February 23, 2020

Statement on Jean Vanier

The Templeton philanthropies, organizers of the Templeton Prize, are shocked and saddened to learn of the findings communicated by L’Arche USA and L’Arche International with respect to Jean Vanier.

Jean Vanier was awarded the Templeton Prize in 2015 for founding L’Arche, the international network of communities where people with and without intellectual disabilities live and work together as peers.

We have read the statement and the report summary issued by L’Arche USA and L’Arche International and are in contact with L’Arche executives.

We endorse L’Arche’s willingness to confront the truth and we strongly condemn the actions and behaviors of Jean Vanier detailed in the report. We stand with L’Arche in recognizing the courage and suffering of the women who shared their testimony during the course of the investigation and express our deep sympathy for those who were harmed by Jean’s actions.