



EPISCOPAL  
DIOCESE *of*  
INDIANAPOLIS

# Resolutions as Amended and Adopted by Diocesan Convention

Resolution 1: Recognize St. Nicholas Early Learning  
as a Cooperating Ministry

Resolution 2: Recognize The Avenue Foundation as  
a Cooperating Ministry

Resolution 3: Encourage General Convention to  
Research and Document the Episcopal Church's  
Role in Native American Residential Schools

# Resolution 1: Recognize St. Nicholas Early Learning as a Cooperating Ministry

RESOLVED, that the 184th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis affirm the request to designate St. Nicholas Early Learning to be a Cooperating Ministry, with all privileges and obligations that such designation accords.

Proposed by Executive Council. This resolution is technically considered a resolution from the floor.

Consideration of this resolution requires the consent of convention.

Explanation: St Nicholas Early Learning (SNEL) was conceptualized and initiated by a small group of dedicated and passionate Trinity Episcopal Church Indianapolis parishioners to address the critical need for high-quality childcare in the broader church community. On April 20, 2015 the TEC vestry awarded the then Trinity Childcare Committee a matching grant of \$30,000 as seed money for the project. In January 2016 SNEL became its own 501c3 and elected its first board of directors now consistently of 15 directors and SNEL executive director. St. Nicholas Early Learning seeks Cooperating Ministry status to help it attract and retain talented staff by offering high quality employee benefits through the Episcopal Church Medical Trust.

Becoming a Cooperating Ministry requires the Bishop's confirmation that the ministry is congruent with the mission of the Diocese of Indianapolis, and approval of the Executive Council upon receipt of the organization's application. Bishop Jennifer has confirmed that St. Nicholas Early Learning and the Diocese of Indianapolis share a common mission in standing with the vulnerable and the marginalized. Executive Council approved St. Nicholas Early Learning's application to become a cooperating ministry at its September 18, 2021 meeting. The approval of Diocesan Convention is the final step to receive the Cooperating Ministry designation.

# Resolution 2: Recognize The Avenue Foundation as a Cooperating Ministry

RESOLVED, that the 184th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis affirm the request to designate The Avenue Foundation to be a Cooperating Ministry, with all privileges and obligations that such designation accords.

Proposed by Executive Council. This resolution is technically considered a resolution from the floor. Consideration of this resolution requires the consent of convention.

EXPLANATION: The Avenue Foundation is a public foundation that was created to address the racial wealth gap in Indianapolis by educating, incubating, and investing in Black entrepreneurs, visionaries, artists, and faith communities in order to focus on racial equity through economic justice and community (re)development. The Avenue Foundation is a community initiative supported through partnership with St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Indianapolis which is providing the funding for the creation of this foundation. As a cooperating ministry with The Diocese of Indianapolis, The Avenue Foundation will be able to confront and help dismantle systems that oppress Black people in Indianapolis. The mission of The Avenue Foundation resonates deeply with the missional pillar of the Diocese to stand with the vulnerable and marginalized to transform systems of injustice.

# Resolution 3: Encourage General Convention to Research and Document the Episcopal Church's Role in Native American Residential Schools

Be It Resolved: That this Convention of the Diocese of Indianapolis encourages The General Conventions of the Episcopal Church to research and document the Episcopal Church's role in Native American residential Schools within the United States and seek to take responsibility for their actions; and be it further

Resolved, that the Diocese of Indianapolis research The Episcopal Church's role in relocation or abuse of Native Americans within the State of Indiana and report to the next diocesan convention with options to make amends.

Explanation:

In light of the documented abuses of Christian organizations in North America, it is time for The Episcopal Church to take responsibility for its past. By doing so it could help in some small way to bring closure or make amends with the Indigenous people of this country.

Furthermore, to understand what historically the role, if any, that The Episcopal Church played in displacing or abusing Indigenous people from this state.

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