



**LEADERSHIP  
ROUNDTABLE**  
*Service. Excellence. Church Management.*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Leadership Roundtable commits to fully bilingual communications starting in mid-2022, partners with Crimsonbridge Foundation

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Recognizing the vital role of Hispanic/Latino Catholics in creating a co-responsible leadership culture in the Church, Leadership Roundtable has committed to fully bilingual communications, expanding its team to hire a dedicated Communications Manager who is bilingual/bicultural.

“Hispanic/Latino Catholics are a vital part of our Church, and we have an incredible opportunity to engage these individuals in leadership by expanding our capacity to communicate in Spanish,” said Kim Smolik, executive partner at Leadership Roundtable who oversees communications. “Bilingual communication should be the norm for the Catholic Church in the United States, as it is essential to a thriving, unified Church.”

Thanks to a generous grant from the Crimsonbridge Foundation, Leadership Roundtable was able to create the position and is currently seeking applicants for the role. The grant was significant for the foundation and reflects its commitment to social change.

“Bilingual communications can empower, connect, and strengthen parishes throughout the United States,” said Gabriela Smith, founder and executive chair of the Crimsonbridge Foundation. “This partnership with the Leadership Roundtable builds on the Crimsonbridge Foundation’s work with the Archdiocese of Washington to use strategic bilingual communications to build bridges between families, schools, and parishes.”

Leadership Roundtable views the expansion of its communications to be fully bilingual as a core part of its mission to promote transparency, accountability, co-responsibility in Church leadership.

Despite that more than 36% of Catholics in the United States identify as Latino, only about 3% of clergy and 1 in 10 lay leaders are Hispanic/Latino — leaving them largely absent from the decision-making of the Church. Additionally, Leadership Roundtable’s more than 16 years of

service to the Church has shown time and again that the typical challenges facing pastoral leaders are amplified for leaders who are Hispanic/Latino.

Ensuring that Church leaders are representative of the diversity among Catholics is central to building true co-responsibility into Church culture. Engaging more diverse leaders requires expanding communications to be more inclusive.

Leadership Roundtable began modeling the co-responsibility to which it calls the Church in 2020 when it moved from a hierarchical operating model to one of partnership, with five partners leading the organization collectively. It began developing more of its communications in Spanish this past year with the launch of its Latino Pastoral Leaders Initiative – a leadership development program specifically for Hispanic/Latino pastoral leaders that currently serves three diocesan cohorts with others in the works.

Developing fully bilingual communications and hiring a bilingual/bicultural Communications Manager to lead this work is an extension of the organization's commitment to embody co-responsibility and its service to the Hispanic/Latino community.

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**Leadership Roundtable** promotes best practices and accountability in the management, finances, communications, and human resources development of the Catholic Church in the U.S., including greater incorporation of the expertise of the laity. To learn more about the opportunity to serve as Communications Manager, Bilingual/Bicultural visit: [www.leadershiproundtable.org/jobs](http://www.leadershiproundtable.org/jobs)