

## **Affiliation Agreement Task force Survey Results Summary**

### **What does being an affiliated member mean to you?**

Affiliation with Centers for Spiritual Living (CSL) is generally seen as rewarding, offering members a strong sense of belonging to a global community dedicated to the principles of Science of Mind. Many appreciate the access to educational resources, professional development, and the credibility that comes with CSL membership, as well as opportunities for governance and decision-making. The shared commitment to peace, inclusion, and spiritual growth is a key theme, alongside the legacy of Ernest Holmes and the evolving New Thought teachings. However, some members, particularly those in smaller ministries, express dissatisfaction with CSL's communication and engagement, feeling the structure is more regulatory than supportive, and questioning the value of affiliation beyond basic resources and fees.

### **What would you like to see added to the Centers for Spiritual Living virtual home office?**

Many respondents expressed a desire for the CSL Home Office to offer more support for diverse ministries, especially smaller, virtual, and regional ones, through better resources, professional development, and communication. They called for accessible training for ministers, practitioners, and board members, along with improvements to the website for easier navigation. There was also a request for better communication channels and a more inclusive approach that addresses regional and cultural needs. Respondents advocated for stronger marketing efforts, clearer leadership, and financial transparency. Frustrations exist around leadership accountability, organizational focus, and a sense of disconnect, particularly for smaller ministries and those outside the U.S., with concerns about CSL becoming too centralized.

### **How are you willing to participate and contribute to Centers for Spiritual Living's overall success?**

Respondents to the CSL Affiliated Member Communities Survey expressed strong commitment to the organization through financial support, volunteering, and spreading the teachings of Science of Mind. Many are eager to contribute their time in leadership, committees, and community outreach, including support for underserved groups like the LGBTQIA+ community. However, frustrations with CSL leadership persist, particularly around issues of responsiveness, transparency, and recognition of volunteers. Some feel CSL has shifted focus away from its core spiritual teachings toward political or social issues, causing disillusionment. Despite these concerns, respondents remain dedicated to CSL's mission and seek a more connected, purpose-driven direction.