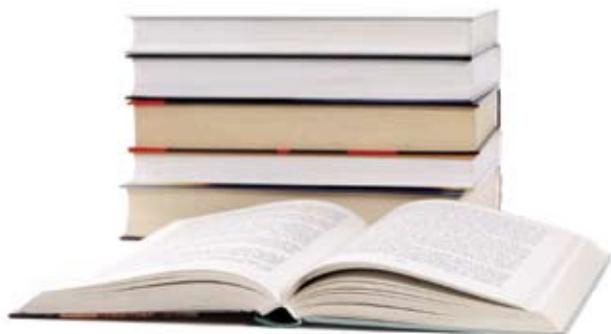
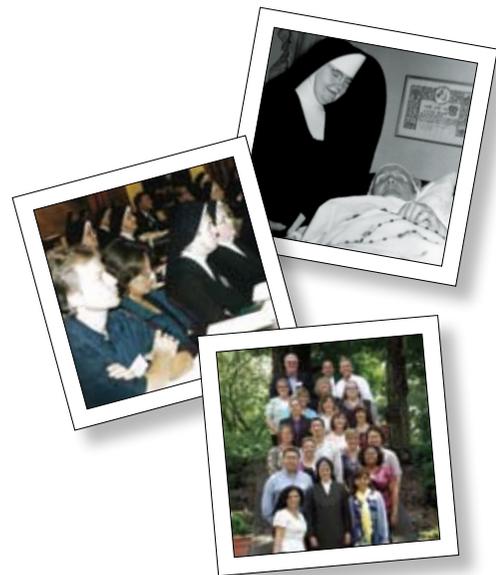




Recognizing our Past, Navigating the Present & Preparing for the Future



The History of Avila Institute



The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm are known for their ability to care for the aged in a manner that maintains and respects the dignity of each individual. In the years since 1929, the Carmelite Sisters under the direction of Venerable Mary Angeline McCrory established more than 59 foundations in the United States and Ireland to care for the elderly. As of 2013, the Carmelite Sisters continue to provide compassionate care at 20 different facilities supporting the elderly in long-term health-care, assisted living and independent living.

In 1987, the Carmelite Sisters were encouraged by Robert McCarron, a professor at St. John's University, to share their philosophy of compassionate care outside of their community by teaching these fundamental values to others working in long-term care. Professor McCarron and a committee under the guidance of Mother Michael and her Council began planning and working towards the establishment of the Avila Institute of Gerontology (AIG). AIG was incorporated as an educational institute in January 1988. Although Professor McCarron lost his battle with cancer in 2000, his vision and work on the Geriatric Spiritual Care program continues today and his "dedication to the Avila Institute and his work on its behalf will always be remembered". A scholarship fund for the Geriatric Spiritual Care Program has been established in his name.

In the early years, AIG, the educational arm of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, was a venue for the Carmelite Sisters and their staff to receive training and continuing education credits in their various disciplines. AIG sought to share the philosophy of care of the Carmelite Sisters and the charism of Mother Angeline through workshops that were cost effective and would enhance caregiver ministry.

In 1988, AIG's Board of Directors pursued how to provide continuing education credits for administrators and social workers. The first seminar, entitled "Issues in Long-term Care" was held at St. Teresa's Motherhouse in October 1988 and proved to be such a success that it was the first of many annual seminars.

The annual October workshops are designed to provide education that is deeply rooted in Mother Angeline's philosophy of care and the healing ministry of Jesus. Many of the seminar participants feel they have attended a retreat and leave St. Teresa's Motherhouse feeling refreshed, invigorated and full of new ideas. AIG's past and present seminars cover topics such as Ethics, Regulations, and modalities of caring such as, Dementia, Behavioral Concerns, Palliative Care and many more. These seminars feature expert speakers from throughout the country.

As the new millennium drew near, AIG expanded to provide multiple educational programs throughout the year and in many different locations na-

tionally and in Ireland. To answer the pressing need for these programs, the Board of Directors appointed Sr. M. Peter Lillian Di Maria, O.Carm, as AIG's first Full Time Director. For the past 25 years, past and present Council members, a very active Board of Directors and the staff at AIG have worked devotedly and tirelessly to develop programs that address the challenges facing Catholic Long-term Care.

The technological innovations of the 21st Century prompted AIG to begin exploring ways to utilize the new technology to provide education for healthcare professionals. AIG embraced the world of online learning and hosted its first virtual workshop in 2010, the "Palliative Care: Compassionate Care for the Whole Person." It was offered simultaneously as a two day in-person workshop and live online webinar. AIG continues to search for ways to participate in grant projects such as "Promoting Positive Behaviors" funded by the New York State Department of Health and "A Technological Support for Person Centered Care: IN2L" funded by Retirement Research Foundation with the guidance of Philip McCallion, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Excellence in Aging & Community Wellness at the University of Albany.

AIG continues to provide webinars and jointly sponsors a yearly series with the National Retirement Religious Organization (NRRO). AIG has had many collaborative projects over the years that include; teaming up with the College of St. Rose to develop ongoing workshops with students in the Social Work Program, consulting with Alfred Norwood of Behavior Science Inc. to create Behavior Management programs, developing the Path to Leadership certificate program with Saint Joseph's College in Maine, collaborating with Sr. Annelle Fitzpatrick CSJ of St John's University on Cultural Diversity programs and aiding in the establishment of the Mother Angeline Ministries of Care volunteer ministry. AIG is not only present to the Carmelite Sisters, but has now expanded their services to other religious congregations. At the present time, more than forty congregations participate in AIG's programs and services.

In the past 25 years, AIG has provided more than 64,000 CEUs to more than 19,000 participants, developed nearly a dozen ongoing programs and has taught at more than 81 locations in 31 States and Ireland. Workshops and seminars have always been the highest academic and professional quality, rooted in the moral and social teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and in the Mission and Philosophy of Care entrusted by Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory.

In the years to come, AIG anticipates expanding its program base, developing online courses and libraries, connecting with participants through a virtual classroom and advancing the philosophy of compassionate care for the elderly. The vision and philosophy of Venerable Mary Angeline is truly present in all the homes served by the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm. The Avila Institute of Gerontology is truly blessed to play a role in supporting this vision.



1988 — 1997
Laying the Foundation

1988 — Avila Institute of Gerontology becomes officially incorporated in January.



— The annual October “Avila Institute” event kicks off with “Issues in Long term Care” held on October 4-6, with 144 registrants!

1989 — Approval is granted to provide Nursing Home Administrator credits.

1990 — The first Avila Institute Newsletter is published, which included reviews of professional articles, a review of the October Avila Institute and a letter from the AIG president.



1991 — The first Flos Carmeli Award is presented, (originally the Mother Angeline Award).

1992 — AIG is now approved to issue credits to Social Workers.

1993 — Avila Institute purchases its first computer and printer.



1994 — The October seminar “Changing Times: Creating a Vision for the Future” has 200 participants and provides more than 1700 CEU’s.



1997 — Sr. M. Peter Lillian Di Maria O.Carm, is assigned as the first full time Director.

1998 — 2002
Spreading Our Wings



1998 — The first Annual CNA conference is held in May at St. Teresa’s Motherhouse with over 100 attendees.

1999 — The first Geriatric Spiritual Care workshop is held.

— AIG hires its first part-time employee.

— The first regional seminar on Palliative Care is presented in 12 locations throughout the US and Ireland with more than 600 participants and 2400 CEUs awarded.

2000 — AIG hires its first full time employee.

2001 — The Geriatric Spiritual Care curriculum is expanded and the pilot Geriatric Spiritual Care Program launches.



— AIG expands CEUs, issuing credits for Recreational Therapists, Dietitians, Housekeeping and Nurses.

2002 — AIG begins a two-year study “Promoting Positive Behaviors” which is funded through a grant from the New York Department of Health.



— Launches a program to help transition Philippine Nurses into the diverse Health Care system of today.

2003 — 2007
Meeting the Present Demands

2003 — AIG teams up with Alf Norwood of Behavior Science Inc, and begins working on Behavior Concepts for elders with dementia.

2004 — The first annual Leadership Conference is held in March.



— Working with Carole Stathis, BSN, RN, MSN, AIG develops and presents the first Dementia Care Training Program.

— AIG awards nearly 5400 CEU’s to more than 770 participants throughout the year.

2005 — The Avila Institute joins the World Wide Web with the launching of its website.



— AIG, the Carmelite Sisters and the college of St. Rose develop a 2-day workshop for the students in their social work program.

— AIG begins working with Sr. Annelle Fitzpatrick Ph.D., CSJ to develop cultural diversity programs.

— AIG now has two full time employees and one part time employee.

2006 — AIG rebrands itself with a new logo.



— AIG helps to develop and train assessors for the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America’s Excellence in Care program.

2008 — 2013
Preparing for the Future

2008 — AIG expands to three full time employees and one part time employee.

2009 — The Retirement Research Foundation provides a grant to research person-centered care using the Its Never 2 Late program.



— AIG teams up with Saint Joseph’s College in Maine to develop a Leadership Program for lay leaders.



— AIG and the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm launch the Mother Angeline Ministries of Care volunteer ministry program.

2010 — Over 90 participants attend the first virtual learning experience “Palliative Care: Compassionate Care for the Whole Person” held as an in-person workshop and a live webinar.

— The Caregivers Foundation and Avila Institute create a DVD with the help of Teresian House Staff on Dementia concerns.

2011 — AIG relocates (and grows) from three offices to four offices and an additional copy/work room.

— AIG collaborates with National Religious Retirement Office to provide educational webinars to members of the religious community.



— AIG offers its first Webinar Series which included four 1-hr webinars.



— AIG launches the pilot of the *Leadership for Mission; Roots of Caring* formation program which will educate lay staff in key leadership positions in facilities served by the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm in order to sustain the Carmelite Mission now and in the future.

2012 — AIG creates its first “DVD education kit” for the Mother Angeline Ministries of Care ministry program.

— Over 2,100 people attend seminars and webinars throughout the year.

2013 — AIG launches the on-line Path to Leadership Graduate Certificate program with Saint Joseph’s College of Maine.



— AIG is developing an Implementation Process for the Palliative Care curriculum.

— AIG begins designing a new website with expanded capabilities such as a blog, online registration, shopping cart, membership section and more.

— Over 150 friends celebrate the 25th Jubilee Anniversary at St. Teresa’s Motherhouse.



May the Holy Family continue to Bless our future endeavours.

Statistics AS OF OCTOBER 2013

TOTALS

Total Number of Seminars, Webinars & Lectures, etc.:	268+
Participants:	19,000+
Total CEUs Awarded:	64,200+
Number of Locations:	81
Number of States:	33 & Ireland
Number of Speakers:	254
Number of Faculty:	18

PROGRAM SPECIFICS

Annual October Seminars

Total Number Held:	19
Total Participants:	3,525+
Total CEUs Awarded:	33,950+

Geriatric Spiritual Care Certificate Program

Total Number Held:	11
Total Graduates:	102

Dementia Care Training

Total Number Held:	37
Total Participants:	942

Webinars

Total Number Held:	17
Total Participants:	3500+
Total CEUs Awarded:	1000+

Various Lectures presented by AIG Director & Staff

Total Number Presented:	50+
Total Participants:	2500+