

MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT, AND RESOURCE
NOVEMBER 8, 2025 DCCW BOARD MEETING REPORT
Bonnie Siegrist and Michael O'Shea MDR Team Co-chairs

Since our September board meeting, the MDR team was involved in the Utah Catholic Conference DCCW information booth. The purpose of which was to expose those unfamiliar with who the DCCW is and how we can help their parish women. Thanks to all who volunteered at our September meeting to be at the booth so others could attend the sessions.

As in the past, we had women sign up for additional CCW information, who already have a parish CCW. We did a follow-up email to them and copied their CCW president asking her to contact them. St Francis Xavier got right on that and invited them to their next meeting. Two St Thomas Aquinas parish members talked about the possibility of starting a women's council there. We sent a follow-up email with the NCCW Introduction packet, which includes information on how to set up a women's council, and asked them to take the first step and get the parish priest's approval, before we can further help them take the next steps. Another follow-up needs to be done. A St. Mary's, Park City member stopped in the booth and was interested in Council. While they were never affiliated, they no longer have a women's group. Coincidentally though, Father Ken Parsad of St. Mary's was recently appointed Salt Lake Deanery Spiritual Advisor. We're hoping through discussions with our DCCW and SL Deanery presidents on his role as a SA, he will be open to assisting starting a CCW at St. Mary's.

MDR assisted President Pressley and First VP, Susan Porter, in a presentation at St. Peter's, American Fork regarding the different levels of council. They are struggling with getting women to attend their meetings. While a small group attended that evening, they were very grateful to have DCCW's presence there and said it was re-energizing. In this day, it's easy for struggling CCW's to just give up. Until you've exhausted all resources, don't! All it takes is a few dedicated women with the drive to reinvigorate their group. DCCW and the MDR team are here to help. All you need to do is ask. As a follow-up to the presentation at St Peter's, we were asked to help them update their bylaws, which were way over due in being updated. We would like to ask deanery presidents to remind their affiliates to #1- Make sure they have bylaws and standing rules and #2 - Make sure they are looked at and revised as needed every two years. They may be a pain, but are needed to run effective councils. We'd be remiss if we didn't add #3- Follow your revised bylaws and standing rules!

Finally, we encourage all Deanery Presidents to always welcome unaffiliated parishes in their deanery to their meetings. Find out if they have a woman's organization and who the contact would be. Deaneries are the level of communication between DCCW and the parish, and DCCW needs your help in reaching out. It's surprising how many women still do not know who we are and what we do.