

COSROW Across the *Connexion*

As the Annual Conference season continues, the GCSRW team celebrates your dedication to our mission and ministry. We've seen AC COSROWs nationwide lead through monitoring, reporting, reading the apology to victims and survivors of sexual misconduct passed at General Conference, passing legislation, and promoting Thursdays in Black.

We also commend conferences like Florida and Indiana for having their COSROW commissions present reports first.

We encourage you to watch this summary video of our work at General Conference and the challenges we've set for your unique ministry settings.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



Greater New Jersey AC COSROW Leads Passage of Sexual Ethics Policies

Pictured: Krystal L. Woolston (center) addresses the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference from the podium. Image provided by Woolston, 2024.

Driven by the AC COSROW leadership, members of the Greater New Jersey conference approved new policies to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct and abuse. These included:

- An [update to an existing sexual ethics policy](#) with definitions and information on ministerial relationships and forms of sexual misconduct.
- The creation of a [Sexual Misconduct Response Team \(SMRT\)](#) to assist individuals and churches when sexual misconduct is discovered.

- The approval of two resolutions to clarify and improve the “A Safer GNJ” policy adopted by the 2023 Annual Conference. GNJ’s Connectional Table and COSROW are asked to co-create an online assistance portal for “victims and survivors of sexual abuse perpetrated by GNJ laity leaders and clergy members to come forward so they may get the help they need, and perpetrators may be called to account.”

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Faye Christensen Receives Jeanne Audrey Powers Award for Healing a Broken World

[Pictured: Rev. Debra Collum, COSROW co-chair \(left\), and Shirley Jackson, COSROW co-chair \(right\), celebrate Faye Christenson \(center\) as she holds her award during the Minnesota Annual Conference. Image provided by Collum, 2024.](#)

Christensen is a longtime leader of the Minnesota Conference’s Commission on the Status of Role and Women (COSROW). She has been an active member of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) and a General and Jurisdictional Conference delegate. She is also a lay speaker and engaged in her local church, Park UMC in Brainerd.

Christensen was instrumental in developing the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives pre-conference workshop and many other workshops on social justice topics sponsored by COSROW over the years. She has been an advocate for the use of expansive language in worship and the full inclusion of all. She has a heart for rural and small-town ministry.

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Indiana COSROW Leadership Transition

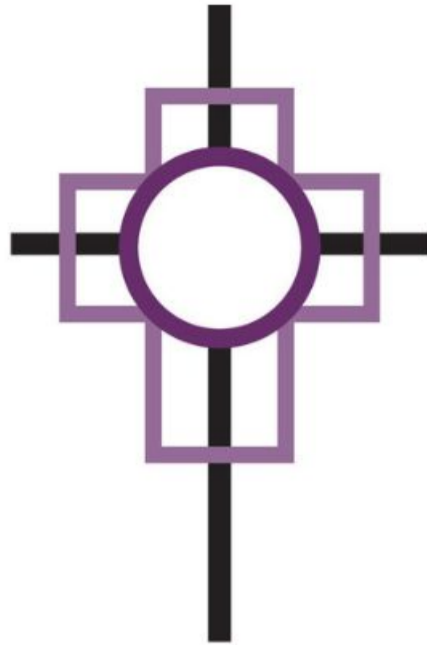
[Pictured: The Reverends Crystal Jacobson \(left\) and Julia Pritchett-Gonzales \(right\) finalize details for monitoring the Indiana Annual Conference session. Image provided by Pritchett-Gonzales, 2024.](#)

For the last four years, Rev. Crystal Jacobson has served as the Chair of the Indiana Conference COSROW. During her time in leadership, the group helped get General COSROW resources into the hands of Indiana women, resumed monitoring inclusion at Annual Conference, and made the sexual misconduct complaint system easier to use with Care Response Teams, providing anyone involved in a complaint with pastoral care.

The Rev. Julia Pritchett-Gonzales will officially replace Rev. Jacobson as Chair of COSROW starting July 1. Pritchett-Gonzales has worked with COSROW since 2020. In 2022, Julia served as an inclusion monitor at the North Central Jurisdictional Conference, and most recently served as a General Conference monitor in April of 2024.

“While a lot of my time with COSROW thus far has been focused on the monitoring side of our mission, my hope for our work in looking ahead is to explore ways that we can put that data to use,” she said.

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Tell us about your AC
COSROW happenings!

Send us an email at info@gcsr.org

Our Purpose

... to challenge the UMC, including its general agencies, institutions, and connectional structures, to a continuing commitment to the full and equal responsibility and participation of women in the total life and mission of the Church, sharing fully in the power and the policy-making at all levels of the Church's life.

- ¶2102, Book of Discipline 2016

[GCSRW](#)

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