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**Catholic Extension announces partnership with St. Mary’s University of Minnesota to offer degrees to Latin American Sisters serving in U.S. Dioceses**

*More than 40 sisters from 15 religious congregations will benefit*

CHICAGO —[Catholic Extension](http://www.catholicextension.org), a papal society that works in solidarity with people in America’s poorest regions to build up vibrant and transformative Catholic faith communities, announced the formal launch of its partnership with [St. Mary’s University of Minnesota](https://newsroom.smumn.edu/2020/05/18/saint-marys-partners-with-program-for-latin-american-sisters/) to support the educational goals of its highly successful [U.S.-Latin American Sisters Exchange Program](https://www.catholicextension.org/the-u-s-latin-american-sisters-exchange-program/).

The initiative, which has been primarily funded by the [Conrad N. Hilton Foundation](http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/), supports sisters from various Latin American countries who come to the U.S. to minister among Latino immigrant populations. Participating sisters will complete their degrees over a four-year period, as they work in Catholic dioceses across the country, providing spiritual care and human development services to communities along the way.

Sisters taking courses at the undergraduate level will work toward a B.S. in Healthcare and Human Services Management, while those at the graduate level will work toward a M.A. in Integrated Studies.

“We are so grateful for our partnership with St. Mary’s University of Minnesota for creating undergraduate and graduate degree programs for these dedicated missionary sisters,” said [Father Jack Wall](https://www.catholicextension.org/who-we-are/our-leadership/), president of Catholic Extension. “We envision that this world-class education will benefit both the sisters and their respective religious congregations, because the sisters will not only be more equipped to serve as leaders in ministry, but also to potentially serve as leaders within their own religious congregations someday.”

Since its founding in 1905, Catholic Extension has raised and distributed more than $1.1 billion, when converted to today’s dollars, to build churches, support Church leaders, and fund ministries in communities throughout the U.S. For more information on Catholic Extension visit [www.catholicextension.org](http://www.catholicextension.org).

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**About Catholic Extension:**Founded in 1905, Catholic Extension works in solidarity with people in America’s poorest regions to build up vibrant and transformative Catholic faith communities. For more information visit [www.catholicextension.org](http://www.catholicextension.org/); follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/catholicextension](http://www.facebook.com/catholicextension) or on twitter at [@CathExtension](http://www.twitter.com/cathextension).