

IMPLEMENTATION

Among the continuation of our shared responses and discussions about our Big Picture Conversations are some remaining questions—What now? What is going to happen to our aspirational and intentional expressions, as Sister Suzanne Mayer stated so well, from our conversations together? How will these statements lead us into the deepening of living prayerful and loving relationships, committing to responsible membership, and embarking on a future direction of collaboration with and for the Mission?

Sisters, the how of this implementation is going to be very different for us and from what we are used to. “Behold, I Make All Things New, Listen.” The work of our Chapter thus far is providing the threads for our future direction. It has been the compass pointing us in our future direction. The implementation is what remains-- the weaving of these threads to become the tapestry of who and what we feel God is calling us to actively and intentionally become at this point and time in our IHM history—to create the map that paves the paths of our future.

Once our direction statement has been affirmed and approved by all of us, together with our essence statements and the collective wisdom of our sharing, the new general administration, calling forth for our individual, local, and communal commitment will invite us into participation for Chapter implementation. This may take the form of enactments for implementation, committees, and/or integrating them into our regional, local, and congregational governance. Giving these examples does not mean that they are the definitive ways for Chapter implementation. They provide possible scenarios; however, assuredly a structure will be implemented.

Just as in the past we have had to wait a short period of time for the General Administration to convene and communicate a chosen structure, the same can be expected for Chapter 2023. Sisters, we have shared openly and honestly about what we imagine right now for our lived communal experiences—voicing our desires to call one another and ourselves to inner and external transformation. May our collective love and desire be the impetus that leads us to begin right now.