



HOLY NAME PROVINCE JPIC PLAN OF ACTION 2011-2012

**APPROVED BY PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
OCT. 27, 2011**

JPIC PLAN OF ACTION 2011-2012

For JPIC efforts in Holy Name Province, we seek to define concrete actions that respond to the HNP Strategic Plan and the Signs of the Time. What follows are goals and directions for the next year and suggestions for building beyond this timeline into the future.

As we implement this Plan of Action, we will review it mid-way, determine any needed adjustments and begin looking to the 2012-2013 plans.

Immigration—the immigration portion of the plan will closely involve the Hispanic Ministry Committee

- 1) Catalogue activity in our ministries in support of immigrants and determine areas in need of more support.
- 2) Send a monthly “immigration myths” statement from the USCCB’s Justice for Immigrants for inclusion in bulletins, newsletters.
- 3) Work with the USCCB’s Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) to produce/distribute a resource to friars and ministries on how best to offer legal direction to immigrants (to include list of resources/resource persons). We also will have an interactive webinar to further discussions of this resource.
- 4) Promote Advocacy work on immigration issues:
 - a. Refer to Justice for Immigrants Campaign for direction on Federal issues.
 - b. When possible, work with ministries in particular states to address state issues.
- 5) Provide resources to ministries to promote citizenship and voter registration drives.
- 6) To prepare for the long-term prospect of advocacy for comprehensive immigration reform, help at least 50% of our ministries to establish groups to build advocacy efforts. To this end, we suggest that each team use either the Justice for Immigrants “Parish Community Organizing Workbook on Immigration,” or *JustFaith’s JustMatters* unit, Crossing Borders.
- 7) Encourage local parish/school units to host "border crossings" or "transforming encounters;" experiences that allow for personal sharing among immigrants and those born in the U.S. The JPIC Office and Hispanic Ministry Committee will provide a guide for running these events.
- 8) Offer support to the Hispanic Ministry Committee for the October 20, 2012 Encuentro Celebration hosted at St. Camillus Parish.

Where we are going: By Chapter 2014, we will have the ability to improve the quality of our service to and with immigrants and have a significant number of our ministries poised to do advocacy in support of immigrants and comprehensive immigration reform.

JPIC Team for Immigration: Larry Hayes, Gonzalo Torres, Megan Nerz & Russ Testa

Care for Creation

- 1) Craft a statement that expresses how Franciscan values inform the national debate over the global climate change, its consequences on the poor and vulnerable, and the urgent need to create more jobs in a transition to a clean energy future and sustainable economy. This statement will be submitted to the Provincial Council for approval.

- 2) Develop a set of guidelines and statements to guide the Province and its ministries in regard to Hydraulic Fracturing Mining—often referred to as “Fracking.” Determine how best to use these materials.
- 3) Reach out in creative ways to the high school youth and young adults at our colleges, campus ministries and parishes and engage them in environmental justice issues. This effort will build up towards a promotion of a large event in 2012 organized by Power Shift – a rapidly growing, nation-wide, grassroots movement for climate justice among high school and college students.
- 4) Organize a gathering of some of the key PIMs and friars who have been actively involved in care for creation efforts for the purpose of:
 - a. Analyzing the current state of HNP with regard to care for creation efforts and identifying our unique challenges and opportunities.
 - b. Exploring the prospect of organizing a conference or set of mini-conferences for friars and PIMs to assist them in developing the capacity to better integrate care for creation into what they are already doing.

NOTES:

- Incorporate an interfaith dimension to the plan.
 - Once this plan is developed, it would be submitted to the Provincial Council for approval.
- 5) Send monthly “Franciscan care for creation” stories that present Franciscan positions on a variety of challenges related to the environment and amplify successful examples of the Franciscan response to the ecological crisis. This resource will be designed so our ministries can include the stories in their bulletins, newsletters and websites.

Where we are going: We need to raise the importance of care for creation issues in the Province. Many friars and PIMs struggle to further integrate Franciscan values and views of creation into their personal lives and ministries. Over the next years, we seek to change this reality and help “care for creation” move to its proper place in Holy Name Province Franciscan life.

JPIC Team for Care for Creation: Jacek Orzechowski, Karl Koenig, Suzanne Kush, and Russ Testa

Peacemaking-Spirit of Assisi-Interfaith Dialogue

- 1) Promote resources for October 27, 2011 - 25th Anniversary of the Spirit of Assisi.
- 2) Establish an interfaith dialogue working group to review/develop resources that local ministries can use to promote interfaith dialogue “best practices.”
 - a. Compile what local ministries are doing with regard to interfaith collaboration – what are they doing that works?
 - b. Put together a “how to” guide for building interfaith bridges between communities. Include contact information on working group members/other resource people for those who want further help.
- 3) Keep the Spirit of Assisi as a theme for year-long efforts at civil dialogue and interfaith collaboration. Encourage the following activities:
 - a. Participation in Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) March 23-26, 2012 (Goal: 70% of HNP ministries represented at the gathering). EAD is an ecumenical gathering during which participants advocate collectively in Washington, DC on justice issues.
 - b. Interfaith Power and Light Initiatives
 - c. Development of on-going interaction with at least one local Muslim community (*JustFaith* offers a good resource).

- d. Bringing civil dialogue to 2012 election discussions in our ministries (JPIC Office/Directorate to develop tools to this end).

Where we are going: Our long-range goal is to create the capacity for our ministries to be proficient in Franciscan-inspired inter-religious dialogue and actions for justice; once the capacity is created, we hope to put it into action.

JPIC Team for Peacemaking-Spirit of Assisi-Interfaith Dialogue: Russel Murray and Russ Testa; invitations to Michael Calabria and Bob Menard for interfaith dialogue.

The Federal Budget and Care for the Poor

- 1) Review, develop and disseminate a series of short (1-2 page) resources to help the friars and PIMs discuss the issues from a Catholic/Franciscan perspective.
 - a. Allied Sources: "Education for Justice," WISC-"Faithful Budget Campaign," and "Circle of Protection Campaign."
 - b. Offer concrete resources for homilists and bulletins from Oct. 2011 up to early December 2011 - the period during which the Super Committee is to make its decisions.
- 2) Participate in timely advocacy action with trusted groups/partners.
- 3) For 2012 and the elections—provide resources and dialog on how to ensure that persons who are poor are not forgotten in the discussion.
 - a. A key component will be participation in the 2012 Ecumenical Advocacy Days, March 23-26, 2012, where the topic is the Federal Budget and its impacts on those who live in poverty, both in and outside the U.S.
 - b. Continue to work with key allies (e.g., Education for Justice, WISC, Circle of Protection) to keep this issue before those with whom we minister.
 - c. Use the HNP Website as a portal for dissemination of these and any other newly identified quality resources.

Where we are going: Without a clear moral compass, the economy of our nation is not likely to improve the lives of the people who have been systemically disfranchised, neglected and even scapegoated. What is needed is a change in vision and direction - a new definition of a "good economy." We will analyze our current reality, explore what a more Franciscan-inspired vision could mean, and develop ways to bring it into practice.

JPIC Team for Federal Budget and Care for the Poor: Stephen DeWitt, John Gill and Russ Testa; Russel Murray will assist on some items.

Other areas and directions:

- 1) We will continue to develop the website and other means of communications in an effort to help each of our ministries better connect with one another.
- 2) We will review and further develop models that foster the capacity of individual friaries and ministries to integrate JPIC into their fraternal life and ministry.
 - a. Explore the "gathering and sending" program currently being piloted in Camden for expansion to other ministries within the Province.
 - b. Learn about and build upon the care for creation capacity building effort in Triangle, VA and other key ministries where the environmental justice has become an integrated part of ministry.