INTERNATIONAL CARITAS CONSORTIUM (ICC) CHARTER

PURPOSE:

The main purposes of this emerging International Caritas Consortium are:
1) To explore diverse ways to bring the caring theory to life in academic and clinical practice settings by supporting and learning from each other;
And
2) To share knowledge and experiences so that we might help guide self and others in the journey to live the caring philosophy and theory in our personal/professional life.

The Consortium gatherings will:

- Provide an intimate forum to renew, restore, and deepen each person’s, and each system’s, commitment and authentic practices of human caring in their personal/professional life and work;
- Learn from each other through shared work of original scholarship, diverse forms of caring inquiry and model caring-healing practices;
- Mentor self and others in using, extending the Theory of Human Caring to transform education and clinical practices;
- Develop and disseminate Caring Science models of clinical scholarship and professional excellence in the various settings in the world.

MEMBERSHIP:

The participants of the Caritas Consortium are invited representatives of clinical and educational systems and/or selected individuals who are advancing the education, professional practice and research of Caring Science/Human Caring Theory through their respective role and activities in USA and various locations in the world.

STRUCTURE – COORDINATION: CORE CARITAS COORDINATING COUNCIL (CCCC):

The Core Caritas Coordinating Council (CCCC) serves as a subgroup of the membership and functions as a coordinating and communicating body with the members. The core members will include:
• Dr. Jean Watson, founder of the original Theory of Human Caring who serves as Chair/Honorary Chair;
• Selected representatives from original leadership member representatives from organizations/systems developing and advancing the model of caring theory and practices throughout their institution.
• The Council shall consist of six or fewer members, who provide continuity, stability, and coordinate the agendas; provide leadership for emerging projects of the ICC.

MEETINGS:

The ICC members and new invitees shall meet in the Spring and Fall of each year, per the sponsorship of member/s who request to host the gathering in their setting. The host institution and its representatives shall serve as the primary organizing/agenda setting body for the gathering in their institution, along with assistance from previous hosts, the Core Caritas Coordinating Council, and Dr. Watson.

RESPONSIBILITIES/ACTIVITIES FOR GATHERINGS:

• Provide a safe forum to explore, create, renew self and system through reflective time out;
• Share ideas, inspire each other, and learn together;
• Participate in use of Appreciative Inquiry whereby each member is facilitative of each others work, each learning from others;
• Create opportunities for original scholarship and new models of caring based clinical and educational practices;
• Generate and share multi-site projects in caring theory scholarship;
• Network for educational and professional models of advancing caring-healing practices and transformative models of nursing;
• Share unique experiences for authentic self-growth within the Caring Science context;
• Educate, implement and disseminate exemplary experiences and findings to broader professional audiences through scholarly publications, research and formal presentations;
• Envision new possibilities for transforming nursing and health care.