



# LADIES OF CHARITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA®

AIC USA

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

MOST REV. DAVID A. ZUBIK, D.D.  
Episcopal Chairman

REV. RICHARD GIELOW, C.M.  
Vincentian Spiritual Advisor

SR. ANN CLAIRE RHOADS, D.C.  
Vincentian Spiritual Moderator

MAUREEN REISER  
Vincentian Spiritual Moderator

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IRENE SIEDLARCZYK, PRESIDENT  
Endicott, NY

MARY NELL WILLIAMS, PRES. ELECT  
Indianapolis, IN

HOLLY WALTER, PAST PRES.  
Lancaster, NY

SUZANNE JOHNSON  
AIC Executive Board, Arcadia, CA

DONNA MONTAGUE, TREASURER  
Overland Park, KS

WINONA NELSON, SECRETARY  
Southern Region, Montgomery, AL

NANCY BIANCULLI, V.P.  
Mid Atlantic Region, Pittsburgh, PA

DEBORAH SELF  
Mid Atlantic Region, Lanham, MD

VIOLA JOHNSON-ROBINSON  
Mid Atlantic Region, Ft. Washington, MD

MARY PAT SULLIVAN, V.P.  
North Central Region, Overland Park, KS

MARY LEE BURLEMANN  
North Central Region, St. Louis, MO

SHARON TERWELP  
North Central Region, Liberty, IL

NATALIE BOONE, V.P.  
Northeastern Region, Westbury, NY

KATHLEEN ROSETI  
Northeastern Region, Williamsville, NY

FRANCES SIMKULET  
Northeastern Region, Port Crane, NY

MARLYSS GILES, V.P.  
Southern Region, Birmingham, AL

CHERYL SMITH  
Southern Region, Little Rock, AR

PAULINA VELEZ  
Southern Region, Miami, FL

HILDA RUIZ, V.P.  
Western Region, Los Angeles, CA

MONICA TRUJILLO  
Western Region, Gallup, NM

CHRIS YOUNG, SERVICETTE ED.  
Western Region, Bountiful, UT

MARGARET HANSON  
Parliamentarian, Binghamton, NY

May 26, 2026

Re: 47th Annual National Assembly, Miami, FL  
September 10-12, 2026

Dear Ladies of Charity,

“Because it is very useful for all holy communities to meet together from time to time in some appropriate place to treat their spiritual advancement and ... to treat the matters that concern the good of the poor and the maintenance of said confraternity.” (St. Vincent de Paul, Rule of the Confraternity of Charity of Châtillon, November 1617).

It is our pleasure and privilege, to join the Ladies of Charity of Miami to invite you to attend the 2026 National Assembly of the Ladies of Charity USA in Miami, Florida. This year's theme is “Charity and Solidarity.”

The Ladies of Charity USA is a national network of approximately 6,000 women who give over one million hours of volunteer service in over 100 communities throughout the US each year. Our Ladies volunteer in food pantries, soup kitchens, thrift stores, and literacy programs. They visit the sick and elderly, feed the homeless, and pray for the souls of those who have passed. They have a special concern for women and children in poverty as well as the elderly. The Ladies of Charity mentor young girls to be caring citizens of our society in our Junior Ladies of Charity programs.

At the Assembly we provide leadership development, formation, and education programs for all attendees, with the goal of alleviating poverty in all forms.

Following the teaching of our founder Saint Vincent de Paul, we gather annually to: provide unity and cooperation among the associations of the Ladies of Charity; animate the Catholic and Vincentian spirit by sharing our rich history, tradition, and prayer; develop leadership, management and governance skills to assure best practices in the associations; encourage the activities of the associations in charity, education and advocacy, individually and in collaboration with the Vincentian family to achieve systemic change; and, advance our understanding of poverty.

You will enjoy everything -- from the day of reflection, keynote speakers and workshop presenters and prayer leaders to social events as well. Most importantly you will meet Ladies of Charity from all parts of the USA!

The Day of Reflection on Thursday will be held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity in Miami. It promises to be a wonderful, spiritual day.

In addition to English, Spanish is spoken by many of the Miami ladies. I have been working to learn Spanish and say to you “Bienvenidos a la Asamblea de las Damas de la Caridad 2026.”

Your presence is important to the success of the Assembly. Please register early and consider supporting the national assembly with a program advertisement or underwriting donation. Donations for the “gift card” raffle or silent auction are also helpful.

With thanks for God's mercy, in the spirit of St. Vincent, St. Louise and St. Elizabeth,

Irene Siedlarczyk, President

MaryLee Burlemann, Assembly Committee Chair

LCUSA NATIONAL SERVICE CENTER • 8001 Longview Road, Kansas City, MO 64134

Tel: 816-260-3853 • E-mail: [office@ladiesofcharity.us](mailto:office@ladiesofcharity.us)

Web: [aic.ladiesofcharity.us](http://aic.ladiesofcharity.us)