



DEACONESS FORMATION



- *Over 140 deaconess students in 5 countries*
- *Students learn to reach out to a hurting world with His mercy arm*
- *Practical fieldwork complements classroom studies*

SUMMARY

Twenty-five ladies from five countries gathered for Latin America & the Caribbean's pilot deaconess intensive in 2016. Afterward, they were excited to promote Concordia the Reformer Seminary's diaconal formation program. As a result, the number of women preparing to be deaconesses has swelled to near 140.

Deaconesses work in harmony with pastors and other church workers, caring for members and engaging in community outreach. They do acts of mercy while sharing God's Word with the poor in spirit, the hurting and the marginalized. Deaconesses serve in disability ministry in the Dominican Republic, soup kitchens in Mexico, and Sunday schools in Guatemala. Numerous examples of deaconess students

tending to the whole person abound across the Latin America & Caribbean region and the world.

The deaconess formation program utilizes an online platform for intensive courses co-taught by a seminary professor and a deaconess. Local in-person classes taught by a pastor and a deaconess mentor bolster the online intensive courses, providing additional hands-on projects and discussion opportunities.

Lord willing this large crop of new deaconesses will be a great blessing to the Church as they spread the Gospel and to a hurting and broken world.

Support Deaconess Formation - Project ID: LM0006-65011

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