



Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish, NS

Coordinator, Martha Justice Ministry **FULL-TIME POSITION**

Sisters of St. Martha (CSM), Antigonish, are seeking a full-time Coordinator for the Martha Justice Ministry: *Embracing Our Neighbour and our Common Home*. Social and ecological justice are essential values to the Congregation and the Coordinator will enable us to move into the future with renewed energy and commitment to continue to promote these values through education, advocacy and deepening our theological understanding.

The Coordinator creates and facilitates learning opportunities, experiences, methods and processes; coordinates actions directed by the Core Group; and represents the Sisters of St. Martha at regional and national conferences and public events related to social and ecological justice.

The successful candidate will have post-secondary education with a preference for a BA or MA degree in a related field. Studies in Adult Education is an asset. This position requires 3 to 5 years of experience in justice, ecology or a related area; excellent written and oral communication skills, a working knowledge of Office 365, as well as IT and social media skills. A good working knowledge or an openness to learn about Catholic Social Teaching and the Living Universe Story is preferred.

If you possess the desired qualifications and would like to apply, please email Sister Donna Brady at csmleadership@themarthas.com. Your emailed application should be saved as one PDF file and contain cover letter, resume and three references. Please include **Coordinator Social/Ecological Justice** in the subject line.

Application deadline is **Monday, March 16, 2020**.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish, NS

Coordinator, Martha Justice Ministry

Embracing our Neighbour and our Common Home

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Coordinator, Martha Justice Ministry: *Embracing our Neighbour and our Common Home*

Reports to: CSM Leadership via Council Liaison(s) with direction from the Core Group

Main Responsibilities:

- Facilitate learning and coordinate actions directed by the Core Group, with input from CSM Leadership.
- Support and serve as a resource to the CSM Leadership, local communities, Associates, and others.
- Internal communication: inform Sisters of St. Martha, Associates and staff of significant issues or events pertaining to Justice Ministry.
- Create educational opportunities, experiences, methods and processes for the Congregation, Associates and collaborators.
- Advocate for social and ecological justice issues in a peaceful way, in keeping with the Vision, Mission and Values of the Marthas and the Martha Justice Ministry Statement of Purpose.
- Assist in deepening the Martha commitment to the ideals of Catholic Social Teaching, the Living Universe Story and Living in Right Relationships.
- Collaborate with the managers of Martha New Growers Program in the management and development of this project.
- Act as a connector between other like-minded organizations, such as the Catholic Church, Canadian Religious Conference, and the Sisters of Charity Federation UN NGO Liaison, in responding to issues on the global, national, regional and local levels.
- Represent the Sisters of St. Martha at local, regional or national conferences and gatherings related to social and ecological justice; in the public forum, through social media, letter writing, public statements, and by participating in relevant public events.

Other Administrative Responsibilities:

- Organize meetings of the Core Group and ad hoc groups as required and ensure minutes are kept.
- Work with the CSM Communications Coordinator to maintain up-to-date information related to the Martha Justice Ministry on the CSM website and contribute periodically to Congregation publications.
- Enhance and maintain an up-to-date resource library on issues related to the Ministry.
- Develop an annual budget for the Ministry and monitor expenses on an ongoing basis.

- Monitor and report regularly to the CSM Leadership on initiatives taken.
- Document the development process of the Ministry as it evolves.
- Annually transfer records to the Archives Department based upon record retention procedures.

Skills and Qualifications:

- Post-secondary education with a preference for a bachelor's or master's degree in a related field; studies in Adult Education is an asset.
- Three to five years of experience in justice, ecology or a related area.
- Working knowledge of Office 365.
- Good listening and people skills.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, as well as IT and social media skills.
- Collaborative skills, and the ability to build professional relationships based on trust.
- Contemplative stance to issues.
- Excellent time management and organizational skills. The ideal candidate is a self-starter.
- A passion for social and ecological justice, as well as a good working knowledge of, or an openness to learn about Catholic Social Teaching and the Living Universe Story.
- A desire for ongoing education and ability to keep abreast of critical issues in the areas of social and ecological justice.

Work Environment:

- Position will require some travel and flexibility with respect to work schedules.
- Three-year term contract (renewable).



Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish, NS

Martha Justice Ministry

Embracing our Neighbour and our Common Home

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Statement of Purpose

In pursuit of justice, we strive to work in solidarity with others for immediate and systemic change; to foster and contribute to spaces for dialogue, contemplation and collective action.

Emboldened by our belief in the inherent dignity and interconnectedness of all creation, we strive on the path of right relationship, to contribute to the thriving of peaceful and resilient communities, locally and globally.

This purpose is in line with our current CSM Direction Statement from Chapter 2019, in which we affirm that in *“living our life as mission today we seek to deepen communion among ourselves and those we encounter, desire to bring a contemplative and compassionate heart to our fractured world, witness to life-giving choices, promote integral ecology, and broaden circles of Gospel Hospitality.”*

Short History

For many years, social and ecological justice have been at the core of the life of the Sisters of St. Martha of Antigonish, both as a Congregation and as individual Sisters.

Founded in 1900, the Sisters of St. Martha (CSM) were greatly influenced by the rich social consciousness present in the Antigonish Movement and the Social Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Justice and the dignity of the person, with an option for the poor, have continued to be key values in the Congregation, and have been visible in many ways over the years through its ministries.

When the Motherhouse moved to a farm on the outskirts of Antigonish, Care of Earth became another key value. For the past few General Chapters, the Congregation committed itself to deepening consciousness of the Living Universe Story and expressing it through reverence for all creation.

In 2016, in order to bring together more closely the interwoven work of two separate Martha committees, Ecology and Social Justice, the **Martha Justice Ministry** came to life. Guided by a Core Group of Sisters and lay people and coordinated by the Martha Justice Ministry Coordinator, the ministry has grown and evolved, laying out and working towards its vision for change (as described in the Statement of Purpose).

Values

The Martha Justice Ministry reflects the values, mission and vision of the Sisters of St. Martha—a living out of a commitment to Gospel Hospitality. The ministry continues to ground its work in deepening our collective theological understanding of social and ecological justice.



Two core guiding principles of the Martha Justice Ministry's work are **right relationship** and **collaboration**. As such, the ministry aims to journey alongside people, groups, organizations and efforts for social and ecological justice in Antigonish, Cape Breton, Lethbridge as well as nationally and internationally.

Collaboration

Over the past three years, the Ministry has worked both with long-time allies and developed new and life-giving relationships. The collaboration with various groups, within the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, focuses on the issues of:

- poverty eradication,
- healthy communities,
- energy justice and sustainability,
- protecting sacred water and ecosystems,
- food sovereignty,
- mining justice,
- supporting youth in change-making efforts.

We are connected to networks and groups, locally, nationally and internationally, including:

- the Canadian Religious Conference's office of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (CRC-JPIC),
- the Sisters of Charity Federation NGO at the United Nations,
- KAIROS,
- Citizens for Public Justice.

Commitments

... to Indigenous justice

The Core Group is committed to learning and rooting our actions in our responsibilities as Treaty People. We see coming alongside efforts for Indigenous justice at the core of social and ecological justice here (Turtle Island) and around the globe.

... to deepening of our understanding of social and ecological justice

We have been journeying over the past three years to reflect inwardly, critically examining our worldviews, seek truth, learn, unlearn and move towards action that is grounded in solidarity. We see our commitment to this ever-deepening journey as a core element of the Martha Justice Ministry's work moving forward.

Local Initiative

In the area of food security, for the past seven years the Sisters of St. Martha have operated **Marthas New Growers Program** on the Bethany property to help people learn sustainable market gardening skills. This program is managed by established market gardeners David and Jen Greenberg. The Martha Justice Coordinator has a role in the management and development of this program.

