks to the 2011–2012 Staffs and Boards of NETWORK and NEP for their work for justice



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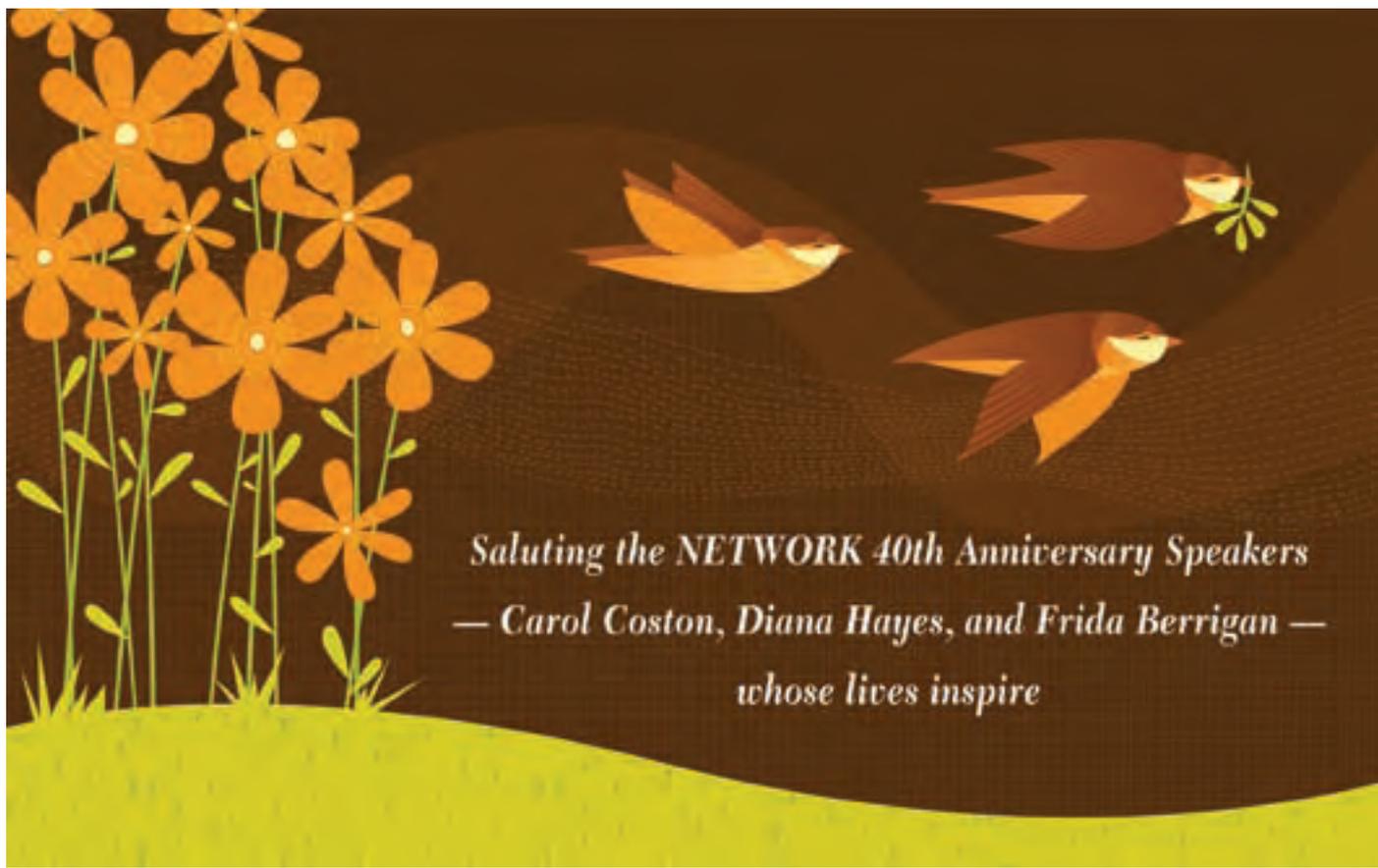
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## NETWORK's Symbols, Songs and Spirit

BY CAROL COSTON, OP, A NETWORK FOUNDER AND FIRST EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, *CONNECTION*, MAY/JUNE 2002

The energetic sunburst logo, an irregular solid center surrounded by pulsating rays, was donated to the embryonic organization in 1972 by artist Judith Savard, RSHM, at the request of Maureen Kelleher, RSHM, member of the first staff. It symbolized the original idea of sisters forming “a political action network of information and communication, a network for political education and action.”

For this network to work required several interconnections: a reliable source of “inside” information, based in Washington; members scattered throughout the country to receive and act on the information; and the same members feeding their experiences back to Washington and encouraging specific policies.

Another NETWORK symbol evolved from the labor union song, “Bread and



Roses,” introduced to the staff by Nancy Sylvester, IHM in 1978. This song honors the women mill workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts, who led strikes in 1912 for workers’ rights.

We sang the song at many NETWORK seminars and gatherings, and soon it became our unofficial anthem. Artist Vickie Reeves, IHM, created the Bread and Roses poster.

*Today, the symbols have taken on a deeper meaning for me...*

The logo with its ray-like bursts emanating from a center could symbolize the first flaring forth 15 billion years ago

that created the universe... The logo that first symbolized the interconnections of social justice activists now symbolizes for me the interconnectedness of all life, evolving from a common source.

The bread and roses symbol now connects with my long interest in organic gardening and a renewed appreciation of heirloom seeds that have been saved and shared for generations. This rich diversity of seeds is now being squeezed out by multinationals such as Monsanto, claiming intellectual property rights on seed stocks painstakingly developed over hundreds of years by peasant farmers worldwide.

As we struggle against this and other injustices today, may the symbols and songs that gave life to our earlier efforts continue to inspire our endeavors—for the common good of all life forms in this expanding universe!





## Congratulate NETWORK on 40 years of justice-making



*celebrate*



*pray*



*serve*

*share*



*promote justice*



*collaborate*

To connect with the Mercy mission  
of service to the poor, sick and uneducated, visit

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# The “Network” of NETWORK

By SIMONE CAMPBELL, SSS, NETWORK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am always startled by the marvelous breadth and depth of our network. As we pondered how to celebrate our 40th anniversary, we thought that one thing we might do is invite our members to put an ad in our magazine just to evidence our solidarity. I have been stunned at the outpouring of responses. We had thought that we would add just eight pages and that would be “nice.” But the tome that you hold in your hands startled me! What an outpouring of support and collaboration.

To me, this is evidence of the heart of our work here at NETWORK. It is the partnership between our office here in DC and all of you around the country. At the heart of this network are groups of Catholic Sisters who anchor our advocacy in faith and our experience of the needs of our world.

Our journey in the healthcare debate is emblematic of our daily work here

and, I believe, evidence of our future directions. Since our founding we have advocated for healthcare reform. In 1974, Sr. Carol Coston, OP, testified on

Capitol Hill about the need for reform and the best model for moving forward. We were in all of the key reform debates. Finally, in 2010, we had the



NETWORK on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, 1979.

## Thank you, NETWORK

for 40 years of working to ensure that Catholic social justice values continue to influence and inspire our elected officials.

With Deep Gratitude,  
Sister Catherine Pinkerton, CSJ  
and The Congregation of St. Joseph.





School Sisters of Notre Dame

*Congratulations!*

**NETWORK**

for 40 years of fidelity to the Gospel in lobbying, organizing  
and educating for a nation and world rooted in justice!

*With our prayers and blessings,*

The School Sisters of Notre Dame  
of the  
Atlantic-Midwest Province & Central Pacific Province

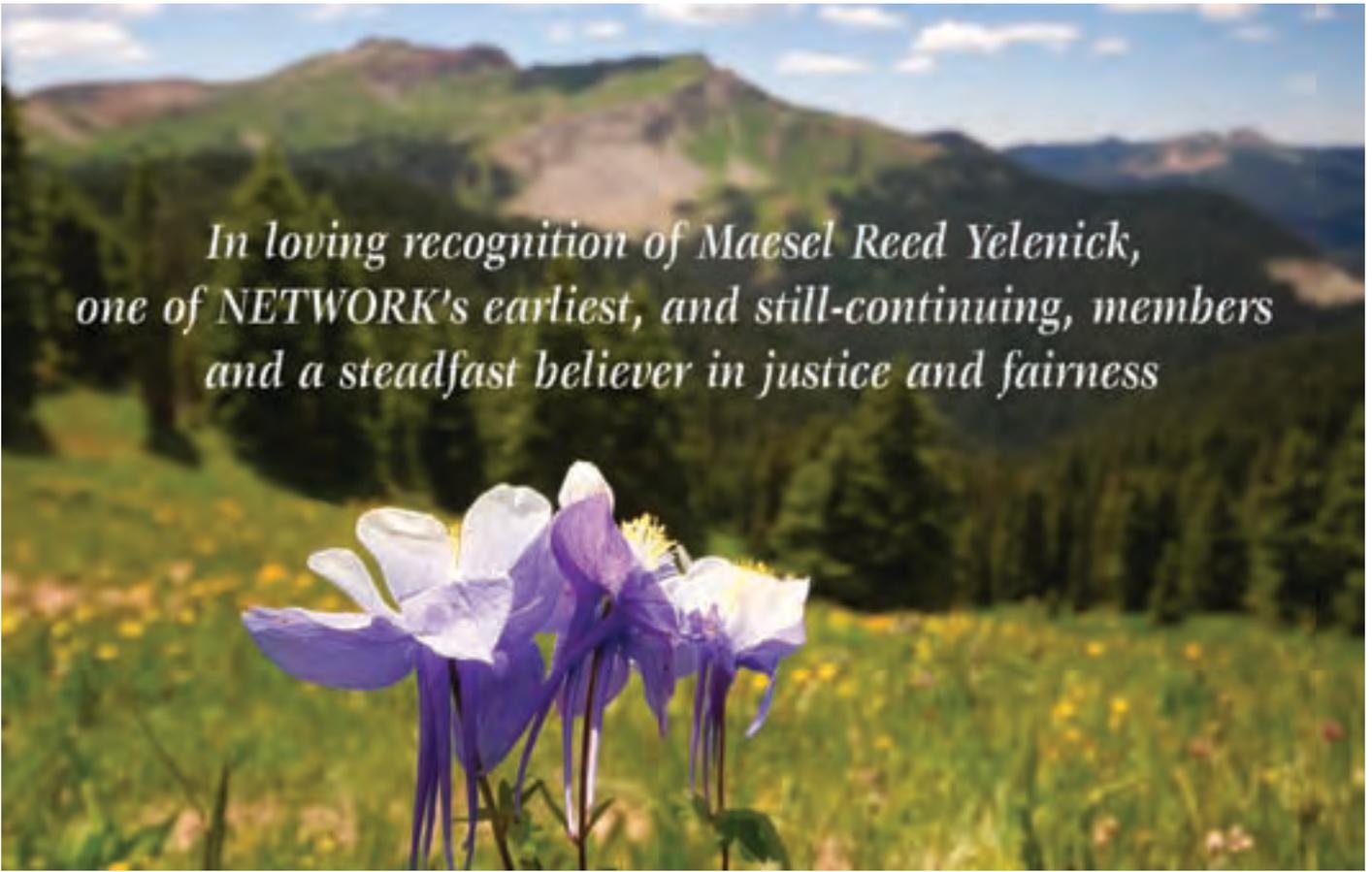
*"... we work actively, especially in our local situations, to eliminate the root causes of injustice in order to realize a world of peace, justice, and love."*

*— You Are Seal (SSND Constitution)*

*Transforming the world through education*



*In loving recognition of Maesel Reed Yelenick,  
one of NETWORK's earliest, and still-continuing, members  
and a steadfast believer in justice and fairness*



opportunity to be what President Obama called the “tipping point” in the healthcare reform debate with our sign-on letter signed by 59 leaders of women religious congregations. Since then, we have worked at ensuring effective implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). We organized an amicus brief to be filed in the Supreme Court in support of Medicaid expansion to cover more people living in poverty and have worked with the Department of Health and Human Services and White House to develop effective conscience protections in the realm of employer insurance coverage. At each policy step, we are active through our staff AND through our members. This partnership is key to who we are.

Our partnership is based in the lived experience of our members

around the country and our global collaborators. Their experience in communities, which is under-represented in Washington, brings the cause of real people and real concerns to the forefront of our policy work. Only by focusing on real people can we ever hope to break beyond sound-bite politics as we know it. Also, by grounding our work in real



*Attendees of NETWORK's 1976  
Legislative Seminar.*

experience we can be an effective advocate in the Gospel sense. Jesus always taught about justice in the context of individual need and shared response. It is this model that we use, and it is why we each matter in the network that is NETWORK.

In this painful time within the U.S. Catholic Church, Sisters are often seen as a sign of hope and integrity. I can't tell you the number of times that laypeople have come to me so grateful for the continued service that

we offer in troubling times. They appreciate our leadership of service that is grounded in the practicality of responding to the needs around us. We don't set out to be controversial figures; our goal is only to meet the injustices that we see and build coalitions to make change. Occasionally, this effort gets lifted up and is nourishing for others. We are so grateful that we can be encouragement in faith in times of darkness.

We all are called to continue to this mission of engagement of faith in the political world. It is a serious challenge that we face, but it is a Spirit-filled opportunity to live the Gospel in our time. I encourage you as you look through this issue of *Connection* to not consider these various pieces “ads.” Rather, read them carefully and reverence them, they are evidence of the commitment we share to live our NETWORK mission into the future. Let us use each entry as a prayer of gratitude for all of us. Only together can we continue to be faithful to this call to live the Gospel challenge to be hope in our complex and very political world. Only together can we live vibrantly the faith-filled reality of NETWORK. 

*The Sisters of Charity  
of Saint Elizabeth*

congratulate

**NETWORK**

for their

40-year legacy  
of touching hearts  
and changing votes

[www.SCNJ.org](http://www.SCNJ.org)

# Reflections on NETWORK's Ministry



Maureen Kelleher, RSHM, with Rep. John Conyers, 1976.

Why are sisters becoming politically involved? Basically, there is a new awareness growing among nuns, an awareness springing from their lives of reflection and action. This consciousness is no doubt caused by developments in theology, published data on America's racism, poverty, exploitation of the third worlds, and most of all on the war. Then too, as they stand in the classroom, or operating room, or on the street, many sisters have been struck by the sense of futility in that, while the task is noble, it is being blocked by the larger context, all of which negates the very message they want to be about... They are summoned by a new understanding of the Church, the social sins of their country, and by the Word of God to action in the political realm.

—Maureen Kelleher, RSHM, NETWORK Staff Member, *NETWORK Quarterly*, December 1972

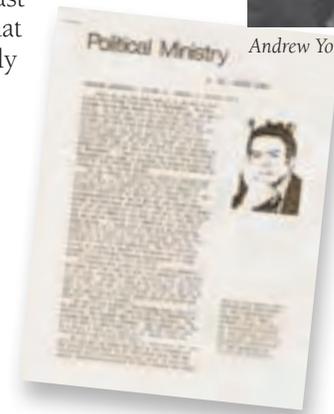
We are heirs with Christ. We are partners with God in continuing [God's] creation and continuing that creation is not a ministry to individuals, but it's a ministry to political and economic structures. It's a ministry that brings about peace on earth and good will toward all men and women and children. I am just thankful to know that you take seriously this ministry.

—Rep. Andrew Young, *NETWORK Quarterly*, Spring 1974



THOMAS J. O'HALLORAN

Andrew Young in 1976.

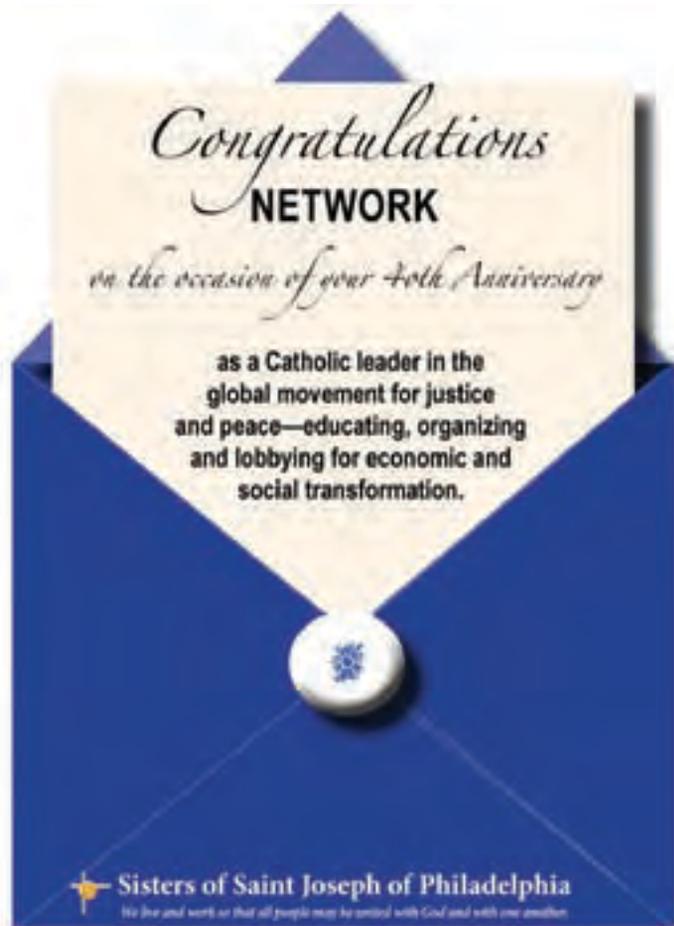


**Congratulations  
on 40 Years of Advocacy  
for the Concerns of Those  
Who Are Poor!**



**DAUGHTERS  
of CHARITY**  
PROVINCE of ST. LOUISE

*Kudos and thanks to the organizers of  
NETWORK's 40th Anniversary Celebration*



Congratulations to **NETWORK** on  
40 years of outstanding service

*Thank You*

*The Religious Women are the  
moral voice of the  
Catholic Church in America*

Anita D. & Patrick X. Crotty  
Orchard Park, NY



## Reflections on NETWORK's Ministry

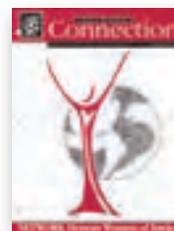


Many of our religious communities are and have been engaged in what strikes me as an interminable and wasteful search for some elusive charism. In these days when the Spirit is extraordinarily active, it seems to me that charisms for religious women abound. Try freedom; try solidarity; try commitment; try sisterhood. I would settle for any or all of these if we would but turn from our endless self-preoccupation and once more be at work in the world. Can anyone deny that this was the intention of our Spirit-filled founders?

...NETWORK provides us with a clear and viable avenue for action. I think it has also given us a superb model that can be applied to all levels of government. And without diminishing the need for continued efforts on the national level, I would like to put in a plea for sisterpower at the state level.

—Clare Dunn, CSJ, *NETWORK Quarterly*, Summer 1975

**“Try freedom;  
try solidarity;  
try commitment;  
try sisterhood.”**



UNCOMMON  
COMMUNITY  
UNCOMMON  
DEDICATION  
UNCOMMON  
ACTS OF FAITH & LOVE  
CONGRATULATIONS  
TO NETWORK  
FOR 40 YEARS  
OF  
UNCOMMON  
COMMITMENT  
TO THE  
COMMON GOOD

EUGENIA KIM



*Congratulations*  
and best wishes to  
**NETWORK**  
on your 40th Anniversary.

The Sisters of Bon Secours joins in recognizing this important milestone as we work together as religious communities to address the social and economic injustices in our society and create a more humane world for all God's people.

**Sr. Patricia A. Eck, C.B.S**  
Congregation Leader  
Congregation of Bon Secours

**Sr. Rose Marie Jasinski, C.B.S**  
Country Leader  
Sisters of Bon Secours, USA



**SISTERS OF BON SECOURS**

COMPASSION · HEALING · LIBERATION



## Reflections on NETWORK's Ministry



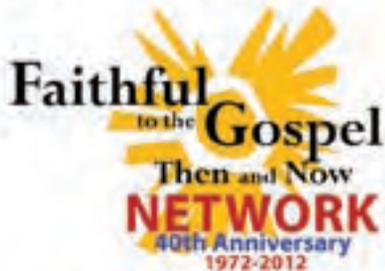
*Congratulations  
and  
Thank You*

for 40 years of  
educating  
lobbying  
and  
organizing  
for  
economic and social  
transformation.

You are a blessing!

With gratitude

*The Congregation of the  
Sisters, Servants of the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Scranton, Pennsylvania*



Sen. Ted Kennedy speaks to NETWORK members on Capitol Hill, 1977

Leadership is a critical factor, but not just leadership from our elected officials and a revival of American leadership abroad. It must—and will—come also from groups like NETWORK. And it will come from millions of Americans who themselves feel the stirrings of our continuing greatness as a nation—the basic commitments of our human values.

—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy,  
*NETWORK Quarterly*, Summer 1976

Amata Miller, IHM, NETWORK Education Coordinator, in 1990.





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## Reflections on NETWORK's Ministry



Participant in the 1976 NETWORK Legislative Seminar, Washington, D.C., Rev. Henri Nouwen.

Politicians are tempted to become so entangled in their complex tactical maneuvers that they lose sight of their overarching responsibility for justice and peace. Religious people, on the other hand, are tempted to become so enthralled by the beauty of their principles and the righteousness of the general statements, that they lose sight of the complexities of concrete situations.

A political ministry... asks us to bring our single-minded commitment to justice and peace into the center of a complex political process. A political ministry requires an informed mind and a caring heart, an acute understanding of tactics and strategies, and a warm sense of the need of the people to whom we want to be of service.

...action in behalf of justice reflect[s] a Christian life that is not misled by false

dichotomies between prayer and action. There may be times when our prayer consists only of "sighs too deep for words," but we know that such sighs are the unfailing sign of God's Spirit within us empowering us to continue the demanding labors toward which he inspires and propels us and without which the question of who shall inherit the earth remains disturbingly open.

—Rev. Henri J.M. Nouwen, Clare Dunn, CSJ, and Judith Lovchik, CSJ, *NETWORK Quarterly*, Fall 1976




The Sisters of the Precious Blood congratulate NETWORK on 40 years of laboring faithfully for justice and peace for God's people around the world.

Sisters of the Precious Blood, Dayton, Ohio  
[www.PreciousBloodSistersDayton.org](http://www.PreciousBloodSistersDayton.org)

Frédan  
 Pace  
 Pax  
**Peace**  
 Paix  
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 Shalom  
 thaj yeeb nyab xeeb  
 Pingan  
 Heiwa

Congratulations to NETWORK on 40 years of peacemaking.

 *Franciscan Sisters*  
 of Perpetual Adoration  
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# Congratulations to NETWORK

*for 40 years of influencing  
and inspiring others  
on issues of social justice.*



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 Reflections on NETWORK's Ministry

**“...politics, rightfully understood, is a ministry of justice...”**

From its inception, NETWORK's commitment to the long haul has rested on some unshakeable convictions. The most fundamental of these is that politics, rightfully understood, is a ministry of justice, promoting the common good.

—Catherine Pinkerton, CSJ, NETWORK Lobbyist, *Connection*, September/October 1990



Helen Prejean, CSJ, with NETWORK staff, 2003. Front, L-R: Cailin Daly, Amy Scanlon, Helen Prejean, CSJ, Aisha Smith Taylor; 2nd row: Michael Culliton, Stephanie Niedringhaus, Ann Dunn (NETWORK's longest serving staff member), Esther Pineda, CSJ, Mark Torma, National Coordinator Maureen Fenlon, OP, James Salt.

NETWORK is one of our hopes and something that gives me hope. I know that NETWORK is about economic justice. It is also about awakening Catholics to be political activists to translate faith into political action so that we can transform the societal structures. That's why I'm a member of NETWORK.

—Helen Prejean, CSJ, *Connection*, January/February 2004



*The Murphy Initiative for Justice and Peace Celebrates  
NETWORK for 40 years of doing Gospel Justice!*

*Please visit our new website: [www.pfmjpi.org](http://www.pfmjpi.org)*

For 10 years our religious communities have shown commitment to justice by praying, acting, & opening doors of conversation about the most pressing issues of our time – Peace.

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## Reflections on NETWORK's Ministry



The early '70s, when NETWORK began, was infused with hope. Politically, the move toward open government allowed citizens a greater role in influencing public policies. Secrecy gave way to transparency and access. The various social movements—civil

Rep. Geraldine Ferraro (right) receives NETWORK's biannual Voting Record from Nancy Sylvester, IHM, in 1981.

rights, feminist, peace and environmental—helped shape public debate and consensus. The social justice agenda had victories and substantial gains.

Hope pervaded our ecclesial life as well. Vatican II challenged us to be part of the world, to embrace the joys and sufferings of all God's people. Together with the Bishops' Synod statement *Call to Action*, many of us found a "home" for our faith, in acting on behalf of justice in society and within church structures. It felt only years away before we would transform patriarchy and the clerical structure, giving way to equality, mutuality and participation in the decisions that affect our lives.

Today, we live in a different context.  
—Nancy Sylvester, IHM, former NETWORK National Coordinator, *Connection*, November/December 2004



### *A Healing Presence in a Broken World*

The U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph joins NETWORK in celebrating 40 years of being a healing presence in a broken world, transforming systems and changing lives.

Thank you for faithfully answering the Gospel call to act for justice.

Learn more about the federation at [www.sistersofsaintjosephfederation.org](http://www.sistersofsaintjosephfederation.org).



A painting of Thaddeus "Spike" Zywicki, a long-time NETWORK volunteer and stalwart activist for justice and peace.

# *Congratulations* *NETWORK*

*We are grateful for your assistance as we  
Deepen our relationship with Mother Earth and Sister Water  
Stand with persons who are poor  
Make peace and practice non-violence*

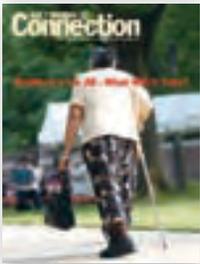
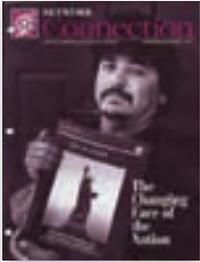
(Chapter 2008 Commitment)



## *Thank You!*

*Sisters of St. Francis*  
Dubuque, Iowa

# NETWORK—Constantly Questioning, Probing, Seeking



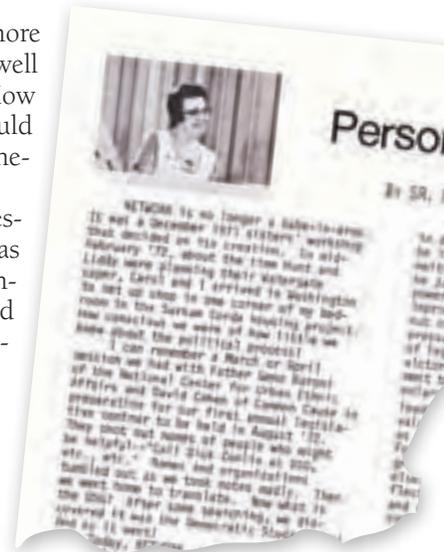
Today, NETWORK, a two-year toddler, is still testing and probing, learning its way, trying out new approaches, and searching for the direction it should take in working for social justice. How can the Washington staff be most helpful to NETWORK members around the country? How can we best educate for justice? Is the written word enough? How much staff time should be spent “out there” listening and dialoging with NETWORK members?

What should be the issue focus of NETWORK—specific legislative issues or broader social justice concerns, or both? Who are our constituents, the sis-

ters only, or should we aim more widely at Church leaders as well as the rank and file Catholic? How much NETWORK energy should be spent considering political theology, the “why” of us?

Two and a half years of wrestling with such questions has been grueling yet exciting, painful, satisfying, an often repeated process of dying and resurrection.

—Margaret Hohman,  
SCN, NETWORK Staff,  
*NETWORK Quarterly*,  
Spring 1974



*We congratulate NETWORK  
on its 40 years of service  
to the underserved.*



Society of the Holy Child Jesus  
AMERICAN PROVINCE

**Thank you for 40 years  
of touching hearts and changing votes!**

**We are privileged to be partners  
in your work.**

**Have a great celebration!**



*Sisters of the Most Precious Blood*  
**www.cpps-ofallon.org**

*CONGRATULATIONS*

**NETWORK**

**For making the connections  
and**

**For 40 years of fidelity to the Gospel**

**Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union  
Eastern Province**

The  
**Leadership Conference of Women Religious**  
congratulates

**NETWORK**

for its

**40** years

of courageous advocacy  
on behalf of the world's most pressing needs

We stand proudly with you as collaborators and look forward  
to many more years of ministering together.

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 **NETWORK**—*Constantly Questioning, Probing, Seeking*

**W**e are reminded, as Tom Cordaro pointed out in his contribution in the antiracism issue of *Connection* in 2006, that organizations like Pax Christi USA and NETWORK, who are already accountable for the dispossessed, must learn to be accountable to them, as well.

That means, in part, that we must be in authentic relationship to those on the margins (economically, racially and/or politically and otherwise) as well as those at the center of society. We must allow those who have been disenfranchised from the economic and political life of this nation to speak for themselves (much like I am speaking

via this article) rather than being satisfied that their voice is being heard only through others in the organization.

It also means being willing to risk altering our own self-images, reputations and fortunes to bring about the transformation for which we are advocates.

One area we can improve on is a more diversified staff. We need the power machine on the Hill to identify NETWORK with the antiracist vision and people of color in the same way that the power machine in DC identifies NETWORK as the “nuns’ lobby.” As we noted earlier, it is very difficult to change an already positive identity such as the nuns’ lobby to an even better and more inclusive one as a multiracial and antiracist lobby.

But change we must. Or we risk becoming not only irrelevant but obsolete.

—Cathleen Crayton, NETWORK Board Member, *Connection*, Fourth Quarter 2011



LARRY W. SWANSON

Cathleen Crayton



**Love your enemies  
do good to those who hate you  
bless those who curse you  
pray for those who mistreat you**  
Luke 6:27b-28



**Congratulations  
NETWORK  
for 40 years  
of justice-making!**

Sisters of St. Joseph *of the* Third Order of St. Francis

[www.ssj-tosf.org](http://www.ssj-tosf.org)



40 years!  
You have aged well, NETWORK.

We are honored and blessed  
to know you as steady colleagues  
and wonderful friends.

Our faith-advocacy community is stronger  
thanks to your leadership and commitment.

With grateful hearts, we celebrate  
NETWORK Lobby's  
four decades of service



Maryknoll Office for  
Global Concerns

*Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic  
Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers  
Maryknoll Lay Missioners*

[www.maryknollogc.org](http://www.maryknollogc.org)



**Maryknoll Sisters**

*Making God's love visible*

[www.maryknollsisters.org](http://www.maryknollsisters.org)

**Maryknoll Sisters worldwide**

**congratulate NETWORK**

**on 40 years of**

**prophetic witness,**

**and**

**stand in solidarity with you**

**especially during**

**our centennial year.**



*Sisters of Charity*

of Cincinnati

*We Congratulate NETWORK for Making  
the Gospel Relevant in Today's Church*

[www.srcharitycinti.org](http://www.srcharitycinti.org)



# NETWORK—Reaching Out to Listen, to Learn and to Stand in Solidarity



Dr. Rashad Zaydan (left front) and members of the Iraqi delegation at a 2006 NETWORK press conference.

These three years, the United States was just listening to the U.S. voice, and I think it is time to listen to the real Iraqi voice.

We have been suffering for years, but the time has come to think about how we want to create our future from an Iraqi vision, parallel with the American vision, not under. If you arrange for us, we don't have the same values, same habits, same character. We have different history.

—Dr. Rashad Zaydan, *Connection*, May/June 2006



## Happy 40th Anniversary!

Thank you for your partnership  
with Bread for the World  
and for being faithful to the Gospel.



**bread for the world**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.  
[www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)

# Happy Anniversary to NETWORK

Thank you for your 40 years of advocating for social justice and peace based on Faith, Hope, and Love.

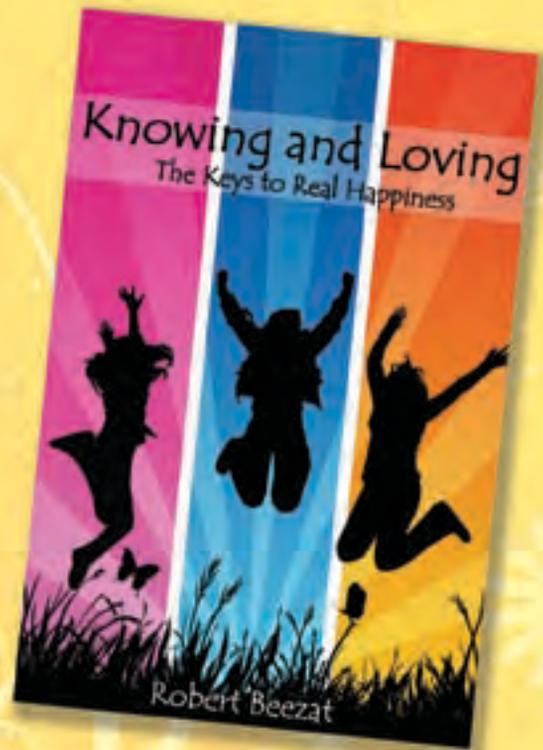
Please continue to represent Catholics, people of other faiths, and all people of good will in making our country and the world a better place to live, work, and raise a family in peace.

**Robert Beezat**

NETWORK Member and Volunteer

Author of *Knowing and Loving: The Keys to Real Happiness*  
[www.knowingandloving.com](http://www.knowingandloving.com)

Available through Amazon and website above



## Congratulations to NETWORK on 40 years of...

answering the Gospel call to act for justice and peace

educating, lobbying, and organizing for economic and social transformation,

voicing concerns and influencing Congress

and striving to close the gap between rich and poor and to dismantle policies rooted in racism, greed and violence.

*We join our voice with yours.*



*In the spirit of Nano Nagle, Presentation founders, and the many Presentation sisters in whose footsteps we follow, we believe we are called to respond where need calls most loudly by caring for and empowering those made poor and challenging oppressive structures.*

Visit us at [www.dubuquepresentations.org](http://www.dubuquepresentations.org).

***"No Justice Without Truth"***  
—Desmond Tutu

***Celebrating 40 years  
of speaking truth to lawmakers  
on behalf of the voiceless,  
the poor, the needy, the vulnerable***

***With gratitude,  
affirming our ongoing support  
as religious women,***

***Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
Immaculata, Pa.***

*Congratulations to  
NETWORK  
on your 40th Anniversary  
and Thank You!*



Our Lady of Victory  
Missionary Sisters  
Huntington, Indiana

**NETWORK**—Reaching Out  
to Listen, to Learn and  
to Stand in Solidarity



**W**e [the Mohawk Nation] are told we are not a sovereign nation, but American citizens living in the United States, and we should be taxed and grateful for what we have.

It is our obligation to educate people as to what it really means to be a sovereign nation and how lack of knowledge, understanding and sensitivity continue to affect the dignity and rights of us as Native Americans and sovereign nations. Since it is not written in classroom textbooks or taught, we Native Americans need to inform other cultures.

—Ann Marie McDonald,  
*Connection*, July/August 2006

We appreciate the  
**NETWORK's**  
**40 YEARS**  
of hard work  
on behalf of Catholics everywhere

**Thank you!**

www.racinedominicans.org



National Religious Campaign  
Against Torture

**NRCAT**  
congratulates

**NETWORK**

For its 40 years of effective  
social justice advocacy.

Thank you for being such a  
committed partner in the  
Washington Interreligious Staff  
Community

[www.nrcat.org](http://www.nrcat.org)

**Congratulations!**



We, Tiffin Franciscans,  
are proud  
to celebrate NETWORK's  
40 years of  
justice-making!

Peacemaking Economic Justice Immigration Reform Healthcare Access Ecology



*The Sisters and Associates  
of St. Francis of Tiffin, Ohio*



**CONGRATULATIONS  
AND GRATITUDE  
TO NETWORK  
ON ITS  
40TH ANNIVERSARY.**



[www.ssmo.org](http://www.ssmo.org)

**LORETTO**  
*Journey*  
to  
**Jubilee**  
1812-2012

[www.lorettocommunity.org](http://www.lorettocommunity.org)



**Congratulations  
& Best Wishes  
to NETWORK on its  
40th Anniversary**

**Sisters of Saint Joseph  
of Chambéry**  
West Hartford, Connecticut

*Congratulations  
on 40 years of faithfulness  
to your mission of*

*lobbying  
organizing  
and educating  
for a nation and world  
rooted in justice*

*as you address*

*peacemaking  
comprehensive  
immigration reform*

*housing  
poverty  
federal budget  
priorities*

*trade  
hunger*

*HM*  
Sisters of the Humility of Mary

Sisters of the Humility of Mary  
Villa Maria, PA 16155  
[www.humilityofmary.org](http://www.humilityofmary.org)

 **NETWORK**—*Reaching Out  
to Listen, to Learn and  
to Stand in Solidarity*



Some of the most vociferous critics of immigration claim that Senate proposals, which allow those with five or more years in this country to legalize, are tantamount to amnesty. They oppose the idea that someone should be rewarded for breaking the law, and like to say that their grandparents and great-grandparents did it the

right way by hard work and honesty—and that they didn't try to get ahead by breaking the law. I say that this level of debate is disingenuous at best ... From the mid-1930s to the 1950s hundreds of thousands of Europeans who were unlawfully in the U.S. were allowed to go to Canada and reenter the U.S. as permanent residents!

—Baldemar Velásquez, *Connection*, September/October 2006



**The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur**  
OHIO PROVINCE

*congratulate*

**NETWORK**

**on 40 years of  
Educating, Advocating & Organizing  
for Peace and Justice**

*Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur  
making known God's goodness with you  
[www.sndohio.org](http://www.sndohio.org)*

 **NETWORK—Reaching Out  
to Listen, to Learn and  
to Stand in Solidarity**

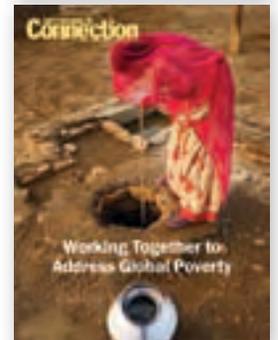
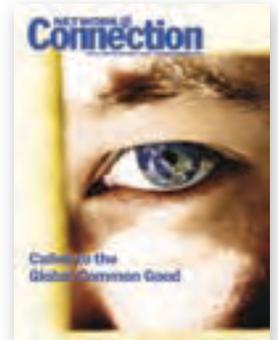
The change of our political system [in Slovakia] in the 1990s brought the freedom to freely express opinions, influence the political situation through free elections, travel, and learn to be responsible for oneself and for one's decisions... Bringing peace into relationships, learning patience, knowing how to forgive, having time to slow down and listen to answers that rise in our minds, going through our own self-reflection and personal change—all these are the challenges that help us become better.

—Renata Jamborova, SSS,  
*Connection*, November/December 2006



I came to the United States [from Ethiopia], followed by my children, and I struggled to get a better life for us... When I see homeless people in the street here in the United States, I try to buy lunch or juice for them. I didn't expect to see homeless people in such a rich country. I don't know how they became homeless. In my country, I know that a drought or something like that causes homelessness. I think that the rich people here in the United States should help poor people through the government. Church people should help, too.

—Eshetwa Gebreyesus,  
*Connection*, November/  
December 2007



Our deepest thanks  
*to all the women*  
who for 40 years  
HAVE GIVEN THEIR TIME,  
*their dedication*  
and their passion  
to **AMPLIFY** our voices  
THROUGH NETWORK.

*Sisters of St. Joseph  
of Concordia, Kansas*

*... living God and neighbor without distinction ...*



[www.csjkansas.org](http://www.csjkansas.org) [facebook.com/CSJKansas](https://facebook.com/CSJKansas)

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF CONCORDIA  
WHO HAVE SERVED NETWORK:

AS BOARD MEMBERS:

Sister Mary Agnes Drees  
(1974-76)

Sister Jeanne McKenna  
(1976-80)

Sister Belle Moslander  
(1984-88)

Sister Beatrice Zapata  
(1992-2003)

Sister Carmel Garcia  
(2001-04)

Sister Regina Ann Brummel  
(2011-15)

AS STAFF MEMBERS:

Sister Margaret Houston  
(finance, 1994-2004)

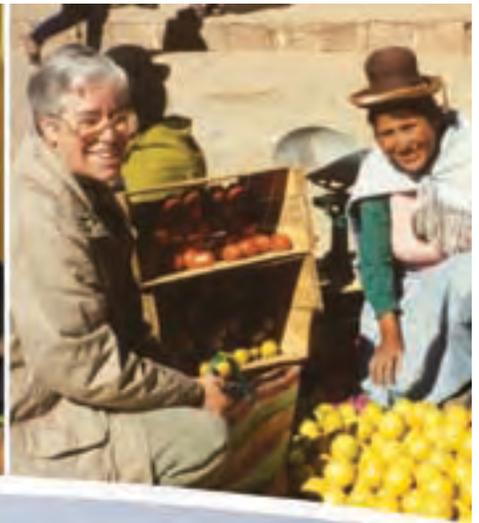
Sister Esither Pineda  
(lobbyist, 2001-06)

*Congratulations on  
"a 40 year legacy of  
touching hearts  
and changing votes."*

NETWORK gives us the tools  
to move our ASC Hearts into  
effective advocacy.

**THANK YOU!**





*The*  
**SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF CARONDELET,  
ASSOCIATES AND PARTNERS IN MISSION**

*Congratulate you on  
your 40th Anniversary!*

*We celebrate with great gratitude, NETWORK's 40 years  
of uncommon work for the common good of all our  
neighbors throughout the country, the globe and the planet.*

*Visit us at [www.csjcarondelet.org](http://www.csjcarondelet.org).*

*Albany • Hawaii • Los Angeles • Peru • St. Louis • St. Paul*



 **NETWORK**—Reaching Out  
to Listen, to Learn and  
to Stand in Solidarity

In Damascus, we were in awe of the ministries of the Good Shepherd Sisters. In a visit to their Abrahamic Center, the Iraqi youth choir sang for us and several shared their painful experiences of loss and anxiety due to the violence unleashed in Iraq. Sisters Marie-Claude and Marie Therese have created a network of 50 volunteers to assist about 400 families. Marie Therese told us that she “kneels in front of every Iraqi because of their suffering.” ...The Good Shepherd Sisters also run a women’s shelter open to all abused women, the only such shelter in Syria.

—Marie Lucey, OSF,  
NETWORK Board  
Member, *Connection*,  
March/April 2008



# Congratulations NETWORK



With you then,  
...and now!



**Adrian  
Dominican  
Sisters**

*seek truth • make peace • reverence life*

[www.adriandominicans.org](http://www.adriandominicans.org)

*Franciscan Sisters of Allegany*



**Congratulations  
on your  
40th Anniversary**



*Serving God's people in the United States,  
Jamaica, Brazil and Bolivia*

115 East Main Street, Allegany, NY 14706  
716/373-0200  
[www.alleganyfranciscans.org](http://www.alleganyfranciscans.org)

Congratulations to

# NETWORK

for answering the call...

*advocating for justice in our world for 40 years.*



*Partnerships for Health*

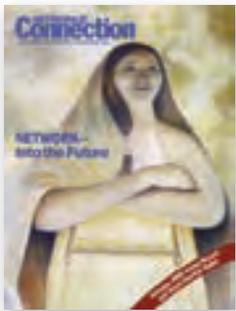
[www.health-partners.org](http://www.health-partners.org)

# NETWORK—Always Looking to the Future

Prophetic faith creates a radical transformation of the relationship between religion and politics. Prophetic religion allows neither the sacralization of the present political order nor a private, otherworldly escape from history. Instead, the prophets have taken the old vision of an ideal social order, including the ideal of a just and righteous king, and transformed it into a critical ideal to

judge the present social order. The ideal thus becomes a measuring rod for testing the present system and sternly revealing its hypocrisies and injustices. Yet, at the same time, the ideal is a demand, a mandate to the present social order to live up to this ideal as God's commandment. Thus it becomes a revolutionary force commanding the transformation of present society toward the future vision of a world of peace and justice.

—Rosemary R. Ruether, *NETWORK Quarterly*, Fall 1978



*Congratulations NETWORK*

*We have met...*  
*We have celebrated...*  
*We remember...*  
*We have visioned, shared hopes, dreamed dreams.*

*Now we journey forward*  
*reminded that we do not go alone*  
*We go with a mission!*

*Touching hearts*  
*Changing lives*

*Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement \* Syracuse \* Saratoga NY*



*Kindling the flame*  
*for the sake of mission!*



Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary  
 congratulate NETWORK  
 on 40 years of service in the  
 Catholic social justice community.

*We are proud*  
*to partner with you*  
*for the common good.*



*Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary*

**CONGRATULATIONS  
NETWORK**

**FOR  
FORTY YEARS  
OF LOBBYING  
FOR  
SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**SACRED HEART  
PEACE COMMUNITY  
CAMDEN, NJ**

*Dear NETWORK,*

*For 40 years you have provided us with  
information and inspiration to guide us  
along the paths of justice & peace.*

**THANK YOU!**

*May we continue the journey together,  
seeking wisdom and direction for the journey  
ahead.*

*The Marist Missionary Sisters  
349 Grove Street  
Waltham, MA 02453*

*We salute you,*  
**NETWORK,**

for 40 years of leadership in  
a passionate, active, inspiring  
ministry of economic and social justice  
through lobbying, organizing and educating.

You have been Faithful to the Gospel,  
then and now.

Keep on keeping on!



**Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province**

# Congratulations NETWORK!

from the  
*Sisters of Providence  
of Holyoke*

We are very proud to join in celebrating NETWORK'S 40 years of justice-making!

NETWORK'S Gospel response to the call for justice continues to inspire many as you lobby tirelessly for federal policies and legislation that promote economic and social justice in our time.

May NETWORK'S mission and efforts continue to be blessed as staff and thousands of NETWORK members lobby, organize and educate for a nation and world rooted in justice.



[www.sisofprov.org](http://www.sisofprov.org)

## NETWORK—Always Looking to the Future

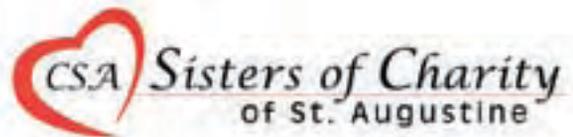
I am both a mother and a grandmother, and I carry the concerns of the next seven generations... I bring my passion for justice and my commitment for balance for Mother Earth and humankind, and I am excited to be around a group of like-minded people.

—Mary Liz Rondeaux, a healer and member of the Crow Nation, NETWORK Board Member, *Connection*, July/August 2000



## Congratulations to the staff of NETWORK!

We join with you in celebrating your 40 years of faithfulness to the Gospel.



5232 Broadview Road  
Richfield OH 44286

330-650-5100  
[sncfcharity.org](http://sncfcharity.org)



## TRINITY HEALTH CONGRATULATES NETWORK ON ITS 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Together, we continue the ministry of justice...  
**Imagining Forward in Challenging Times**

### MISSION

We serve together in Trinity Health, in the spirit of the Gospel, to heal body, mind and spirit, to improve the health of our communities and to steward the resources entrusted to us.

### CORE VALUES

Respect • Social Justice • Compassion • Excellence • Care of the Poor and Underserved

Trinity Health  
27870 Cabot Drive  
Novi, Michigan  
48377-2920  
248-489-6000  
[www.trinity-health.org](http://www.trinity-health.org)

TRINITY  HEALTH  
Now Trinity



 **NETWORK**—Always Looking  
to the Future

I am not different from my peers who make up the “Millennial Generation” (those born between the early 1980s and late 1990s) who would rather spend time in a soup kitchen than vacationing on the beach. Trends have emerged from our age group showing we’re civically engaged and ready for change. The world we are inheriting is much different than that of our parents’ generation. And we are dealing with our own obstacles: enormous student debt, a fair-weather economy, and a world in peril. Yet, like generations before us, we aren’t willing to admit defeat.



—Jennifer Haut, NETWORK Education Program Board Member, *Connection*, July/August 2008



Kathy Thornton, RSM, NETWORK National Coordinator, visits an infant at an Iraqi hospital in 2003.



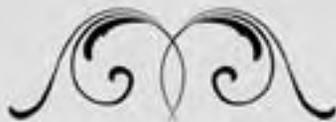
Sisters of the Good Shepherd

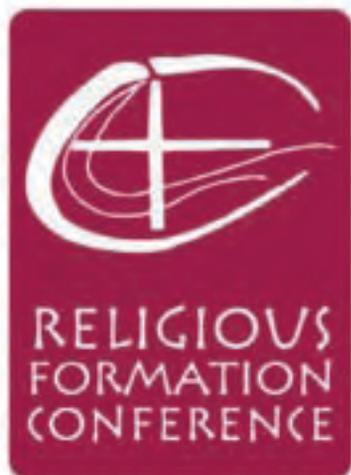
The National  
Advocacy Center



The congregations of  
LCWR Region 1  
(New England)  
congratulate **NETWORK**  
on 40 years of  
promoting economic  
and social justice.  
May your legacy  
of touching hearts  
and changing votes continue!

ALICE & VINCE  
MURPHY





Heartfelt congratulations on your  
40th Anniversary  
and blessings on the next 40 years.

With gratitude for your ministry of justice,

**Religious Formation Conference**

[www.relforcon.org](http://www.relforcon.org)



With Gratitude on 40 years of Service  
– Happy Anniversary –

[www.ssjsrochester.org](http://www.ssjsrochester.org)



The Sisters of St. Francis  
Oldenburg, Indiana

We commend and celebrate  
**NETWORK's**  
transformative action  
for justice for 40 years.

## Church & Society celebrates **NETWORK's 40 years of ministry to the world!**



We are proud to be partners with  
**NETWORK** on the front lines of the  
great social movements for civil  
rights, women's rights, peace, and  
environmental justice!



### **EXPERIENCE**

Learn about the issues impacting  
**your community** and understand  
how the Social Principles **connect**  
with your faith.

### **EQUIP**

Participate in Bible studies, grants,  
seminars, specialized trainings and  
be empowered to **transform the**  
world for Jesus Christ.

### **ENGAGE**

Connect with United Methodists  
**moving from mercy to justice**, and  
join our online and offline justice  
communities.

General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church

Learn more at [www.umc-gbcs.org](http://www.umc-gbcs.org)



 **NETWORK—Always Looking to the Future**

**W**e must choose leaders who will lead us and the world back to our best selves. And inspire us again!



If we want to lead now we must forswear the past. We must rebel, rebel, rebel.

—Joan Chittister, OSB,  
*Connection*, November/  
December 2008



**DOMINICAN SISTERS IN  
COMMITTED COLLABORATION**

The Dominican Sisters of Amityville, Blauvelt, Caldwell, Hope, and Sparkill

*Praise, Bless, and Thank*

**NETWORK**

for

**40 Years**

of

*Faithful Preaching for Justice*

*The IHM Sisters  
congratulate NETWORK  
on 40 years*

Since the beginning, IHM Sisters have been part of  
NETWORK

In the field, as D.C. and state coordinators  
On the board, with Jackie Cullen, IHM, and  
Carol Quigley, IHM

On the staff, with Amata Miller, IHM  
As national coordinator, with Nancy Sylvester, IHM  
(1982-1992)

We are grateful for the leadership in  
political advocacy NETWORK  
continues to provide.

Sisters, Servants of the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Monroe, Michigan  
[www.ihmsisters.org](http://www.ihmsisters.org)



 **NETWORK—Always Looking to the Future**

ministries of the sisters of st. joseph of peace



visit us online at [www.csjp.org](http://www.csjp.org) or follow us on facebook

*It is with joy and gratitude that we congratulate NETWORK on 40 years of outstanding work for social and economic justice. We are honored to be partners in the peace and justice movement.*

*The Congregation Leadership Team  
Margaret Byrne, CSJP, Terry Donohue, CSJP  
Kristin Funari, CSJP, Anne Hayes, CSJP  
Coralie Muzzy, CSJP*

In this time of change, we are called to be people of the Gospel engaged in creating a more perfect union. We must remember that no one of our individual views is the fullness of the ideal. In this time of possibility we are called, while anchored in our faith values, to walk the roads of engagement, compromise. We are called to find solutions to the vexing problems of our time, understanding that governance is the solving of problems for the sake of the whole... By engaging together, we will be true to the promise of the springtime—and realize a hundredfold harvest.

—Simone Campbell, SSS, NETWORK Executive Director, *Connection*, January/February 2009



*Immediately after signing the healthcare reform bill, President Obama thanks Simone Campbell, SSS, and NETWORK for playing an important role in getting the bill passed.*

## Sisters of the Holy Family

Continuing our Mission begun in 1872 ...  
"to seek out and advocate for the poor and needy, especially families, for the Kingdom of God."

**In Recognition and Appreciation of 40 Years of NETWORK's Faith-filled Social Justice Actions.**



159 Washington Blvd • Fremont, CA 94539  
510-624-4500 • [www.holyfamilysisters.org](http://www.holyfamilysisters.org)

# CONGRATULATIONS NETWORK!

*We're proud to be a part of  
the 40-year legacy of touching  
hearts and changing votes.*

*We look forward to engaging  
the future together.*



Sisters of St. Francis  
Clinton, Iowa



[www.ClintonFranciscans.com](http://www.ClintonFranciscans.com)

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



Mary's Pence

Funding Women. Changing Lives.

Mary's Pence wishes a happy  
and blessed 40<sup>th</sup> birthday to  
**NETWORK!** We look forward to  
traveling the path together to a  
more just world.

[www.maryspence.org](http://www.maryspence.org)



## Writer and Editor

Donald Rohmer  
729 N. Maple St.  
Muenster, Texas 76252

940-759-4922  
[mduc@ntin.net](mailto:mduc@ntin.net)

# The Dominican Sisters of Amityville, New York



Dominican Sisters of Amityville

congratulate and thank  
**NETWORK**  
for 40 years of commitment  
to "Justice in the World"  
through your educating citizens,  
touching hearts and changing votes.



## NETWORK's Founders, 1971

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Janet Baumert, SSSF           | Mary Jean Linder, OSF        |
| Ellen Louise Burns, SC        | Carol Jean McDonnell, OP     |
| Monica Cahill, BVM            | Alice McDonnell, RSCJ        |
| Mildred Carroll, OP           | Pearl McGinvey, CSJ          |
| Therese Eileen Cashman, BVM   | Faine McMullen, RSCJ         |
| Sr. Rose Marie Cortez         | Audrey Miller, CDP           |
| Carol Coston, OP              | Victoria Mongiardo, MSBT     |
| Joann Crowley, BVM            | Elizabeth Morancy, RSM       |
| Mary Alice DeSutter, OSF      | Sr. Helen Marie Neal         |
| Mary Dennis Donovan, CSJ      | Sr. Alice O'Brian            |
| Mary Ann Drerup, SND          | Dorothy Ortner, SL           |
| Clare Dugan, SSJ              | Cartona Phelan, OSF          |
| Jo Dunne, SHCJ                | Patricia Ruth Pilorski, CSFN |
| Angela Marie Fitzpatrick, OSU | Alphonsa Puls, SSSF          |
| Kathleen Flaherty, SC         | Mary Reilly, RSM             |
| Kathy Gannon, OP              | Kathryn Rutan, SP            |
| Ann Gillen, SHCJ              | Margaret G. Smith, RSCJ      |
| Sr. Ann Francine Gold         | Catherine A. Swilley, CCVI   |
| Teresina Grasso, SP           | Patricia Tray, CHM           |
| Mary Hayes, SNDdeN            | Marjorie Tuite, OP           |
| Mary Gabriel Herbers, OP      | Janet Valente, GNSH          |
| Esther Hofschulte, OSF        | Virginia Williams, SL        |
| Marilyn Huegerich, OSF        | Jean Wood, BVM               |
| Sr. Sally Keyes               |                              |

# Congratulations!

## We remain grateful for your effective ministry!



### The Dominican Sisters of Houston

**Congratulations,  
NETWORK,  
for 40 years of being  
Faithful to the Gospel  
1972-2012**



**Franciscan Sisters  
of Mary**

Compassionate Care  
of Creation

Visit us at  
[www.fsmonline.org](http://www.fsmonline.org)

The Tacoma Dominican Community



congratulates NETWORK  
on its 40th anniversary.

We are proud to collaborate with you in the work of justice.

# Congratulations...40 yrs.

## To God be the Glory!

Sisters of Saint Mary of Namur  
241 Lafayette Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14213  
[www.ssmn.us](http://www.ssmn.us) • prayer line 716.535.7311



# NETWORK

A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

25 E Street NW, Suite 200  
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# Faithful to the Gospel Then and Now **NETWORK** 40th Anniversary 1972-2012

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We are women of steadfast love called to live  
the mission of Jesus through our core values of...

**FREEDOM, CHARITY,  
EDUCATION & JUSTICE**



The Sisters of Charity  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
warmly congratulate and say thank you  
to the staff of **NETWORK** for your  
education and advocacy for social justice  
these past **40 years**.

BVM sisters, Joanne Crowley-Beers,  
Monica Cahill and Helen Cashman,  
were part of the originating group of  
**NETWORK** in 1972.

We thank staff member,  
**Marge Clark, BVM**  
for continuing the legacy of  
**touching hearts and changing votes!**

*Sisters of Charity  
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