

1/28/2008

CORPORATE STATEMENT

As Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, we witness to God's love and justice in the Franciscan tradition by living as Sisters with all creation and by joyfully serving others especially those who are poor and marginalized. (Mission Statement)

Our mission impels us as members of the global community to care for God's earth and its resources. (Vision Statement)

"To anyone who thirsts I will give drink without cost from the spring of life-giving water". (Revelation 21:6)

Therefore:

We oppose the privatization of water and the use of bottled water unless absolutely necessary.

Rationale: Privatization of Water

Water is a finite resource. Only 11% of the water on the planet is easily accessible for consumption.

Water is a basic human right and not a private commodity.

Privatization leaves those who are poor even more disenfranchised.

Privatization undermines water quality because corporate agendas are driven by profits rather than by the public good.

Privatization removes local control and public rights, providing individuals with no say in how the water is managed, used or where it is sent.

Rationale: Bottled Water

Privatization is fed by the purchase of bottled water.

Advertisement and availability of bottled water undermine the value of tap water, which is more highly regulated.

Tap water costs a fraction of the price of bottled water.

Plastic bottles release highly dangerous toxic chemicals and contaminants into the air and water while they are being manufactured.

Plastic bottles are the fastest growing form of municipal solid waste.

Transportation of bottled water requires vast amounts of fossil fuel and contributes to global warming.

Resources:

www.educationforjustice.org

www.StopCorporateAbuse.org

www.unesco.org/water/wwap

www.ofm-jpic.org/water

www.franciscansinternational.org