MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT & RESOURCE TEAM DCCW Board Meeting – April 25, 2025

We all know how time flies, and there's never enough time to do the things we want to do. So, as the first year of our 2024-2026 DCCW term ends and our second year begins, we should all be reflecting on what we want to do this next Council year.

For the MDR Team, our goal continues to provide resources and ideas for membership development, whether for possible new council affiliates, those councils already affiliated, whether thriving councils or struggling councils. At the June, 2024 board meeting, it was asked that one board member from each deanery be on the MDR **Team**. It wasn't to add new board positions or have a 7-person co-chair committee. Rather we wanted someone within each deanery to be a **team** contact and assist us in helping ladies groups in their own deanery. Kudos to Gabby Gauchay, Wasatch Deanery President, who volunteered.

We got to thinking why each deanery president isn't automatically considered a member of the MDR team. After all, a deanery president is the main contact for the deanery, right? Parishes are in contact with her, and she is in contact with them. Through her meetings she should know more than anyone else the deanery's parishes and what is going on with them. We need deanery presidents, the eyes and ears of her deanery, involved. We would always include her in any and all invitations we receive from parishes for a presentation. This past term, Gabby participated in a DCCW presentation to St. Andrew's Women's Society. While they have not yet affiliated, as Deanery President, Gabby follows up by continuing to personally stay in contact and invites them to deanery meetings. Recently a member of Good Shepherd in East Carbon asked for a presentation, as they may be interested in becoming an NCCW/DCCW affiliate again. MDR Co-chair, Michael O'Shea and Eastern Deanery President, Becky Columbo are *teaming* up to arrange a presentation to the Good Shepherd women. They are also talking to a member of Notre Dame in Price. MDR and deanery presidents joining together as a **team** makes sense.

Now, about this next DCCW term.... We ask all DCCW board members to continue to promote the Council of Catholic Women at every level. As we've said in previous reports, let us all do our part to make sure we aren't that "best kept secret". We need you to let us know when opportunities arise for us to help out. In support, we ask each deanery president to reach out to their deanery's unaffiliated parishes, especially those who already have a women's organization, and send them a special invitation to your summer or fall deanery meetings for a "meet and greet" with other deanery CCW presidents. Show them the camaraderie and support affiliation can offer, and if they are interested, we'll be happy to arrange a special presentation. Keep us in the loop.

Together we can make a difference.

