



AIC USA®

LADIES OF CHARITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA®

AIC USA

Providing Vincentian Leadership to Women Acting Together Against All Forms of Poverty



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20 April 2020

Dear Association Presidents and Membership,

The Board of Directors of the Ladies of Charity of the United States of America and the Ladies of Charity Association of Knoxville are deeply saddened to announce that because of the extraordinary occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Annual National Assembly, scheduled for August 28-29 has been cancelled. In order to complete the annual business meeting of LCUSA and the election of the Officers and Directors of the LCUSA Board for the 2021-2022 term arrangements are being made to handle the meeting requirements through electronic means. We will be in contact with Association Presidents and their Delegates to inform them of how this process will be carried out. Please make sure your most current email and mailing address are correct or updated to ensure speed and accuracy of the election process.

We are most fortunate that the Knoxville Crowne Plaza has agreed to reserve the same timeframe a year from now and will honor the rates that were originally in place for this assembly. The meeting will be held August 27-28, 2021. The Vincentian Spiritual Moderator Training will immediately follow the 2021 Assembly as previously planned for this year. Correspondence with speakers and program participants is already in process for a smooth transition to 2021.

When the COVID-19 pandemic began, I don't think anyone knew what to expect or how long the quarantine and social distancing would last once implemented throughout our country as well as around the world. Soon to follow the news releases of mass illnesses throughout the globe the cancellation of the 2020 AIC International Meeting in March, hosted by Bogota, Columbia occurred and was followed by the cancellation of LCUSA Spring Meeting of the Board of Directors in Leavenworth Kansas earlier this month. AIC and LCUSA made these decisions based on an abundance of caution due to the projections by global leaders for travel and gatherings. These directives have a non-specific end date as the virus peaks at various times across our country and the world.

Please continue to pray for the victims of this virus and their families that have been adversely affected by the loss of loved ones and the abilities to support

LCUSA NATIONAL SERVICE CENTER • 2816 E. 23rd St., Kansas City, MO 64127

Tel: 816-260-3853 • E-mail: office@ladiesofcharity.us

Web: aic.ladiesofcharity.us



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themselves and their families. Especially pray for our most vulnerable citizens who seek shelter and food, victims for whom shelter in place has a totally different meaning than for those who are seeking necessities at the grocery or must inconveniently wait in line for a purchase. This truly is a great sadness.

We pray for God's continued protection during this uncertain time and that we are always open to receive His plan. We pray that Saint Vincent, Saint Louise, and Saint Elizabeth Ann will help guide us, as they were guided, as we traverse these uncharted waters.

Yours in prayer,

Debbie Chadwick
LCUSA President