



**2013.05**

## **Cedar Rapids Regional Community Collection**

### **Repository**

Mercy Heritage Center  
720 Heritage Center Place  
Belmont NC 28012

### **Preferred Citation:**

Cedar Rapids Regional Community Collection, Mercy Archives, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

### **Creator:**

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Cedar Rapids Regional Community.

### **Physical Description:**

81 linear feet, including:

- Documents
- Photos
- Bound items
- Audio Reels
- DVDs
- VHS Tapes
- Film Reels (various formats)

### **Dates:**

1875-2010

### **Access:**

Some files may be subject to restrictions. Consult Mercy Heritage Center archivists for more information.

Because of the nature of certain archival formats, including digital and audio-visual materials, access will require additional advanced notice.

A box and folder list is available upon request.

**Custodial History:**

This collection was retained by the Cedar Rapids community, part of the West Midwest Community, until its transfer to Mercy Heritage Center in 2013.

**History:**

The Sisters of Mercy came to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from Davenport and Independence, Iowa in 1875 to teach at St. Joseph's Academy. The new community's first superior was Mother Mary Agnes Mullany. The Sisters education ministry soon expanded, including St. Berchman's in Marion, Iowa, established in 1906. Sacred Heart Academy, also established in 1906, became Mt. Mercy Jr. College, 1958 which became a four year institution in 1957. The Cedar Rapids community also taught in schools throughout Iowa, Minnesota, Montana and Arizona. The community also opened hospitals: Mercy Hospitals in Anamosa, Iowa in 1894 and later hospitals Oelwein, Iowa and Kalispell, Montana.

The Cedar Rapids community remained an independent Mercy community until joining the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy in 1991 and becoming part of the West Midwest Community of the Institute in 2008.

**Scope and Content:**

The collection is divided into ten series based on provenance, format and subject. The series Committees and Activities primarily contains information about community life, but also includes some ministry related material. Conferences includes community governance organizations, both internal (Leadership Conference of Women Religious) and internal (Federation of the Sisters of Mercy). The History series includes the majority of ministry-related information, both historical and twentieth century works. Mercy Heritage Center also holds additional unprocessed material from the Cedar Rapids community. Consult staff for more information about accrued materials.

**Series**

Administration (ADM)

Committees and Activities (COM)

Conferences (CONF)

Mercy Futures (FUTURES)

Finance (FIN)

Governance (GOV)

History (HIST)

Membership (MEM)

Vocation (VOC)

Audio-Visual