

Congregation of the Sisters of Bon Secours of Paris
Corporate Statement on Water
Approved, October 2013

Water is a Human Right and a Public Good

We, Women of Healing, commit ourselves to defend and care for all of creation; to cry out with others against injustice and all that diminishes life on Earth. (Mission Focus Statement Sisters of Bon Secours, Chapter 2009, Rome, Italy)

Rooted in our cherished heritage of healing, compassion and liberation, and steeped in the commitment expressed by Mere Geay, “It is for the poor that I have the greatest concern”, **We, Sisters of Bon Secours and Bon Secours Associates throughout the world AFFIRM:**

- Water is a sacred gift that connects all life
- Access to clean water is a basic human right.
- The value of the earth’s freshwater to the common good takes priority over any possible commercial value.
- Freshwater is a shared legacy, a public trust and a collective responsibility.

Therefore, ***as members of the Congregation of the Sisters of Bon Secours of Paris, we commit ourselves to do what we can in our personal and communal lives and in our spheres of influence to educate ourselves and others so that we might take action.***

WE SUPPORT actions and policies that:

- Ensure universal access to sufficient, affordable, safe water for all people, especially the most vulnerable.
- Protect freshwater as a sustainable, renewable resource.
- Implement the objectives of the UN Millennium Goals and Rio + 20 commitments on water.

We OPPOSE actions and policies that:

- Endanger the world’s supply of freshwater.
- Deprive humans and other species access to adequate, safe water essential for life.
- Favor the privatization of water as a commodity to be bought and sold for profit when in reality it is a heritage we all hold in common.