

# CWR Membership Participation, Confidentiality, & Media Engagement Policy



## Effective date

1 July 2026

## Next review date

21 May 2026

## Version

Version 2 ▾

## Purpose

Communicators for Women Religious (CWR) exists to foster connection, learning, collaboration, and mutual support among those who communicate and advance the mission and ministries of women religious. Because members may share professional experiences, institutional realities, emerging concerns, and sensitive information, CWR seeks to create a trusted environment grounded in respect, discretion, and professional integrity.

This policy establishes shared expectations for all members regarding participation, confidentiality, and the appropriate use of information obtained through CWR spaces, events, conversations, and communication channels.

*This policy is not intended to restrict conversation, but to ensure that all members can share openly within a trusted and respectful environment.*

## Scope

This policy applies to all CWR members and participants in CWR-related spaces, including but not limited to:

- Membership gatherings.
- Conferences and webinars.
- Virtual meetings.
- Discussion groups.
- Listservs and online forums.
- Social media communities.

# Shared Values

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CWR values:

- Trust.
- Respect.
- Professionalism.
- Collaboration.
- Transparency with appropriate boundaries.
- The dignity and mission of women religious.
- Responsible storytelling and ethical communication.

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By joining CWR, members agree to participate in ways that strengthen the community and respect the purpose of shared spaces.



**Members are expected to:**

- Engage respectfully with others.
- Honor differing perspectives and experiences.
- Contribute constructively to discussions.
- Protect confidential or sensitive information.
- Seek clarity before sharing information externally.
- Use good judgment in all professional interactions connected to CWR.

## Confidentiality & Use of Information

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Not all information shared in CWR spaces is intended for public distribution. Members may encounter discussions involving internal organizational realities, communications challenges, pastoral concerns, strategic questions, or other sensitive matters.

Unless clearly stated otherwise, members should assume that internal CWR conversations are intended for participants and not for external redistribution.

Members agree that they will not:

- Publicly share confidential information learned through CWR participation.
- Attribute comments to individuals or organizations without permission.
- Quote private discussions without consent.
- Reproduce listserv or private forum content outside the group without authorization.

- Use access to CWR spaces primarily to gather information for outside publication, advocacy, or unrelated organizational purposes.

## Communication Designations

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At times, CWR conversations may include different expectations for how information may be used. When identified by a facilitator, speaker, or organizer, members agree to honor these communication designations:

Designation	Description
On the Record	Information may be quoted and attributed.
Off the Record	Information is shared for understanding only and may not be quoted, reported, or attributed.
On Background	Information may be used for context but not attributed to a named individual unless explicit permission is given.
Internal / Members Only	Information is intended solely for CWR participants and should not be shared externally without permission.  When no designation is explicitly stated, members should seek clarification before sharing information externally.

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## Media, Research, and External Use

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Some members may also serve in roles involving journalism, publishing, research, consulting, or public communications. These professional roles are respected and can contribute meaningfully to CWR's mission.

At the same time, participation in CWR membership spaces carries an obligation to honor community trust and stated boundaries.

Any member seeking to use CWR discussions, meetings, or member relationships for external publication, reporting, formal research, or public dissemination should receive appropriate permission in advance from organizers or CWR leadership.

## Membership Review & Specialized Participation Requests

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CWR reserves the right to review membership applications and determine appropriate participation pathways when an applicant's primary role, professional purpose, or intended use of CWR spaces may require additional

discernment regarding fit, boundaries, confidentiality, or access.

This may include additional review by the Steering Committee.

## Violations

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Violations of this policy may result in actions including:

- Clarification conversation
- Written reminder of expectations
- Restriction from certain spaces or channels
- Suspension of membership privileges
- Revocation of membership

Any response will seek to be fair, proportionate, and aligned with CWR's values.

## Acknowledgement

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By joining or renewing membership in CWR, members acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by this policy.