consultant
/kənˈsʌl.tənt/

1. a person who is a specialist in a particular subject and whose job is to give advice and information to businesses, government organizations, nonprofits, etc.

The 2022 Women Religious Archives Survey from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) indicates that more than 70% of congregations for women religious have fewer than 100 members, many with an average age above 80. The next 10-15 years will be difficult, transformational, and grace-filled for many Catholic sisters. As congregational leadership teams face a transitional future, conversations about legacy, charism, and archives are paramount. ACWR is committed to assisting congregations and their archivists in preparing for these unique journeys. Whether capturing the oral history of an aging community, digitizing historic photographs to share with a sponsored ministry, or readying a full archive and archival program for transition to another repository, there are professionally-trained, skilled archivists available for consultation.

The following directory lists archivists and archival consultants with experience working directly with women religious archives, as well as other types of special collections. ACWR has gathered this list for circulation to assist congregations, but we encourage each community to interview and fully vet any potential consultant(s). The consultants listed below may offer paid or unpaid services, depending on the scope of the proposed work. Please be in touch with the archivists directly if you are interested in their services.

If you would like to be on the latest edition of the directory, please contact the ACWR National Office at archivistsacwr@gmail.com with your contact information, location, current position, expertise, and recent headshot, if preferred. If you have other questions related to the directory, please also contact the ACWR National Office.
Amanda Gesiorski

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Programming/ Collaboration between Entities (ex: Sisters and School)/ Development of physical archives

Location
Missouri; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the St. Louis Monastery of the Visitation and St. Louis Visitation Academy

Contact
a.gesiorski@gmail.com
815-791-7193

Andrea Hetley

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Grant-Writing, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Setting up ArchivesSpace, Help with PastPerfect

Location
California; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Sisters of the Presentation, San Francisco

Contact
andreahetley@gmail.com

Casey Bowser

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Grant-Writing, Transferring / Merging Collections, Oral History Projects

Location
Pennsylvania; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill and University Archivist for Seton Hill University

Contact
cbowser@scsh.org
cbowser@setonhill.edu
724-640-8807
Catherine Lucy, CA

**Expertise**
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections

**Location**
Missouri; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

**Current Position**
Director of Archives for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

**Contact**
archivist@csjcarondelet.org
catherinelucy9@gmail.com

Denise Gallo

**Expertise**
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Dealing with the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

**Location**
Rhode Island; Willing to travel within New England and to consult virtually

**Current Position**
Provincial Archivist for the Religious of Jesus and Mary - U.S. Province

**Contact**
dgallo@rjmusa.org

Ellen Pierce

**Expertise**
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Appraisal; Development of Operational Plans

**Location**
New York; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

**Current Position**
Religious Archives Consultant; Former Director of Maryknoll Mission Archives

**Contact**
pierce368@verizon.net
914.255.3990
ACWR CONSULTANTS DIRECTORY

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Appraisal, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Grant-Writing, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Oral History Projects, Preservation Evaluation, Moving/Packing Collections

Location
Colorado; Willing to travel regionally and consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Sisters of St. Francis, Sacred Heart Community; Facilitator for Franciscan Central Archive (FCA); Board Member of Chicago Collaborative Archive Center

Contact
hollyf@franciscanway.org

Holly Fiedler

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Moving archival collections, Deaccessioning collections

Location
Iowa; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Contact
jhead@bvmsisters.org

Jennifer Head

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Preservation evaluation, Records Management Program, Digital Asset Management

Location
Michigan; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Junia Papas Archival Consulting, LLC; Former Director of Religious Archives for the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph

Contact
juniapapas@gmail.com

Junia Papas
Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Grant-Writing, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist

Location
Pennsylvania; Willing to travel regionally and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden

Contact
kwashy@stjoseph-baden.org

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Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist

Location
Kentucky; Willing to travel regionally and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

Contact
lwilson@ursulineslou.org

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Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist

Location
Ohio; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Director of the Congregation of St. Joseph Archives

Contact
lgibbon@csjoseph.org
Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Grant-Writing, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist

Location
Michigan; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Congregation Archivist for the Adrian Dominican Sisters

Contact
lschell@adriandominicans.org

Lisa M. Schell, MA, MLIS

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Moving /Packing collections

Location
Wisconsin; Willing to travel regionally and to consult virtually

Current Position
Director of the School Sisters of Notre Dame North American Archives

Contact
mlevandoski@ssnd.org

Michele Levandoski

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist

Location
Ohio; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Director of the Dominican Sisters of Peace Archive

Contact
michelle.ganz@oppeace.org

Michelle Ganz, MLIS, CA
Nadia Nasr
Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections
Location
California; Willing to travel regionally and to consult virtually
Current Position
Head of Archives and Special Collections, Santa Clara University
Contact
nnasr@scu.edu

Patricia Carroll, MA, MLIS
Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Transferring / Merging Collections
Location
Illinois & Michigan; Willing to travel regionally and to consult virtually
Current Position
Project Archivist with the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago; Archival Consultant
Contact
parocarroll@sbcglobal.net

Samuel McAdoo
Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist
Location
Rhode Island; Willing to travel and to consult virtually
Current Position
Archivist for the Holy Union Sisters, U.S. Province
Contact
spmcadoo@gmail.com
Sr. Ginger Downey, OLVM

Expertise
Transferring / Merging Collections, Transitioning to a Lay Archivist, Asking questions about where to put their archives and working with the congregations to come to decisions that all members can embrace and accept.

Location
Indiana; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Member of the National Archives Project for Women Religious

Contact
ginger@olvm.org

Veronica Buchanan

Expertise
Basic Archival Processing / Assessment, Collections and Records Management Policies, Digitization Projects, Grant-Writing

Location
Ohio; Willing to travel and to consult virtually

Current Position
Archivist for the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Executive Secretary of Archivists for Congregations of Women Religious (ACWR)

Contact
gbuchanan01@fuse.net