**SYNTHESIS AND GROUPING OF RESPONSES FROM THE RAW DATA**

APPENDIX -I

General Commission -12/2017

**From work of General Commission – June 1, 2017**

This synthesis is a collect response of our experiences of local community and how it is an authentic and important form of living and witnessing to *fraternitas.*

(Please see the Raw Data for the numbers involved in the responses)

1. C96- Answers on Experiences in Local Community

1-To live together in order to be authentic and to grow in self-knowledge and knowledge of the other; deepen spirituality and find joy. Reverence, mutual respect, service and recognition of personal gifts and limitations, generate communal, spiritual, emotional, fraternal relationships, and true lasting human bonds. The community grows when there is sharing, responsibility and true presence, but it depends on each person and their personal commitment.

2-Shared Responsibilities: all are responsible for community. Here there is mutual support, collaboration, presence, community service, hospitality, respect, common needs and interests and true interaction in the spirit of community.

3-Reciprocal care, exercising self-giving, feel the care and kindness of others, create bonds, live mutuality and concern for each other. All this requires tolerance, deep commitment of acceptance of the strengths and weaknesses of the other. In this case, it seeks to mirror to the other the goodness, strengths and weaknesses.

 4-Open communication - attitude of listening, dialogue, trust, transparency, discussion to reach consensus ~~or majority decision~~ collegiality. Community prayers and celebrations, meetings, Chapters, exchange of ideas and experiences. Sharing meals, personal and community gatherings offer inspiration, appreciation, support and mutual encouragement. Many times, out of fear of judgment, we find it difficult to risk speaking the truth. Communication opens up opportunities for sharing and contributions that build relationships and makes ministries and their realities known. Diversified Ministries lead us to exchange experiences also with Sisters from other communities or Congregations.

5-Sharing faith, living fraternitas with Franciscan joy; prayer and witness of God's love are different goals for personal growth: conversion, humility, love, mutual appreciation of gifts and talents. Sharing of common, spiritual and personal interests, allowing you to express your differences in the community.

6-Deepening the Life of Prayer; praying together and caring for each other, living mutuality, prayer and silence are opportunities to witness to good and practice what we profess. Confronting life with hope is a challenge to live the commitment of Consecrated Life.

7-Valuing the Local Minister -collegial action, respect and motivation for community growth. The rotation of the leadership becomes necessary and prevents the possibility of not overloading the Minister with many positions. She in turn must be attentive to the needs of each Sister and the people outside the community. It becomes easier when the Local Minister is not authoritarian; respects and encourages the Sisters to grow.

8 - Living in a Local Community is challenging, but it means welcoming the grace of forgiveness, sharing, hope and the desire to witness God's Love to the world; live what we once professed publicly. This experience helps us build the basis of being Franciscan Sisters of Allegany.

B) Answers on Cluster Experiences

1- Witness and sharing of faith in Jesus Christ - Prayer, dialogue, mutual support, meals and animation. Prayer and sharing are spiritual and fraternal support. Cluster living makes it easier to be open to share the faith.

2-The group gathers willingly to listen, support, share, encourage, pray with and and for one another, dialoguing and making meaningful discernments. With goodwill, sharing, self-knowledge and mutual appreciation, relationships become more intimate and deeper, with opportunities to ponder, share faith, dreams, experiences and fears. Informal encounters promote care, sharing and support. Enriching relational sharing with religious from other Congregations, The small group favors deeper relationships: love, trust, support for the needs of others. To be sister to each other. There is recognition of one's own gifts, talents, and limitations.

3- Less Sisters, travel becomes more difficult. Little human warmth and less time to develop, deepen relationships, and feel closeness and spiritual richness.

4-Acceptance, respect for the Leadership of the Sisters- assume leadership roles. Group focused and motivated to help others.

5-Structure with more personal responsibility: people remain connected and form reports, notes, attainable and measurable goals, meetings and sharing of deep spiritual and communal/fraternal experience.