

Audit 3

CHARACTERISTICS OF A MERCY MINISTRY

This activity could be used with a whole staff to focus on key elements of a Mercy culture. Make each section into a card and use as a group activity. Invite staff to give examples for each section and to add to the Mercy characteristics.

MERCY PEOPLE	MERCY STRUCTURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus on the dignity of every person • collaboration and teamwork • welcome and hospitality • embrace of diversity • courage to step beyond boundaries • leadership succession • encouragement of the gifts of all • affirmation and acknowledgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mercy values reflected in policies, structures and programs • a living mission statement in place • community focus and partnerships for mercy • non-hierarchical structures • open communication and dialogue • induction and formation priorities
MERCY VALUES	MERCY OUTREACH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forgiveness • reconciliation • compassion • mercy • justice • kindness • hospitality • inclusivity • courage • excellence • respect • stewardship • service • dignity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special commitment to the poor • active voice for justice • witness to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy • mission focus • support for indigenous people • justice programs • response to global concerns • ecological action and care for the Earth
MERCY CONNECTION	MERCY ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working with other Mercy ministries • connecting to Mercy Global initiatives • involvement of Sisters of Mercy in the ministry • connecting to Mercy formation and professional development opportunities • support of pilgrimages • advocacy as a united Mercy voice • offering support to Mercy and potential Mercy leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • telling and retelling the Mercy story • active leadership mentoring • community programs and outreach • quest for excellence • forming community through connection • inclusion of those on the outskirts • budgeting for mission • meeting and engaging current challenges • a commitment to mercy in action • a special focus on education of those most vulnerable

May we also be animated by the kindling fire of Catherine McAuley's charism – her daring vision and courage, immense practicality, heartfelt compassion, humour and hospitality – and, within and beyond all these qualities, a woman of prayer with a total trust in the Providence of God