

  
**LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY**  
2022 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT



**Sister Marilyn Bergt '65, CDP, M.S.**

*House Administrator*

Sisters of Divine Providence

Sister Marilyn Bergt '65, CDP, M.S., has devoted her life to serving others, particularly those affected by HIV/AIDS. She founded the AIDS Interfaith Network, training clergy and church leaders to offer nonjudgmental, compassionate pastoral care to people with AIDS and their families.

“There was a need, and I had the skills. I was able to do it,” she said. “I was raised to think and be that way. In addition, I had the full support of my religious community.”

Currently Sister Marilyn is the Administrator of the Generalate House of the Sisters of Divine Providence, their international headquarters in Wakefield Rhode Island, where she coordinates and oversees the maintenance and upkeep of the property and facilities.

Previously she worked as a teacher for the Pittsburgh Catholic School System; Director of Campus Ministry for Wayne State University; Executive Director of the AIDS Interfaith Network; Vocation Director for the Sisters of Divine Providence; Pastoral Associate for St. Vincent DePaul Church; and Administrator for the Sisters of Divine Providence Congregation House. She also has served on the Provincial Leadership Team for the Sisters of Divine Providence.

Throughout her career at La Roche, Sister Marilyn fulfilled multiple roles, including: Assistant Professor of Biology, Assistant to the Academic Dean, Registrar, Volunteer Campus Minister and Coordinator of Community Service.

An active volunteer, she has provided time and service to St. Vincent DePaul Society; Pennsylvania HIV Prevention Project; the University of Pittsburgh's Institutional Review Board for Human Studies; Allegheny General Hospital; Caregivers Wellness Networks and Wayne State University.

Sister Marilyn also has served on multiple AIDS Care Teams, and was president of the Wellness Networks Inc., an AIDS service organization. In recognition of her service to individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS, she was the recipient of the Spirit of Detroit Award.

One of the first graduates of La Roche, Sister Marilyn earned her Bachelor of Arts in biology in 1965. She holds a Master of Science in biology from St. Mary's University.

