

# **RESOURCE MANUAL**

## **National Work Commission**

### **Secular Franciscan Order**

### **United States of America**

### **2004**

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**OVERHEADS-quotes to use for workshops, newsletters, discussions, etc.**  
Novena to Find Employment booklet

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Resource Manual is always a “work in progress” because different Commission Chairs and members will want to add and subtract materials to keep the manual as a current reflection of how work and Franciscan Spirituality are best promoted and to reflect newly published material. Much of the material is timeless and can always remain. In preparation for the All Commissions’ Conference in 2004, and because a revised constitution was published in 2001, a number of pages have been revised. Sections have been added, including a section of resources for the monetarily unemployed, in the attempt to make this manual as useful to Regional Work Commission Chairs as possible. We are open to suggestions if you ever want to add anything.

Ongoing gratitude is extended to all those people who did so much to create the first version of this manual compiled and distributed at the first All Commissions’ Conference in 1999. They include Sr. Elise Saggau, OSF of the Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, Allegany, NY. Sr. Elise is the editor of *The Cord*, a journal of Franciscan spirituality. She searched back through more than 50 years worth of issues of the magazine to find articles pertaining to work and granted permission to reprint a selection of them. Thanks are also in order for the then director of the Franciscan Institute, Br. Edward Coughlin, OFM, who granted permission for reprinting of articles from another Institute publication, *Franciscan Studies*.

Gregory F. Augustine Pierce, granted permission to use chapters from a book he co-authored, *Confident and Competent - A Challenge for the Lay Church*. Greg is one of the greatest proponents of the need to articulate and promote a spirituality of work through his own writings and speeches and through publications distributed by his company ACTA Publications, based in Chicago, Illinois.

The individual efforts of the members of the NAFRA Work Commission co-chaired by Ed and Mary Zablocki contributed greatly to this volume. Ann Devine, SFO, brought us her perspective from the Eastern (Byzantine) Church with her contribution of quotes from the Early Church Fathers. Terry McCarthy, Sr. presented the perspective on work rooted in his deep familiarity with the Catholic social justice tradition dating back more than 100 years to Leo XIII's encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*. Mary Zablocki offered her deeply personal reflections on the meaning of work through *In the Trenches* and an article reprinted from *The Cord*. Ed Zablocki contributed his reflections on Article 16 of the Rule as well as other reflections from a Franciscan perspective on work.

SFO sisters, as more recently produced elements of this manual were created every effort was made to use inclusive language. We all know that many Church documents contain very masculine language. That is how folks thought and wrote during those times. Fortunately we are moving into the age where women are recognized as being just as important as man, men, and brothers. In order to make these older, very valuable resources available to you, the language is also a “work in progress”. Please know that more texts would have been edited to make the language more inclusive if it could have been legally done.

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