

*COLLEGIAL ASSEMBLY
DOCUMENT 2011*

*“We, Holy Union women, are called
to commit ourselves anew
in our beautiful but broken world
to share Jesus’s promise
of abundant life.”*

*“Everywhere and always, O God,
let us reveal your love by
responding to the needs of the
poor, the oppressed and
victims of violence.”*

*COLLEGIAL ASSEMBLY
VISION STATEMENT
2017*

*We are missioned to live simply,
to risk sharing our resources,
and to be a witness to the
life-giving presence
and compassion of God.*

TIMELINE

- Applications for 2019 postmarked by
FEBRUARY 2, 2019
- Grants announced & funds available
MARCH 25, 2019
- Accountability forms for 2019 grants
postmarked by
JANUARY 15, 2020
- Brochures, applications, and account-
ability forms are available in the
Mother Helena Folder in HUS News
or from the Milton Office.



Mother Marie Helena Daumerie

THE MOTHER HELENA FUND

In 2003 the Holy Union Sisters in the United States created the Mother Helena Fund to help meet the ministry needs in some under-funded ministries. The Fund was named to honor Mother Helena, our Founding Mother, who in 1886 led the first group of Holy Union Sisters from Europe to the United States. As an immigrant herself, she truly understood the challenges that newcomers faced day after day. Mother Helena encouraged our early Sisters to respond to the needs of immigrant families and of the poor in all the schools and neighborhoods in which our Sisters served.

Our heritage is to continue her work of compassion and outreach to people in need in our own time through the resources of the Mother Helena Fund.

FOCUS

The Mother Helena Fund considers applications that:

- * Directly improve the quality of life for those being served: help with food, rent, transportation, medication ...
- * Provide continuing support of established ministries
- * Support educational programs (excluding tuition and scholarships)
- * Assist immigrants/families with costs involved in achieving legal status

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Requests for funding must

- * Be consistent with the Mission of Holy Union and the focus of the Fund
- * Conform to the dates stated in the timeline
- * Be submitted by a Holy Union Sister or Associate

LIMITATIONS

The Mother Helena Fund ordinarily does not fund requests for the following:

- * Capital campaigns
- * Debt reduction
- * Buildings: construction, improvements, furnishings
- * Improvements to church-owned properties

PURPOSE

The Mother Helena Fund clearly reflects our commitment to assist people in need, especially women and children. Funding may be requested by Holy Union Sisters and Associates for:

- * A ministry in which they are directly involved
- * A group known to them who provides assistance to the underserved
- * Seed money to initiate a new venture
- * Ongoing support of an existing ministry
- * A response to a local emergency through the Special Needs Fund

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

In the spirit of collaboration, Sisters/Associates are invited to apply to the Fund as a **sponsor** of the one **partnership** that Holy Union will enter into for an initial period of three years. This partnership would be with another congregation needing some assistance to continue a ministry to the poor, especially women and children.

“Might this Year be an occasion for us to step out more courageously from the confines of our respective Institutes and to work together, at the local and global levels, on projects involving formation, evangelization, and social action? This would make for a more effective prophetic witness.”

*Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis
Year of Consecrated Life 2015*

THE MOTHER HELENA FUND

- * Funds will be awarded once a year
- * Ordinarily the maximum amount of each award will be limited to \$10,000
- * Successful applicants may apply the following year provided the accountability form for the previous grant has been completed and submitted on time
- * The amount of grant money available each year will be dependent on the province’s financial reality
- * The grant must be used for the purpose stated in the application
- * Repeat applicants are also encouraged to seek other sources of funding

SPECIAL NEEDS REQUESTS

Each year **five percent** of the Mother Helena Funds available will be designated for Special Needs:

- * A “Special Need” assumes that the situation was not foreseen and needs attention/financial help immediately
- * A “Special Need” must be a local emergency – known to people in the geographic region of the applicant
- * A “Special Needs” request is limited to \$1,000
- * An accountability form must be submitted within a month of receiving the assistance