The First Twenty-Five Years
1945 - 1970

The National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) members of the white house in Washington, DC.

The National Council of Catholic Women was founded by the United States bishops (National Council of Catholic Women, NCCW) in 1945. It sought to bring together women involved in Catholic charitable, educational, and social work. The council aimed to promote the welfare of Catholic women and their families, as well as to support the work of the diocesan Catholic women's organizations.

The council's mission was to encourage the participation of Catholic women in the life of the Church and society. It sought to promote the values of Catholicism, including social justice, family values, and moral education.

The council was led by a president and a board of directors, who were elected by the members of the council. The board was responsible for setting the council's priorities and overseeing its activities.

The council's activities included lobbying for legislation that would benefit Catholic women and their families, as well as providing resources and support to diocesan Catholic women's organizations. The council also sponsored conferences and workshops to promote the values of Catholicism and to provide training and education for Catholic women.
1971 - Onward
- Commenced working toward an end to abortion and euthanasia.
- Created and implemented the RESPIRE program to provide support for caregivers.
- Addressed the issue of domestic violence through education and advocacy programs.
- Collaborated with Catholic Relief Services to establish the Refugee Women Emergency Fund.
- Created and funded Mary’s Garden at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.
- Implemented the Vocation Purse Club to assist women seeking to enter religious life with their financial obstacles.
- Formation of a mentoring program, Women Embracing Women.
- Implemented and continue to implement new communication strategies through online and digital media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, new databases and updated web presence.
- Worked to end Human Trafficking with affiliated organizations and US Catholic Sisters.
- Established outreach program with children in the Holy Land and students in the USA.
- Established affiliate levels for high school and college age women.
- Provided formal program of formation in our faith for members.
- Developed series of mini-retreat resources.
- Established Leadership Training and Development program.

History of Communication
- 1963-1971 Word Magazine published ten times per year.
- 1971-1975 People
- 1975-present Catholic Woman Magazine published quarterly
- 1980-1993 Colloquy published 3 times per year.
- 1994-2004 NCCW Bulletin Board
- 2005-present Connect (Electronic Newsletter)

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