

2013.07

Detroit Regional Community Collection

Repository

Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC 28012

Physical Description:

461 linear feet, including
Documents
Photographs
Sound Recordings
Bound volumes
Published reports, directories, theses, dissertations
Scrapbooks
VHS Tapes
Digital Media
Architectural Drawings

Dates:

1873-2011

Restrictions:

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

Provenance:

This collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center from the former Detroit Regional Community Archives in Farmington Hills, Michigan in 2013.

History:

The former Province/Regional Community of Detroit was originally five separate foundations in Michigan, Iowa, Argentina and Indiana.

Sisters of Mercy from Ireland, led by Mother Mary Evangelista Fitzpatrick, established a foundation in **Argentina** in 1856.

The **Independence, Iowa/Fort Dodge** community was established in 1869 by Mother Mary Francis Monholland.

In 1873, Mother Mary Joseph Lynch arrived in **Grand Rapids, Michigan** from Brooklyn, NY to open an academy. The sisters moved to Big Rapids in 1878 but moved their motherhouse back to Grand Rapids in 1914. In 1926 the community sent sisters to New Mexico

The **Dubuque, Iowa**, community was founded 1879 with Mother Mary Agatha Murphy as first Superior. The Dubuque community (which merged with the Independence, Iowa community in 1922) joined the Union of the Sisters of Mercy in the United States in August, 1929 as part of the Omaha Province. However, in August, 1930, the Mother General and Council decided to move the Dubuque community to the Cincinnati Province because Dubuque had so many missions (7) in Michigan and the Michigan communities belonged to the Cincinnati Province.

In 1923, Sisters M. Magdalen Bennett and Vincent McDermott came from Aurora, Illinois to establish a community in **Indiana**. In 1928, at the request of the bishop, sisters from Grand Rapids assumed responsibility for the ministries there.

When the Sisters of Mercy of the Union was formed in 1929, the Michigan, Iowa and Indiana communities were assigned to the Cincinnati Province until the creation of the Detroit Province in 1940. In 1962, the Argentina joined the Union and became part of the Detroit Province. In 1991, the Detroit Province joined the newly formed Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas as the Regional Community of Detroit. In 2008, the Regional Community of Detroit became part of the West Midwest Community. Argentina became part of the Caribbean, Central America and South America Community (CCASA).

Sisters from the Regional Community of Detroit have taught in approximately 89 parochial schools and established 36 hospitals.

Scope and Content:

This collection is organized into seven series: History, Membership, Healthcare, Non-Healthcare Ministries, Other Ministries/Convents, Detroit Administration and National Governance. Photographs and Audio-Visual materials are grouped into separate series by type.

Series/Subseries:

100 History

- 101** Catherine McAuley, Constitutions (1837-2008)
- 102** Ireland, Baggot Street, early Sisters of Historical Significance
- 103** Foundations that became the Regional Community of Detroit: Independence, Iowa; Dubuque, Iowa; Grand Rapids diocese; Michigan; Toledo, Ohio; Jackson, Michigan; Hammond, Indiana; Amalgamation into the Cincinnati Province
- 104** Cincinnati Province (1929-1940)
- 105** Detroit Community (1940-2008)

- 106** Argentina as part of the Regional Community of Detroit (1959-2006)
- 107** Special Collection: Research of Sister Mary Agneta Bush for her book:
When the Lord Calls:
- 108** West Midwest Community (2005-2008)
- 109** Institute history through Regional Communities (not Detroit)
- 110** Special Collection of Buenos Aires Community (Argentina) 1856-2006:
- 111** Mercy Images/Symbols/Customs

200 Membership

- 200** General
- 202** Deceased Members
- 203** Former Vowed Members
- 204** Associate Members
- 260** Miscellaneous Groups of Sisters
- 265** Special Collections
- 270** Mercy Volunteer Corps

300 Healthcare

- 301** Indiana: Dyer, Hammond, Munster
- 302** Iowa: Algona, Clinton, Cresco, Dubuque, Fort Dodge, Mason City, Sioux City, Waverly, Webster
- 303** Michigan: Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Battle Creek, Bay City, Big Rapids, Cadillac, Detroit, Dowagiac, Grand Rapids, Grayling, Jackson, Lansing, Livonia, Manistee, Mt. Clemens/Macomb County, Pontiac/Oakland County, Port Huron, Rochester
- 309** Healthcare ministry, general. (Including nursing homes, non-institutional health care, Parish nurse programs, alternative health care practitioners.)
- 310** Schools of Nursing in Indiana, Iowa and Michigan:
 - Iowa: Clinton, Dubuque, Fort Dodge, Mason City, Sioux City, Waverly
 - Michigan: Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Cadillac, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Grayling, Jackson, Lansing, Manistee, Muskegon, Pontiac, Mercy Central
 - School of Nursing Degree Program – Mercy College of Detroit 1941 – present

350 Hospital Corporations 1879 – 2008: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan (Grand Rapids, Detroit, Lansing), 1976 – 2000 Sisters of Mercy Health Corporation, Mercy Health Services, 2000 Catholic Health Service as a Public Juridic Person sponsoring Trinity Health

360 Healthcare in Michigan: Michigan Catholic Health Association, Collaboration of Catholic Health Care Systems in Michigan

400 Non-healthcare Ministries

401 Mercy College of Detroit/University of Detroit Mercy (MCD/UDM)

402 Our Lady of Mercy High School/Mercy High School

403 Mount Mercy College and Academy/Mount Mercy Continuing Development Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan

404 Mercy Center – Farmington Hills, Michigan

405 Other Sponsored Ministries: Vacation Houses, Houses of Prayer, Mercy Housing, Our Lady of Guadalupe Middle School, Mount St. Agnes, Mercy Education Project, Frances Warde Study Center

420 Parish/Diocesan Schools/Parish Convents

425 Iowa: Ackley, Bankston, Dubuque, Eagle Center, Early, Fort Dodge, Gilbertville, Independence, Larchwood, Mason City, Monti, Sioux City, Waverly

426 Michigan: Ada, Auburn, Bay City, Belding, Belmont, Berkley, Big Rapids, Cadillac, Cheboygan, Conklin, Dearborn, Detroit, Gladwin, Grand Haven, Grand Rapids, Greenville, Hazel Park, Hemlock, Holland, Howell, Lansing, Ludington, Manistee, Metz, Midland, Muskegon, Pinconning, Port Huron, Posen, Prudenville, Reese, Remus, Rogers City, Saginaw, Temperance, Traverse City, Wyoming

427 New Mexico: Carrizozo, Clovis, Costilla

428 Ohio: Cincinnati

429 Tennessee: Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville

500 Other Ministries, Convents, Residences

501 Education/Religious Education

502 Poverty and Social Reform Institute

503 Groundwork – Detroit participation

504 Mercy Volunteer Corps – Detroit participation:

505 Artistic Works: Sister artists, Sister musicians, Sister writers

506 Justice ministries: Missioners, Urban Poor Ministries

507 Miscellaneous Ministries: Pastoral Ministry, Alternative for Girls, Housekeeping, Volunteer direct ministry to the poor, Mercy Housing, Ministry to the Elderly, Adult Home care, etc.

550 Other Residences/Convents: non-hospital convents that the Community owned or rented.

600 Detroit Administration

601 Detroit Leadership Council/Team: Minutes of their meetings 1940-March, 2005

602 Detroit Province, Inc

603 Regional Community of Detroit, Inc.

604 Mercy College of Detroit, Inc.

605 Our Lady of Mercy/Mercy High School, Inc.

606 Mount Mercy Academy Incorporation

607 Sisters of Mercy Health Corporation/Trinity Health/Catholic Health
Ministries

615 Detroit Leadership Councils/Teams

616 Leadership Governance – General 1940-2008

Supportive Administrative Offices

617 Provincial Secretary/Administrative Assistant Department

618 Provincial (Procurator) Treasurer Department

618-04 Rescripts:

618-11 Properties:

618-11i-618-11p The Farmington Project 1963-67

618-12 Sisters' Retirement Fund (Charitable Trust)

618-13 Sisters' Dowry and Inheritance Fund

618-14 Sister Mary Raymond O'Leary Ministry Fund

618-15 Ministry Funds

618-16 Retirement Plan for Employees

618-19 Financial Books of the Province/Regional Community

619 Development Director/Office

620 Justice Office

621 Communications Office/Directors

622 Technology Office

625 Ministry/Apostolate of the Sisters

636 Community Life

637 Retirement Communities/Services/Center: McAuley Center, Dubuque, McAuley Center, Farmington Hills, Mount Mercy, St. Gertrude's Convent

638 Association

650 Initial and On-going Formation/ Spirituality: Novitiate, Initial Formation programs, Continuing Development, Programs, Theses and Dissertations for advanced degrees, etc.

660 Chapter/Assemblies/Mercy Life Conference

675 Committees/commissions/task forces

690 Detroit Participation in activities/projects of the Union/Federation/
Institute

700 National Governance Organizations

Union of the Sisters of Mercy in the United States (1929-1991)

725 History of Union

726 General Administrative Councils/Team

727 General Chapters

728 Union Committee/ Commissions/Task Forces

729 Finance/Legal affairs/Property

730 Miscellaneous: Reports, surveys, membership criteria, Associate program,
Worcester Community

731 Union Projects

732 Events

733 Publications

Federation of the Sisters of Mercy in the United (1955 – 1991)

750 The McAuley Conference 1955-1969; History of Federation; By-laws/etc.

751 Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, etc

752 Publications

753 Executive Director and officers 1965 – 1989

754 Annual Meetings 1955 - 1989 includes 1981 Trocaire in Dublin

755 Ad Hoc Projects

756 Celebrations

757 Education Ministry

Institute of the Sisters of Mercy in the Americas (1991-present)

775 General information/History

776 Leadership Teams

777 General Chapter

778 Commissions/Committees/ Task Forces

779 Legal/Financial processes/projects/funds

780 Membership

Mercy Identity (symbols, Mercy pins, etc.)

781 Ad Hoc Projects

782 Events

783 Ministry

784 Communications/Publications

Photographs: (85 boxes) *Boxes are organized by subject and location and grouped together by series and subseries numbers as listed above. Please contact Mercy Heritage Center Archivists for more information.*

Audio-Visual Materials: (5 film reels, 24 boxes of audio and video, 10 boxes of slides) *Includes DVDs, VHS, CDs, slides and sound recordings. Please contact Mercy Heritage Center Archivists for more information.*