Good Shepherd Formation and Partnership Teams – Chrysalis in Integration: Good Shepherd Place, Singapore

February 14 and 15, 2017

"Do you know what draws down God's special protection, which upholds our Institute and gives it such strength? It is the union between us, the spirit of unity." SME

We rejoice and celebrate the coming together of the core members of the Formation and Partnership teams as a significant step towards Integration. We place on record our gratitude towards Sr. Joan Lopez, Province Leader of Singapore-Malaysia for hosting this meeting.



The group of 18 participants including representatives Partnership from and Formation Core Teams, journeyed together, for searching proactive pathways in Integration, ably facilitated by Sr. Anne Dalton.

"Do everything as far as you can for love and you will see what you are capable of!" SME

The Formation team infused the true spirit of love on Valentine's Day as we reflected together on "Journeying through the seasons" and committed to bring to the table all our gifts to enrich the mission.



Co-responsibility in Action:

Gendrie Klein – Breteler urged the group to reflect and discover the benefits of Coresponsibility in action through a series of thought provoking questions. The sample framework of the Co-responsibility module for formation aims at building Mission Competence in the Sisters and Lay Partners engaged in the GS mission and serves as a tool for enabling co-responsibility as a culture in the mission. Through the exercise "See, reflect, act", each one of us shared our roadblocks and our success stories thereby supporting and encouraging one another. It was indeed very encouraging to know that the co-responsibility module is being used in formation programs at different levels. In some units, this module is used in orientation programmes for lay mission partners, whereas in some other units, the module is used in the joint formation programmes for lay and temporary professed sisters.

Gently, we were steered towards creating new support systems (viz. the core member of both teams work together unit-wise wherever possible) to inculcate and nourish coresponsibility in action.

Echo of Pilot Integration Dialogue in Sri Lanka:

The synopsis of the dialogues and inputs shared by **Jill McCorquodale** as an entrée towards Integration, was presented by Sashirekha. A brief overview of *Spiral Dynamics* awakened the group to introspect and move out of their small worlds. *Out of chaos comes order*. The zealous group was motivated to bring forth their best ideas and work in unison. Participants found the mere experience of working together on common issues was an experience of integration in practice. Relationships were strengthened, new bonds created and promise of newness shone from within.

The path isn't a straight line, it's a spiral. You continually come back to things you thought you understood and see deeper truth. The energized group acknowledged that each one of us are leaders who need to work with our heart and head together for enlivening the mission.

Be the change you want to see!

Gendrie Klein – Breteler challenged the group by presenting *Spirit of Leadership*. The need to review, re-imagine and renew ourselves is the symbol of transformational leadership. The four quadrants of change process and its implications prodded us to change from within. We were put "**on the spot**".

Small rumblings grew into bold expressions; challenges were addressed as opportunities for growth, there was a shift from *"I-me-mine to We-us-ours"* and innovative ways were discovered to build relationships, clearly focused towards the growth of co-responsibility in mission.



Co-creators of new paths:

The synergy of the Formation and Partnership teams had a ripple effect. Concrete steps were suggested to make the mission more alive in the respective units and the region as well. The quadrants of change emerged as a useful tool to plan programmes for the future. Sr. Anne Dalton's frequent question, "What colour are you now?" created an awareness on shift of perspectives and transformation.

Recommendation: Integration in Formation:

A proposal to hold a workshop in 2018 for the mission partners (sisters and lay) engaged in the Formation of Lay Mission Partners in an integrated manner was made. This can serve as a platform to share knowledge and resources, build capacity for quality formation development and integrate co-responsibility in action.

"Do what seems best and get things started." SME

At the end of the two days, the two teams were very positive about integrating and stretching the horizon of GS Mission.