



THE NEED  
IS GREAT

1,000 VOCATIONS

lost in the  
past 10 years  
due to

EDUCATIONAL DEBT



# 2019 Annual Report



# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS AND INITIATIVES

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NFCRV Executive  
Director Phil Loftus

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OVERVIEW

It is wonderful to be in the midst of Catholic Theological Union here in Chicago, a key place of educating Catholic pastoral leaders. One of the many benefits is that we are able to give witness to diverse Catholic traditions and participate in many of the liturgies conducted on campus.

I've personally participated in Catholic Sisters Week events, Brothers Day gatherings, and recently attended an Ordination Mass.

At Mass, Bishop Mark Bartosic spoke about a religious who was being touted as a founder but this priest goes on to rebuke the attribute saying I'm no founder, I was just the first one here to address the need.

At NFCRV we are just shy of five years young and are so thankful to be able to have helped dozens of religious sisters, brothers, and priests with their educational debt. The reason we are able to do this is because many people have been the first ones here to address the need. We are so thankful to the

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, GHR Foundation, Helen Brach Foundation, and the National Council of Catholic Women for their continued support of our mission, and to our charter individual donors who have answered our appeal to address the obstacle of educational debt to religious life.

Graduations are a time of new beginnings and we recently heard how Robert F. Smith, the philanthropic billionaire, made a remarkable decision to assist over 400 young men at Morehouse College by paying off all of their educational debt.

We haven't achieved that as of yet but we have committed close to \$400,000 towards the educational debt of 40 young women and men who will change the world.

All of this done as a benefit of Religious Institutes who are members of the National Religious Vocation Conference and because of the generosity of supporters and donors like you. On behalf of our NFCRV Board and all of our grantees I thank you.

Open our eyes Lord and let us respond generously. With you in hope and forever grateful.

Phil Loftus

Executive Director

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## NFCRV BOARD

### Officers

Cardinal Sean O'Malley, O.F.M.Cap., Honorary Chair

Father Anthony Vinson, O.S.B., Board Chair and  
Monk and Priest, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

Sister Michele Vincent Fisher, C.F.S.N., Vice-Chair and  
Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

William Booth, Major Gifts Officer (retired),  
Archdiocese of Chicago

### Members

Brother Ronald Hingle, S.C., Provincial of the Brothers  
of the Sacred Heart, Province of the United States  
Keith Armato, President, Union Tin Company. Member Legatus  
Sister Kristin Matthes, SNDdeN, NRVC Board Chair

### Executive Director

Phil Loftus

### Emeritus Members

Brother Paul Bednarczyk, C.S.C.	Father Charles Shelby, C.M.
Robert Fallon	Mark J. Teresi
Carmelita Linden	Sister Lois Wetzel, O.Carm.



## NFCRV GRANTS

In 2019 seven religious institutes were awarded \$105,021 in educational debt relief through the National Fund for Catholic Religious Vocations. These funds enabled seven candidates to discern their call free from the worry of student loan payments.

41 Grants issued to date.

*Learn more about our grantee candidates' vocation stories at [nfcrv.org/stories](https://nfcrv.org/stories).*

## COMMUNITIES SERVED

### 2019

Benedictine Sisters, Erie, PA  
Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, Germantown, NY  
Conventual Franciscan Friars, Castro Valley, CA  
Felician Sisters of North America, Beaver Falls, PA  
Salesian Sisters, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, San Antonio, TX

Religious gathered outside the NFCRV offices in Chicago.



Salesians of Don Bosco, New Rochelle, NY  
Sisters of Christian Charity, Mendham, NJ

### 2018

Sisters of Saint Joseph, Rochester, NY  
Benedictine Sisters, Fort Smith, AR  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, PA  
Dominican Sisters, Grand Rapids, MI  
Salesians of Don Bosco, East  
Carmelite Sisters for the Aged & Infirm  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, South Central  
Congregation of Sisters of Bon Secours  
Redemptorist, Denver Province

### 2017

Apostles of the Sacred Heart  
Congregation of the Holy Spirit  
Franciscan Friars, Conventual  
Poor Clare Nuns, Boston, MA  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Immaculata, PA  
Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, KS  
Sisters of Christian Charity  
Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN  
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia

### 2016

Dominican Friars, Province of St. Martin  
Marist Brothers  
Salesians of Don Bosco  
Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate  
Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe, MI  
Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart

### 2015

Adrian Dominican Sisters  
Congregation of Divine Providence  
Daughters of Mary Help of Christians  
Dominican Sisters of Peace  
Felician Sisters of North America  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Immaculata, PA  
Sisters of the Humility of Mary  
Sisters of Christian Charity





# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS AND INITIATIVES

## CONFERENCES

Phil Loftus, NFCRV Executive Director, met with Maribeth Stewart Blogoslawski, President of the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) at the NCCW convention in Atlanta on Aug. 23, 2019. Phil offered his gratitude to the 640 NCCW delegates gathered for their continued support. NCCW has collected more than \$85,000 through their Vocation Purse in support of NFCRV women religious candidates.



The National Council of Catholic Women supports the NFCRV through its annual Vocation Purse collection among local Councils of Catholic Women.

## PRESS COVERAGE

NFCRV Executive Director Phil Loftus was featured on “Dare to Love” radio program on Nov. 7, 2019 to discuss the challenge of educational debt to vocations and how NFCRV was established with the help of the Hilton Foundation, the GHR Foundation, NRVC (National Religious Vocation Conference) members, and other generous donors.

On Sept. 17, 2019 three NFCRV Grantee communities were featured on the *Tamron Hall Show*. NFCRV Executive Director Phil Loftus and National Religious Vocation Conference’s VISION publisher Patrice Tuohy were guests of the show and had the opportunity to root NFCRV grantees on as they talked about what it is like to be a Millennial Sister.

NFCRV also had a presence at the three-day annual gathering of the Religious Brothers Conference in San Antonio in July 2019. Phil provided an update on the fund to those gathered.

## GRANT APPLICATIONS & GRANTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

Applications for 2020 will be accepted from Jan. 7 through April 8, 2020. Apply online at [nfcrv.org/application](http://nfcrv.org/application). Annual reports from grantees due June 30th of each year. Complete reports online at [nfcrv.org/copy-of-guidelines](http://nfcrv.org/copy-of-guidelines).

## DONOR OUTREACH

The NFCRV is grateful to the Helen Brach Foundation and the National Council of Catholic Women for their continued support of our mission as well as the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and GHR Foundation that helped us establish the fund for the benefit of NRVC member institutes. Since its inception, the NFCRV has granted \$864,363 toward the educational debt of approximately 40 candidates to religious life. All of this is done through the generosity of our supporters and benefactors. NRVC continues to seek new sources of funding to maintain a sustainable financial model.

Top row, Sister Liz McGill, I.H.M., a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, PA; Salesian Sister Rachel Lauritsen, F.M.A.; bottom row, Felician Sister Desiré Anne-Marie Findlay, C.S.S.F.; show host Tamron Hall; Salesian Sister Boram Lee, F.M.A., on the set of the Tamron Hall Show.





### NFCRV STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES, YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 2019

	Without donor restriction	With donor restriction	Total
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUES, &amp; GAINS</b>			
Contributions and grants	\$ 56,247	-	\$ 56,247
In kind donations	1,924	-	1,924
Investment return, net	501,833	-	501,833
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUES AND GAINS</b>	<b>\$ 560,004</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 560,004</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program	208,803	-	208,803
Management and general	18,174	-	18,174
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 226,976</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 226,976</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 333,027</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 333,027</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$1,816,984	-	\$1,816,984
END OF YEAR	\$2,150,011	-	\$2,150,011

### NFCRV STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES, YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 2018

	Without donor restriction	With donor restriction	Total
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUES, &amp; GAINS</b>			
Contributions and grants	\$ 48,113	-	\$ 48,113
In kind donations	668	-	668
Investment return, net	(77,185)	-	(77,185)
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUES AND GAINS</b>	<b>\$ (28,404)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ (28,404)</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program	126,072	-	126,072
Management and general	27,176	-	27,176
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>153,248</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>153,248</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(181,652)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(181,652)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$1,998,636	-	\$1,998,636
END OF YEAR	\$1,816,984	-	\$1,816,984



# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS AND INITIATIVES



Clockwise, Phil Loftus with VISION publisher Patrice Tuohy and Sister Boram Lee, F.M.A, outside ABC Studios in New York; with NCCW President Maribeth Stewart Blogoslawski in Atlanta; with Bishop Gustavo García-Siller, M.Sp.S. in San Antonio; and with the 2019 attendees of the annual Religious Brothers Conference outside of the Alamo.

## OUR MISSION

The National Fund for Catholic Religious Vocations (NFCRV) serves as a sign of hope in the future of consecrated life and is dedicated to increasing the number of women and men entering religious communities.

The Fund hopes to accomplish this goal by:

Offering financial assistance to religious institutes so that they may accept candidates who have student loan obligations.

Assisting congregations in developing policies and resources so that they may work effectively with those who have educational debt.

Inviting contributors to invest so that the vital legacy of religious life continues for the Church and the world.

The Fund awards grants based on need. Any canonically recognized religious institute with membership in the National Religious Vocation Conference may apply for a grant to service a candidate's educational debt during formation.



*Established by the National Religious Vocation Conference*

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