New Hampshire Regional Community Collection

Repository
Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC, 28012

Physical Description:
102 linear feet, including
- Documents
- Books
- Photographs, Slides
- Sound recordings
- Bound volumes
- Published reports, directories, theses and dissertations

Dates:
1858-2006

Restrictions:
Some files are subject to restriction, including certain records relating to membership and governance. Consult Mercy Heritage Center Archivists for more information.

Provenance:
This collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center, Belmont, North Carolina in November, 2011 from the Sisters of Mercy, Northeast Community Archives in Windham, New Hampshire.

History:
The history of the New Hampshire community of the Sisters of Mercy begins in 1858, when Mother Frances Warde and four other sisters arrived in Manchester from their foundation in Providence, Rhode Island. The sisters promptly began to instruct children and mill workers, opening a free school and Mt. St. Mary Academy.

The New Hampshire community founded a number of new Mercy communities, including foundations in New Jersey, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Maine.

Through the years the community operated the House of St. Martha, a residence for working women, Sacred Heart Hospital, homes for the elderly, orphanages, a school of nursing and two
colleges, Castle College and Marian Court College. The New Hampshire community also served in Massachusetts, South Carolina, California, Colombia, Tanzania, and Central America. In the 1980s, the New Hampshire community became involved in the Sanctuary Movement. In the 1990s and 2000s, New Hampshire sisters have served in a variety of ministries, serving those in need through education, social services and justice initiatives.

In 1991, the New Hampshire community joined the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas as the New Hampshire Regional Community. In 2006 the community became part of the Northeast Community of the Sisters of Mercy

**Scope and Content:**

The collection is organized into two main subgroups, History and Administration, and is organized into eighteen series based on function, location and format. The collection includes records related to community governance and administration, individual members and the ministries staffed or owned by the New Hampshire community. Three dimensional objects are stored and cataloged as part of Mercy Heritage Center’s artifact collection.
SCHEMA

History

H000 Rare Books
H100 Catherine McAuley
H200 Frances Warde
    H204 Persons Associated with Frances Warde
H300 Sisters of Mercy: General
H360 Sisters of Mercy: New Hampshire
H400 Reverend Mothers/Pretidents
H500 Religious Life
H600 Celebrations
H700 Sponsored Ministries
    H710.1 Castle College
    H710.2 Our Lady of Grace Academy
    H710.3 Marian Court Kindergarten
    H710.4 Mercy Center for Children
    H710.5 Mt. St. Mary Academy/Seminary
    H710.51 Mt. St. Mary Academy
    H710.52 Mt. St. Mary Day School
    H710.53 Mt. St. Mary Academy, Elm Street, Manchester
    H710.54 Mt. St. Mary Academy, Hooksett
    H710.55 Mt. St. Mary Academy/Seminary, Nashua
    H710.6 Mt. St. Mary College
    H710.7 Rimmon Heights Kindergarten
    H720.3 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Maternity Hospital
    H720.4 Sacred Heart Hospital
    H720.5 Sacred Heart Hospital School of Nursing and School of X-Ray Technology
    H730 Various Housing Ministries
H730.1 Frances Warde House
H730.2 House of St. Martha
H730.3 McAuley Commons
H730.5 St. John’s Home for Aged Men
H740 Miscellaneous Ministries
H740.1 Night Refuge
H750 Missions Outside of New England
  H750.1 Tanzania, Africa
  H750.2 Cartago, Colombia
  H750.3 Cali, Colombia
  H750.4 Honduras
  H750.5 Nicaragua and Panama
  H750.7 Walterboro, South Carolina
  H750.8 Edinburg, Texas
H800 Non-sponsored Ministries
H900 Publications
H1000 Audio-Visuals
H1100 Creative Arts

**Administration**

A100 Governance and Administration
  Chapters/Assemblies
  Region I
  Region II
  A110 General Council Minutes
  A120 Policies
  A130 Documents
A200 Membership
A300 Finances
A400 Property
A500 Rome/Diocese