

## Tacoma Dominican SWOT synthesis of the Reflection Circle

<b>Guiding principles or Identity statements - We are Dominican women called to....</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ have the courage to let go of preconceived ideas and move forward into the future ensuring that we hold on to the values of respect, inclusivity and preaching the Truth of Jesus.</li> </ul>
<b>Strengths</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The charism and consistency of preaching and adapting it to the needs of today was pervasive.</li> <li>● We seem intentional about giving to others the fruits of our contemplation.</li> <li>● One real strength is the consistency of our preaching charism among us and adapting it to the needs of today.</li> </ul>
<b>Weaknesses – Internal challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In Dominic’s “Last Will and Testament,” he stressed the concept of voluntary poverty. In light of today’s prevalence of consumerism, this connection was not made.</li> <li>● The diminishing number of sisters and corresponding lack of financial resources</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities (i.e. concrete ideas for situations/needs to address in the world outside the cong)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do we “widen our tent” in order to engage the gifts of others?</li> </ul>
<b>Threats</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There seemed to be no consensus regarding what/who is an Associate in a Congregation and how are they formed to pass on the charism.</li> </ul>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ongoing formation of sisters and associates is important.</li> </ul>

### Comments/Observations on the process:

- We were surprised that not more was included on the cosmos story and intentionally raising one’s consciousness of all of creation.
- Although we understand that the focus of the GHR grant is “Futuring Dominican Charism – for Mission, Sisters and Lay Partners Together,” we felt the lack of reference to other members of the Order.