Finance team begins implementation plan
The Stewardship Implementation Team, which is made up of all the chief financial officers from across the Institute, has been visiting local leadership teams and their finance staffs to talk about new structures, processes and timing. A goal of the team is to develop a single department, composed of current finance staff, by June 30, 2021.

“The new structure will mirror current finance department structures across the Institute,” says Donna Yoder, the Institute’s chief financial officer, who leads the implementation team. “We are using a phased approach with operational components being transitioned over the next two years.”

A new financial software system, which will integrate financial functions of all the former Communities into the new civil structure, is also being put into place. (See article on civil structures in this issue of Mercy Now.) The Institute is currently using this new database, which the former Communities will phase in over time.

“The new system will allow us to get accurate financial reporting information across the Institute and is also user-friendly to the staff who work with the data,” says Tim Doyle, Mid-Atlantic finance officer and a member of the implementation team. This behind-the-scenes activity should have minimal impact on sisters.

“It is great we are becoming one entity and working as a team,” says Connie Torres, an accounts payable clerk in South Central who has been working in the database for about a month. “When there is change everyone gets nervous, but to find out the plans for the future gave me peace of mind.”
Photo: The Institute chief financial officers—Jill Gemma, Tim Doyle, Donna Yoder, Becky VandenBosch and Jack Bartley (left to right)—visit the local leadership team and their finance staff in Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Credit: Cathy Walsh