Job Description

JOB TITLE: Diocesan Youth Minister

DATE: November 16, 2022

REPORTS TO: Canon to the Ordinary for Congregational Development and Leadership

DIOCESE BACKGROUND
The Diocese of Indianapolis spans 200 miles and two time zones in central and southern Indiana. There are 47 churches organized into six neighborhoods. Waycross Camp and Conference Center are among the additional ministries of the diocese. Undeniably welcoming and affirming of all God’s children, the diocese is grounded in five pillars of mission to:

1. Serve as beacons of Christ in central and southern Indiana and beyond
2. Offer a generous invitation and welcome
3. Stand with the vulnerable and marginalized to transform systems of injustice
4. Connect with others throughout the church, neighborhood, and wider communities
5. Develop lay people and clergy to lead the church of today and tomorrow.

With a strong history of diocesan youth ministry, the Diocese of Indianapolis seeks to faithfully reestablish a grounded, nurturing ministry with young people that equips them for life-long faith in the context of our world. The Diocesan Youth Minister will be called to lead that effort in collaboration with a variety of invested stakeholders.

JOB SUMMARY
The Diocesan Youth Minister is called to unabashedly promote and celebrate the faith formation of young people in this diocese. Core to this work will be to equip and encourage parish-level youth ministry leaders, both paid and volunteer. Building connections and community among leaders and young people, as well as providing individualized support to congregations, will be key responsibilities of this role. The Diocesan Youth Minister will manage the implementation of diocesan youth ministry initiatives, tending to the diverse needs of these ministries with care for congregations that have a few young people, and for those that have many.
REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS
A good rapport and professionalism must be maintained with other members of the Bishop's staff, as well as with members of the Ministry Architects Renovation Team, the future diocesan youth ministry leadership team, and staff, clergy, and lay leaders throughout and beyond the Diocese of Indianapolis. The Diocesan Youth Minister will work collaboratively with the Assistant for Congregational Development. No positions report to the Diocesan Youth Minister.

KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
Equip and Encourage (70%)
- Serve as a resource to all congregational youth leaders, connecting individually to learn about their ministry and areas for support
- Travel to meet with leaders, or groups of leaders, in their neighborhoods or parishes, in order to support leaders in their contexts while building connections among colleagues
- Create and host a quarterly leader gathering in each diocesan neighborhood to provide connection among leaders and resources such as curriculum, ministry training opportunities, etc.
- Arrange for relevant trainings for leaders with qualified professionals, provided and hosted by the diocese (e.g. “Supporting LGBTQIA+ Young People” hosted by an LCSW)
- Connect leaders to external trainings and learning opportunities like conferences, youth ministry programs, and other online resources
- Educate vestries, clergy, and other leadership in congregations of all types on current trends in youth ministry and how the diocese and The Episcopal Church are responding

Meaningful Initiatives (20%)
- In conjunction with the future youth ministry leadership team, assess needs for youth ministry initiatives, offering at least two outstandingly communicated, organized, and implemented youth gatherings each year
- Plan and host diocesan youth gatherings
  - Secure space at an appropriate venue
  - Host registration through diocesan website/channels
  - Provide day/weekend schedules and content based around theme
  - Invite necessary additional leaders and volunteers (e.g. music, priest, chaperones)
  - Promote the offering to leaders as well as youth in the diocese
  - Ensure content is consistent with the beliefs and practices of The Episcopal Church

Administration (10%)
- Communicate through multiple channels in a timely, professional, and effective manner
- Manage the diocesan youth ministry budget
- Ensure the good care of all participants in diocesan youth initiatives (Safe Church policies, registration process, pastoral support, intentional inclusion, etc.)
KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES

- Commitment to the theology and tradition of The Episcopal Church
- Regular practice of a vibrant personal faith
- Conversant in parish ministry life of The Episcopal Church
- Strong leadership skills
- Ability to equip, lead, and form adults
- Ability and willingness to travel
- Bachelor’s degree required
- Advanced youth ministry or theological training encouraged
- Minimum five years in parish youth ministry

The Diocesan Youth Minister must live in the Diocese of Indianapolis but need not report to the diocesan offices in Indianapolis daily. Occasional travel to the offices is expected. Significant travel required within central and southern Indiana.

COMPENSATION AND ORDINATION STATUS
This position is open to lay or ordained candidates. The compensation package will vary according to the candidate’s experience and education, consistent with The Episcopal Church and diocesan policies. The anticipated salary range is $65,000-$70,000 with benefits and travel reimbursement.

Qualified applicants are invited to share a resume and cover letter with Martha Whitesides martha.whitesides@ministryarchitects.com. Other inquiries about the position are also welcome.