

DCCW FALL REPORT

September 22, 2018
St. James, Vernal
Becky Colombo, First Vice President

Happy Fall to All! Some of us just returned from the NCCW Annual Convention. It was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and was one of the best ever! Pittsburgh was an amazing city and I was so grateful I was able to attend.

While at the convention, we voted on four (4) proposed resolutions, which is what I would like to focus on in my report. I feel that they are very important and all of you reading this will be able to read and share these resolutions with your Deaneries and affiliate parishes. Please make the women aware of these important issues discussed by our leaders in NCCW and convey the passion that all of us should feel in trying to put these into action.

Resolution #1- Mentoring at Risk Youth

Purpose: To encourage and provide mentoring to educate and protect vulnerable youth who may be at risk for Human Trafficking,

This discussion included the fact that many young people have not developed a defense mechanism or may not have a trusted adult interested in them to protect them against the lure of predators. The NCCW encourages affiliates to implement a program such as “Steps to Mentor At Risk Youths” found on the NCCW website. (www.nccw.org)

Resolution #2 – Treatment of the Mentally Ill

Purpose: To bring public awareness to the difficulties faced by the mentally ill and their families as they maneuver the legal, medical and social systems seeking help.

This discussion ranged from those mentally ill with diagnosed psychological problems, to those suffering from Autism. The general population is undereducated concerning the mentally ill. The mentally ill have very limited access to care and safe living space. The NCCW lives the Gospel message of love and understanding, and encourages reading books such as “Crazy: A Father’s Search Through America’s Mental Health System” by Pete Earley. NCCW also encourages members to persuade law enforcement agencies to participate in a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) to improve responses to people in crisis.

Resolution #3 – Building our Future

Purpose: To build the future of the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) by promoting high school and college membership around the country.

The NCCW has a program to enroll young women as members through high school and college membership programs. NCCW will support, empower, and educate these young women to grow their spirituality and service and become active leaders in our councils.

Resolution #4 – The Environment

Purpose: Reduce the use of plastic and increase recycling of plastic.

Over the past 70 years, most of the world has become part of “a throwaway culture” resulting in replacing other materials with plastic. Plastic is either difficult or impossible to degrade in nature. NCCW advocates for the reduction of the use of disposable plastic items (drink bottles, straws, utensils) and to work toward the use of reusable water bottles and the provision of safe, clean drinking water that is freely available to all persons in all areas of the world. NCCW members unite in prayer to be good stewards for the preservation of the environment of the Earth that was given us by the Creator.

This is a very condensed and brief summary of the resolutions and their discussion listed in our convention booklet. I have scanned and copied these pages so all of you can read about each resolution in depth. The document can be downloaded on our DCCW website at:

<https://www.dioslc.org/outreach/diocesan-council-of-catholic-women>

Please encourage discussion at your Deanery and affiliate meetings and pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance in ways to fulfill these resolutions, no matter how small. Every effort is worthwhile!