

Further Together

Together, congregations' pooled funds support community impact now and for years to come.

Beneficiaries

- Women, children, and families
- Racially oppressed peoples
- Persistent poverty regions in the US and internationally
- Immigrants and refugees
- Farmers and rural workers

Examples of Investments

- Safe and affordable housing
- Regenerative agriculture
- Financial inclusion & small business lending
- Renewable energy
- Community facilities & social enterprises



Photo courtesy of Rooted Homes. Solar powered, affordable community land trust homes.

Leadership

Executive Director Sarah Geisler brings over 30 years of experience in community finance and provides expert management of the RCIF portfolio.

Member Board

Member Congregations are invited to sit on the Member Board, where they are responsible for electing the Board of Directors and overseeing our global mission.

Board of Directors

Patrica Boss, OP (Chair)
Sue Artone-Fricke, OSF (Treasurer)
Dutch Haarsma (Secretary)
Jason Battista
Alexandria Cabral
Grace Hartzog, SC
Stephanie Marks

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Cover photo: Banana farmer - Hance Melchior
Courtesy of MCE Social Capital



RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES
IMPACT FUND

A collaborative, financial ministry
for economic justice and care for
creation.

History of the Fund

The Religious Communities Impact Fund (RCIF) was started by ten congregations of Women Religious, each already active in community investing. They recognized that by joining their efforts, they could create greater collective impact than they could achieve individually. Since then, RCIF has continued to operate with the same prophetic vision, efficiency, and effectiveness that characterized the congregation's independent investments.



Photo courtesy of Community Vision. From left to right: Catherine Howard, CV President, Kathy Littrell, SHF, Eddy Lopez, CV Investor Relations, Anne Gelles, SHF, Patricia Boss, OP and Patricia Bruno, OP.

Mission

RCIF is a collaborative effort of Catholic Women Religious who believe, as Gospel people, that they are called to use their financial resources as a ministry to assist in overcoming social and environmental inequities.

Together, through RCIF, congregations invest in low-income communities worldwide, promoting an economy of solidarity and reflecting the Gospel values of economic justice, compassion, human dignity, and environmental stewardship.

How to Participate

RCIF is a nonprofit portfolio manager investing in community development globally. Participants can join by investing cash, making a grant, or through the assignment of community investment notes to RCIF.

Sponsor \$25,000 minimum

Member \$300,000 minimum

Legacy Sponsors and Members

Congregations contributing grants or converting investments into unrestricted donations.

Fund Structure

The portfolio consists of debt and equity investments in nonprofits whose mission and work are aligned with Catholic Social Teaching.

RCIF investee partners have at least 50% women on their board, benefit low-income women, and demonstrate care of creation.

Fund Facts

- Inception: 2008
- Fund return since inception: .414% annually after fees
- \$17.6 million in assets under management
- 297 community investments totaling \$47.5M since inception
- Cumulative loss rate: 0.438%
- Participating congregations: 39

Figures above reported through June 30, 2025



Photo courtesy of HIAS Ecobomic Advancement Fund. Client Mohamad Alshalabi creates treats for his bakery.

“We can do more together than we can separately. As we have fewer sisters, our desire to advocate through RCIF increases. In helping those where we have target areas – women, the poor, and in particular housing issues – RCIF gives us a national and international presence.”

Gladys Guenther, Sisters of the Holy Family, Legacy Member