



## ASSOCIATION FOR EPISCOPAL DEACONS

ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

### Open Space Notes 2020

#### Theological Materials for Deacon Formation in Spanish

The Open Space Conversation included 10 deacons from 9 dioceses; Diocese of Western North Carolina, Virginia, Washington, Western Massachusetts, Oregon, New Jersey, California, Utah, Puerto Rico, and Connecticut.

All attendees have Latino Congregations in their dioceses. One diocese is serving 2 parishes in Guatemala with American deacons

The group made a commitment to continue in conversation, sharing concerns, resources, and information via emails, FaceBook, and AED's website.

We began with introductions and spoke about why we were attending this Open Space. The majority of attendees were able to express concerns in regard to Latino/a Diaconal Formation and share existing resources.

#### Concerns:

Non-Latino people fear they do not speak enough Spanish to adequately create and teach Latino Formation. Most important we don't want to create a different "class" of deacons because of our deficiencies

Finding textbooks and resources for Latino formation that are appropriate, user friendly, and competent

The need to better understand Latino Culture to include catholic patriarch roots

Are there supporting structures that need to be in place re financial assistance for Latino Diaconal Formation, enough Latino speaking staff resources, spiritual directors who are fluent in Spanish and understand the culture without our existing resource staff becoming overwhelmed

Are there funds and are they sufficient to translate resources into Spanish

Are there resources in place for Discernment Team education and process in Spanish – Diocese of Washington has them on their site

What processes for COM and Standing Committees need to evolve; when and how should Oxford Back-round Checks be done. What of the question on documented vs undocumented citizens

Are the existing competency guidelines appropriate for Latino formation or do they need to be adjusted and refined as the Latino formation evolves

## Episcopal Ethos challenges

The perceived reluctance for Latinos to be ordained if they are to leave their home parishes where family worships

### Resources:

Diocese of Washington has posted their Latino formation documents on their site

Neuvo Amanecer for all 212-716-6186

Neuvo Camino will come to address diocese

Mexico City Anglican Seminary

Latino Bookstore via Diocese of Atlanta has books printed in Spanish Jaun Sandoval will share this list

Diocese of Utah Presbyter Pablo Ramos

Puerto Rico Brunilda Morales has translated documents for lay people and diaconal formation contact: [jcandelario@episcopalpr.org](mailto:jcandelario@episcopalpr.org)

Episcopalasatinos.org

The Dominican Republic has formation materials in Spanish Bonnie will contact Dean Lina @ Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford CT to get more info

Atlanta Theology Center of Education for Latinos is in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year for priest and deacons to educate laity