

STRUCTURE OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

LOCAL FRATERNITY COUNCIL

Minister Vice Minister Secretary Treasurer Spiritual Assistant Formation Director (elected)

REGIONAL FRATERNITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Minister Vice Minister Secretary Treasurer Spiritual Assistant Formation Director
[elected or appointed]

REGIONAL FRATERNITY COUNCIL

Regional Executive Council Local Fraternity Ministers Conference of Regional Spiritual Assistants

NATIONAL FRATERNITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NAFRA)

Minister Vice Minister Secretary Treasurer Councilor Councilor Councilor
International Councilor (CIOFS) President of the Conference of National Spiritual Assistants
[Formation Chair(s) appointed, but not a member of the Council]
[Coordinator of the Apostolic Commissions appointed, but not a member of the Council]
[Youth/Young Adults Chair(s) appointed, but not a member of the Council]

NATIONAL FRATERNITY COUNCIL

National Executive Council Regional Fraternity Ministers Conference of National Spiritual Assistants

PRESIDENCY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Minister General Vice Minister Six Linguistic International Councilors
Councilor representing Franciscan Youth Four General Spiritual Assistants
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER (CIOFS)
Presidency Councilors representing the National Fraternities
[Secretary and Treasurer (appointed); but not members of the Council]

NATIONAL FRATERNITY INTERNAL COMMISSIONS

Formation Youth/Young Adult

NATIONAL FRATERNITY APOSTOLIC COMMISSIONS

Ecology Family Peace & Justice Work

Formation calls us to action: It is part of our vocation

Commissions Fraternity/Community Life Parish Community

Articles in The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

- 6 . . . Called like Saint Francis to rebuild the Church and inspired by his example, let them devote themselves energetically to living in full communion with the pope, bishops, and priests, fostering an open and trusting **dialogue of apostolic** effectiveness and creativity.
- 15 Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in **promoting justice** by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives.

- 16 Let them **esteem work** both as a gift and as a sharing in the creation, redemption, and service of the human community.
- 17 In their **family** they should cultivate the Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity, and respect for life, striving to make of it a sign of a world already renewed in Christ.
- 18 Moreover they should **respect all creatures**, animate and inanimate, which “bear the imprint of the Most High,” and they should strive to move from the temptation of exploiting creation to the Franciscan concept of universal kinship.
- 19 Mindful that they are **bearers of peace** which must be built up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.
- 22 The local fraternity is to be established canonically. It becomes the basic unit of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, the community of love. This should be the privileged place for developing a sense of Church and the Franciscan vocation and for enlivening the **apostolic life** of its members.
- 24 To foster communion among members, the council should organize regular and frequent meetings of the community as well as meeting with other Franciscan groups, especially with **youth** groups.