

**Spiritual Direction Preparation Program Cohort 16
2020 – 2023
Application Form**

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Married _____ Single _____ Clergy Person _____ Woman Religious _____

Religious Tradition _____

How did you hear about the program? _____

The following questions are designed to assist the SDPP staff in getting to know the applicant in terms of background, experience, call to this ministry and the expectations of the applicant relative to this program.

1. What are your reasons for wishing to participate in this program?

2. Describe your educational background. Include degrees, if any.

3. **What workshops, courses and/or seminars have you had that are related to the ministry of listening?**

4. **Describe your experience with receiving spiritual direction. *(Please note that we require all applicants to be receiving regular spiritual direction prior to beginning and throughout the Spiritual Direction Preparation Program.)***

5. **Who is your spiritual director? Name: _____**
Phone number: _____
Do we have permission to contact your spiritual director for a reference?

6. **Describe what experiences you have had as an informal companion in faith or as a “sought out listener” for other people that encourages you to explore this ministry.**

7. **Are you currently serving in a ministry of listening or spiritual direction? If so, in what context?**

- 8. The Spiritual Direction Preparation Program is not necessarily intended to prepare you for a new career. Our program is designed to help you:**
- **embark upon a powerful experience of personal transformation and spiritual deepening**
 - **develop new techniques and methods to integrate into your existing line of work**
 - **gain the skills to effectively serve in the ministry of spiritual direction**

How do you foresee using the knowledge and skills gained through this program?

- 9. What is your present relationship and involvement in your church (or spiritual fellowship) and civic community?**

- 10. Prepare a short autobiographical sketch including the following (use a separate sheet of paper):**
- **your faith growth**
 - **family life**
 - **prayer life**
 - **significant life experiences**
 - **any other areas you care to write about**

11. We will schedule an interview with each applicant prior to program acceptance. Would you prefer a face-to-face meeting at the FSC or an interview by computer video conference (Skype or GotoMeeting)?

12. Prior to the interview we ask that you carefully read through our program brochure and review the details of the program. We want participants to have a clear understanding of what to expect. Do you have any concerns or questions we can explore during the interview?

13. Please list the names of two people who may be contacted for further recommendation of your application. Include full mailing addresses, email addresses and phone numbers.

To complete your application please submit the following:

- ✓ your completed application form
- ✓ your autobiography
- ✓ \$100 nonrefundable application fee

*Check payable to *Franciscan Spirituality Center* or pay by card over the phone: 608-791-5295.

We will schedule an interview once we have received all three items. We receive more applications than there are available slots in the program, so your timeliness is important. Thank you.

**Steve Spilde, Director
Spiritual Direction Preparation Program
Franciscan Spirituality Center
920 Market Street
La Crosse, WI 54601-8809**