STRATEGIC PLAN
The Allegheny East Conference Youth & Children Ministry (AECYCM) Department exists to train, equip and develop leaders to effectively implement ministries that will nurture, hold, train, lead and win our children and youth to Jesus Christ.

**AECYCM THEME**
“KONNEKTING – FULLY EMERGED”

**AECYCM MISSION**
To nurture and lead our children and young people to have a loving and saving relationship with Jesus Christ and help them embrace His call to discipleship.

**AECYCM VISION**
To provide resources, training, and mentoring opportunities for children and youth leaders to become more equipped as they serve and prepare children and young people for heaven.

**AECYCM VALUES**
To fulfill our mission, we value
- Protecting our children and youth
- Raising awareness of issues our children and youth face today
- Affirming, honoring, and valuing others through authentic leadership
- Creating a fun and exciting learning environment
- Trusting God for the impossible, the unknown, and the unseen
- Investing in the whole child to develop children and youth who are healthy spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally
- Coaching leaders to realize and fulfill their potential
- Empowering leaders, youth and children through ministry opportunities

Guided by **SERVICE**
S – *Service*– To prepare and serve others
E – *Evangelism* – To promote the gospel with and through our children and youth
R – *Relevance* – To provide relevant ministry for service.
V – *Visionary* – To keep our minds and thoughts open for advancing ministry
I – *Innovation* – To devote to discovering, developing and promoting creativity
C – *Commitment* – To encourage continued dedication to ministry
E – *Excellence* – To inspire a high quality of service to ministry

**AECYCM MOTTO**
It’s easier to be saved than to be lost

**AECYCM LEADING WITH VISA**
V – *Vision*
I – *Integrity*
S – *Structure*
A - *Accountability*
FOCUS POINTS
To achieve the mission and vision of the AECYCM we will focus on the following points:
1. Evangelism
2. Leadership Enrichment
3. Ministry Emersion
4. Integrated Development

1. Evangelism
   Goals:
   - To have AECYCM involved in church planting with a goal of six (6) new congregations in a 3-year period.
   - To train our young people to be excited to share the gospel.
   - To have 30% of youth & young adults participating in giving bible studies.

   Key Strategies:
   To accomplish this AECYCM will:
   ✓ Populate AEC with Steps to Christ through a mass distribution by AEC youths
   ✓ Hold numerous community outreach initiatives
   ✓ Conduct how-to-give bible study classes for youth & young adults
   ✓ Provide opportunities in the churches for young people to have speaking appointments in the churches.
   ✓ Conduct a two-week evangelistic effort in every area

   Outcomes:
   Ø Develop the evangelism and service culture in AEC children and youths
   Ø Increase the attendance and involvement of young people in church.
   Ø Visibility in the community

2. Leadership Enrichment
   Goals:
   - To create a culture of leadership among individuals in AEC that encourages the desire to enrich skills continually.
   - To develop leadership skills that guide children and youth to fulfill the AECYCM values of SERVICE

   Key Strategies:
   To accomplish this AECYCM will:
   ✓ Provide training for leadership enrichment
   ✓ Empower individuals in all areas of Youth & Children Ministry
   ✓ Offer support to individuals working in Youth & Children Ministry
   ✓ Provide coaching opportunities from experience leaders
   ✓ Provide resources that will assist in enrichment

   Outcomes:
   Ø Increase in leaders among AECYCM
   Ø Have individuals ready to embrace leadership roles
   Ø Increase leaders desire for enrichment
3. **Ministry Emersion**

   **Goals:**
   - To have the AECYCM entities become fully immersed in ministry.
   - To improve the connection between ministries as they continue to fulfill the mission of the church.
   - To have the entities of AECYCM synergize as they lead young people to Christ.

   **Key Strategies:**
   To accomplish this AECYCM will:
   - Provide opportunities for departments like Community Services, Family Life, Health Ministries to collaborate with Youth & Children’s Ministries to fulfill our values of SERVICE
   - Ensure that YCM entities have regular meetings to collaborate their plans
   - Develop activities where the children and youth become fully involved in ministry

   **Outcomes:**
   - Improve successes in SERVING
   - Increase team spirit
   - See children and youth more involved in church
   - Better understanding of what Christ mission is all about
   - Closer relationship with Christ for children and youth

4. **Integrated Development**

   **Goals:**
   - To continuously develop the AECYCM department to be current and relevant in ministry.
   - To have equipped and qualified leaders ready to train and develop our children and youth.
   - To lead in the development of children and youth facilities.

   **Key Strategies:**
   To accomplish this AECYCM will:
   - Provide opportunities for young people to develop their mental, physical and emotional health by using their skills in specially designed work study programs.
   - Conduct forums that educate leaders in relevant children and youth topics.
   - To provide resources and opportunities for leaders to be a part of the youth development plan.

   **Outcomes:**
   - Increase attendance at schools because of work study opportunities
   - Have facilities on the grounds that cater to the needs of AEC children and youth
   - Increase leaders awareness to current children and youth issues