



# **BACKGROUND**

**All Africa Conference Sister to Sister - AACSS**

**11<sup>th</sup> February, 2025**

## All about Africa Conference Sister to Sister AACSS

AAC:SS supports women religious in sub-Saharan African countries – Cameroon, Nigeria, Malawi, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. We collaborate with women religious in these countries to develop programs and resources that help them meet societal and economic needs in the communities where they live, lead, and serve.

The AAC:SS model, which began as a way to help women religious understand and manage the HIV/AIDS crisis, continues to expand. By training sisters, who in turn adapt materials and train other sisters in their own countries, women religious in Africa continue to grow as individuals and enhance their capacity to serve others.

All plans and programs are developed with input from religious sisters in Africa who express needs based on their experiences within their communities and among the people they serve.

## All about Africa Conference Sister to Sister AACSS

- AAC:SS supports women religious in six, sub-Saharan African countries – Cameroon, Nigeria, Malawi, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. We collaborate with women religious in these countries to develop programs and resources that help them meet spiritual and economic needs in the communities where they live, lead, and serve.
- The AAC:SS model, which began as a way to help women religious understand and manage the HIV/AIDS crisis, continues to expand. By training sisters, who in turn adapt materials and train other sisters in their own countries, women religious in Africa continue to grow as individuals and enhance their capacity to serve others.
- All plans and programs are developed with input from religious sisters in Africa, who express needs based on their experiences within their communities and among the people they serve.

## Cont...

- It was founded by Religious Sisters, Sr. Margaret Farley who later invited Sr. Eileen Hogan, Religious Sister of Mercy of Americas (RSM) in 2002 as a resource to help women refugees in Africa.



Sr. Margaret Farley, RSM



Sr. Eileen Hogan, RSM

## Cont..

- The first conference of AAC:SS happened in 2003 in Nairobi Kenya.
- ✦ The model equips sisters from many congregations to learn, collaborate, train, and support one another.

# Vision and Mission

## **Vision**

**We, women religious and partners, recognized as leaders in church and society, model the power of global collaboration as a way to improve the lives of others.**

## **Mission**

**To bring religious sisters and lay partners together to create strategic initiatives that respond to the needs identified by women religious in sub-Saharan Africa.**

**This collaborative process empowers leaders and invites all people to a shared responsibility for a world in need of healing and love.**

# Strategic Initiatives for AAC: SS

- Identify and Create Collaborative Opportunities
- Foster shared responsibility for Sister to Sister
- Support a culture of Sustainability



# • Strategic Enablers

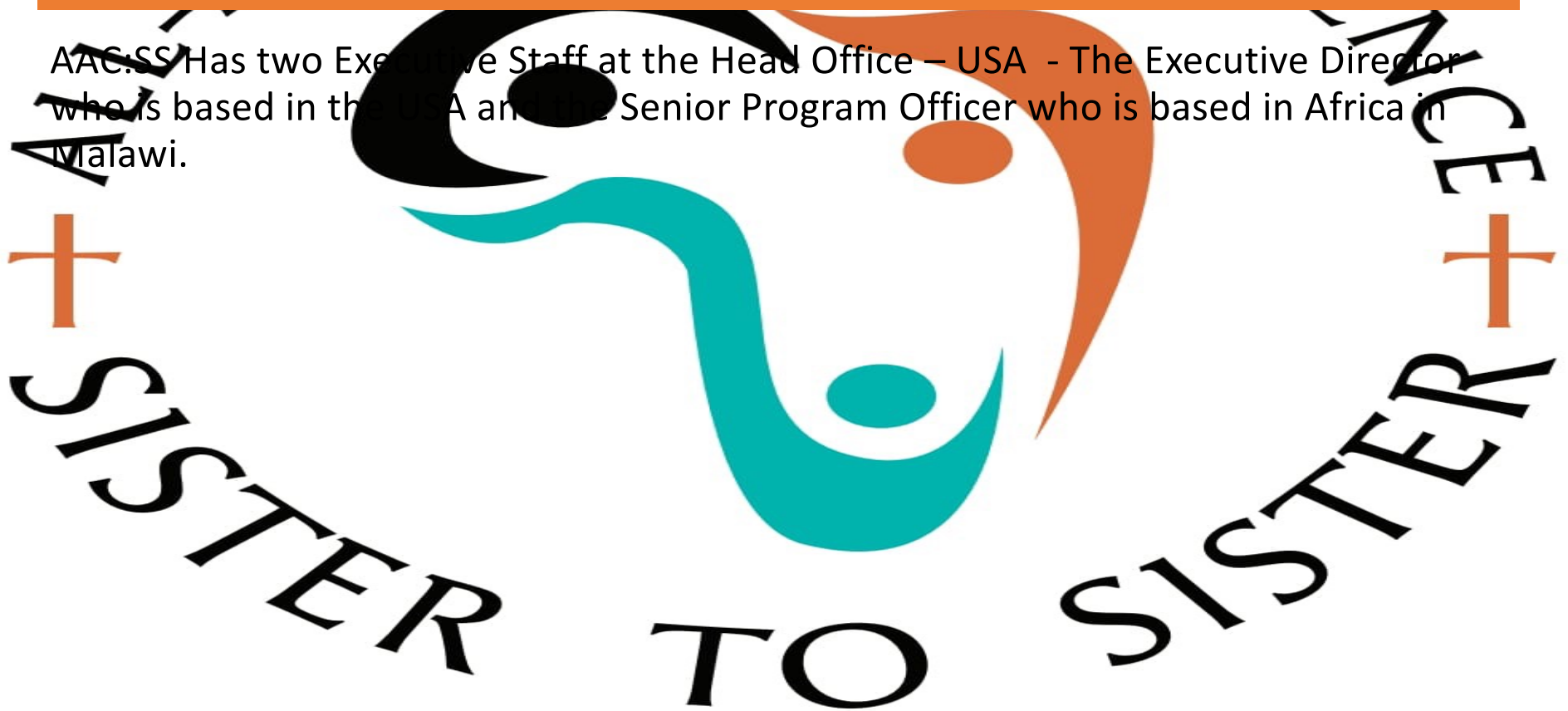
- Appropriate Staffing for the future
- Targeted Marketing plan to support the mission
- Enhance African and US development efforts





# Leadership

AAC:SS Has two Executive Staff at the Head Office – USA - The Executive Director who is based in the USA and the Senior Program Officer who is based in Africa in Malawi.



# Country Coordinators

In the six Countries, FSS operates in collaboration with Conferences of Major Religious Superior through Country Coordinators. These are Sisters well known to their Sisters and ready to work for them and also working very closely with their country teams.



# ALL-AFRICA CONFERENCE + SISTER TO SISTER TO

- The team operates in conjunction with the Conference of Major Superiors (National Association).
- Now we have project coordinators and operating according to the specification of the project, like Mission Sustainability we have Sr. Joanne Whitiker, Sr. Editrudis Kajuna a Project Coordinator for Religious Sisters Counselors Network Initiative and Sr. Helen Marie Burns, RSM a Leadership program coordinator.
- Country Coordinators and project coordinators report to the Senior Program Officer. They share information to the Conference of Major Superiors in their Country
- Each team selects in their meetings, topics of workshops they will carry out that particular year depending on their needs.
- Project coordinators their focus is the project they are coordinating with a reason to fulfill its objectives and expectations for AACSS and the Donors.

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AAC:SS STAFF



Sr. Rosemary Jeffries, RSM  
Executive Director



Sr. Eneless Chimbali, SBVM  
Senior Program Officer

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**Sr. Joanne Whitakers, RSM  
Mission Sustainability  
Project Coordinator**



**Sr. Editrudis Kajuna, OLCG  
Religious Sisters Counselors  
Network Initiative Project**



**Sr. Juliet Ching'ambo, SCJ  
Country Coordinator  
Zambia**



**Sr. MaryGladys Mugadza  
Country Coordinator  
Zimbabwe**



**Sr. Emily Stivelia MaCloud,  
SBVM  
Country Coordinator Malawi**



**Sr. Helen Burns Program  
Coordinator Leadership  
Program**



**Srs. Felicitas and Sr. Solange  
Country Coordinators –  
Cameroon**



**Sr. Anna Grace Alum  
Country Coordinator  
Uganda**

# PROGRAMS

- Leadership - Prepares the Sisters for the modern age of leadership with skills, knowledge, and techniques
- Mission Sustainability – Prepares sisters for local fundraising collaboration and networking
- Religious Sisters Counsellors Network Initiative – Counselling with a Counseling Hub in Uganda – Prepares the Sisters and the communities where they serve with informed best practices in mental health counselling
- Technology Project – Ensures that Sisters have access to information by providing internet in the communities of the Sisters.
- Regular meetings depending on the needs of the Sisters in that particular country



# Funding

AACSS receives funding from different donors depending on the programs/projects being carried out in a particular period.

Currently we have funding from

- Raskob Foundation
- Sisters of Mercy
- Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

And many others who are dedicated to finance our programs.

ALL-AMERICA CONFERENCE  
+  
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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

