National Religious Vocation Conference New England and Southeast Regions

MINUTES November 28, 2023, Via ZOOM 1 – 3 pm MT

Attendees: 18 participants from NE, SE, MAC directors, NRVC Staff & presenters

Topic of Presentation: Cultivating Curiosity and Belonging: Cultural Values and Communications (presenter = Haley Todd, JustLove LLC)

1:05 PM MT

- Sr. Regina Hlavac opened the meeting with a prayer entitled "Transforming Grace".
- Sr. Regina gave a brief introduction to Haley and the presentation.
- Haley introduced herself, and then all participants gave a brief introduction.

1:20 PM MT

- Haley shared the screen with the presentation and co-presented with Dr. Pablo Ofaola; both presenters gave backgrounds and foundational application of their presentation.
- All participants added (into the Chat) their goals for diversity from today's event answering the question "What compelled me to be here?"
- Agenda and Objectives:
 - Expanding and understanding cultural intelligence
 - o Deep awareness of our own cultural markers
 - Understanding communication and values in the workplace and as applied to NRVC interactions
 - o How to apply cultural intelligence to our own areas
- Haley defined "norms" for the meeting regarding muting, space, confidentiality, etc.; useful for this and future meetings in our communities
- Discussion on Cultivating Curiosity and Belonging through Gospel Values
 - Moving from monocultural to multicultural views
 - Dignity, belonging, and justice are Gospel values and the fullness of oneself to become one community
 - o "I" culture vs. "we" culture and the impact on the pursuit of justice
 - It's an ongoing journey
- Discussion around the definition of culture
- Discussion about Identity Formation and personal identity (more than race)
- Discussion on organizational intelligence
- Discussion on cultural values
 - Clues to improve cultural intelligence include understanding your own cultural value and biases
- 5-minute "think time" then send to break-out rooms
- Break Out Room Topics...
 - o Cultural Markers?
 - o Beliefs?
 - o Values?
 - o Concept of Culture?
 - o Core part? Flex part? Knots?
- Discussed clues to see/listen/acknowledge sticky moments in communication

- Gave examples of communication and miscommunication based on cultural ideas/bias/race/gender/power/etc.
- Noted expert guides and supports will help your community and personal continued growth
- NOTE: High EQ (self-awareness) is crucial for high CQ (cultural awareness)

Questions and Comments to conclude and review. Reminded participants to take the survey.

Closed Session at 3:02 PM MT