



Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth

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For Immediate Release

CONVENT STATION - Leaders of communities of Catholic Sisters, members of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, recently joined together to provide financial support for two environmental nonprofits, *Waterspirit*, headquartered in Rumson, New Jersey, and *PennEnvironment*, headquartered in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Their three-year donations commitment comes at a moment when governments from around the world are meeting in Montreal for a United Nations Biodiversity conference, known as COP15.

The Catholic women religious leaders represent more than twenty religious communities collaborating to mitigate the harmful impact of climate change. Although each community of Sisters educates, takes action, and advocates for the protection of the environment, they are strengthening their influence by partnering with other each other to support the work of agencies whose work correlates with their values.

After discussing and voting in favor of a collective donation this year and again in 2023 and 2024, each congregation sent its contribution to the fund. The donation will support the work of *Waterspirit* and *PennEnvironment* to raise awareness of climate change and slow down its harmful impact so that future generations will have access to clean air, water, and energy. *PennEnvironment* (www.pennenvironment.org) is not directly affiliated with any religious group. *Waterspirit* (www.waterspirit.org) is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace. Below are the names of the communities whose leaders support this initiative.

Benedictine Sisters of Elizabeth, NJ (OSB)
Bernardine Franciscan Sisters (OSF)
Dominican Sisters of Caldwell (OP)
Dominican Sisters of Hope (OP)
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart (GNSH)
Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (ACJ)
Medical Mission Sisters (MMS)
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary (MSHR)
Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (SMIC)
Missionary Sisters of the Most Blessed Trinity (MSBT)
Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth (SC)
Sisters of Christian Charity (SCC)
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (RSM)
Sisters of St. Cyril & Methodius (SS.C.M.)

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia (OSF)
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace (CSJP)
Sisters of St. Joseph, Philadelphia (SSJ)
Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament (SBS)
Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great (OSBM)
Sisters of the Redeemer (CSR)
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM)
Malvern
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM)
Scranton
Society of the Holy Child Jesus

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The Sisters of Charity were founded by Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Louise de Marillac, in Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1809. In 1859, Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan founded the New Jersey community known as the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. Today the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth are engaged in education, health care, pastoral and social service ministries in 12 dioceses within the United States, El Salvador and Haiti. The Congregation currently numbers 172 vowed members. The Seton Associate relationship has 290 affiliated lay and religious women and men.