

## **The Purpose of Committee**

- Implements and maintains the ministry of Young Life in the community.
- Works in partnership with the area and regional Young Life staff by sharing ideas and providing counsel and prayer support.
- Helps the staff plan the local Young Life program and develop new places of outreach.
- Takes ownership for having Young Life in the community, and organizes a strong financial foundation to sustain your local work with kids.

### **Spiritual Support:**

The most effective committee members are those who personally and actively pursue a relationship with Christ through prayer, reading of the Scriptures and fellowship with other believers; who pray regularly for the ministry of Young Life, and the staff and volunteer leaders; and who become a personal, loyal friend and partner with the staff in prayer, fellowship and counsel. Seeking and then following God's wisdom and guidance must always be the beginning, middle and ending point of every aspect of our ministry. Without Him we can accomplish nothing.

### **Your Local Areas Ministry Vision:**

Committee members assist the staff in establishing a ministry vision for local area Young Life activities and participate as a partner in decisions regarding the selection of staff and any personnel changes in cooperation with the regional director

### **Financial Support:**

A primary responsibility of the area committee is to develop and maintain adequate financial support for the ministry of Young Life in the area. Your committee's financial support will include the establishment of a financing strategy and plan with which to guarantee, on a current monthly basis, the payment of all budgeted area expenses, salaries and other operating obligations.

### **Public Relations: Spreading the News**

Committee members will represent Young Life and its mission in the community as faithful followers of Jesus Christ; take the steps necessary to gain local community interest in, and acceptance for, the ministry of Young Life; recruit new committee members; and be available to handle inquiries by parents and adults about the local Young Life ministry. Your enthusiastic participation in all aspects of your area's ministry plan can be most beneficial.



## **Leader and Staff Care**

Being a Young Life staff person or a volunteer leader is a rewarding responsibility! However, building friendships with kids in order to earn the right to tell them about Jesus and helping them grow in their faith can be taxing. Therefore, staff and leaders need extra care and support. The local committee can have a major role in providing this

## **Personal Service:**

Committee members will visit a Young Life club or other kids' activity at least annually; attend committee meetings regularly and develop a personal friendship with the staff, actively serve on a subcommittee; become informed about Young Life's program and activities; and be available when needed to work on special events and fundraisers.

## **Length of Service and Membership:**

Committee members will most effectively serve for two to three years. The committee chair is a unique position and should agree to serve at least two years since frequent leader turnover can limit effectiveness.

Each area committee is free to set its own standards, but members who are absent from three consecutive regular committee meetings, for example, may need to be asked about their level of commitment and whether they have the time and interest to continue to serve.

New members should be brought on to the Committee one time a year following an annual Potential Committee Meeting. Staff and Committee should together recruit potential members to attend this meeting where the goals, requirements, and responsibilities of committee will be clearly spelled out. Potential members will be asked to pray about membership and will be contacted by staff or the committee chairman the following week.

Ideal Committee make-up includes the following:

- 1/3 Members who have no kids or kids too young for Young Life
- 1/3 Members who have kids in the program
- 1/3 Members who have kids who have graduated

**Bottom Line... "Find good people and grow old together"**

## Committee Recruitment

Recruiting new members must be an on-going and intentional process. Each year the culmination of this process should be the addition of new members to your committee. The key components of the process are:

- **Prayer.** Praying for new committee members is critical. In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."
- **Always be looking.** Throughout the year staff and committee members need to be looking for the people who God is raising up in the community to serve on the committee. Consider the following:
  - Banquet Table Hosts
  - People who are hosting club or campaigners at their homes.
  - Parents of kids who have been to camp.
  - Former Leaders who are ready to work behind the scenes now.
  - People who have been adult guests at camp or family camp.
  - Friends of your staff and committee who are committed to Christ and kids.
- **Brainstorm.** At a committee meeting have the staff and committee members brainstorm about potential members. Put their names in the meeting minutes and begin to pray for them.

### Selection Process

Once you have decided who to recruit, you will need to develop a selection process.

- **Make contact.** Make sure that a committee member or staff person who knows the prospective member contacts them. Relationships are important.
- **Invite to an event.** Invite the potential new members to a meeting where they can learn more about the area Young Life ministry, the committee's work and member expectations. Also, take them along with you to a club or all-area event.
- **Ask.** All prospects should be given at least a week to pray about whether God wants them to serve the ministry or not. They will need to be contacted at the end of the week for their decisions.

## Committee Recruitment Timeline Example

Here's a practical example of what one area has done to develop an annual recruiting and selection process.

- February-October: Staff and committee members pray for and look for prospective members.
- November: Committee brainstorms about prospective members and reviews list of those interested from banquet response cards.
- December: Prospects are reviewed. Some are removed from the list and new names are added. Approval is received from the area director and committee chair before placing those prospects on the final list.
- January: Prospects are invited by letter to a Sunday evening dinner. Each prospect also receives a personal call from someone on the staff or committee who knows them, inviting them to the dinner. After the dinner a short meeting is held to share the purpose of the Young Life committee and what the committee does. Member responsibilities are shared and prospects are asked to pray for a week about whether God wants them to be on the committee.
- February: New members, who agree to serve, attend their first committee meeting in February.

## Additional Thoughts

- Don't be afraid to recruit busy people. You want people on the committee who are "workers."
- If you are a new area or you have very few committee members, you may need to run your process two or three times a year.
- December and January are the least busy times of the year for Young Life. That is why the example above is designed to expend staff and committee energy on member recruitment at that time of the year. Unfortunately many committees recruit new members in the fall which is the busiest time of the Young Life year.
- By having prospects attend a dinner or meeting with the staff and existing committee members, they can visualize that they will be a part of a larger group of people working together to help kids follow Jesus and grow in their faith. They won't have to shoulder all of the work of the ministry by themselves!

## Committee Task Forces

**Leader Care Task Force:** Matt Lambro - matt.lambro@me.com

- Plans ways to care for leaders (birthday cards, dinners, Starbucks, etc)
- Organize calendar for meals for leadership meetings.
- Organize Christmas and End of the Year parties for leaders/committee.
- Leader care packages and snack bar tabs for camp

**TDS (Taking Donors Seriously):** Cody Strange - cody.strange@gmail.com

- Meet with past and new donors to see if they want to get involved financially.
- Meet with current donors to thank them.
- Follow-up with donors who have not given recently.
- Strategize and Identify potential new donors and set up introductions
- Assist in developing creative ways to reach out and thank donors.

**Spring Fundraising Task Force:** Kate Quinn - katehabicht@gmail.com

Brian Summerall - bsummerall@mac.com

- Lead and organize Spring Campership strategies (i.e. Garage Sale)
- Assist in providing ideas for donors to use kids in raising their own camp money (babysitting, lawn work, pet sitting)
- Provide any assistance to staff in Spring Fundraiser (Bowl-A-Thon) details.

**Banquet Task Force:** Brian Summerall at bsummerall@mac.com

- Assist staff in locating an appropriate venue for the Fall Banquet.
- Assist staff in coordinating table hosts for banquet
- Assist staff in planning and obtaining decorations for banquet.

**Prayer Task Force:** Gail Akers - gail.akers@sbcglobal.net

Kristie Lipper at kristie.lipper@yahoo.com

- Consistently and faithfully send out monthly prayer emails
- Plan special prayer time over the year (i.e. prayer walk at Banquet venue)
- Gathers prayer requests monthly from staff, committee, and leaders for prayer at monthly committee meetings.

**Adult Guests:** Jim & Susie Breckenridge - JLBreck@aol.com or susiebreck@me.com

- Works with area staff to secure Adult Guest spots at summer camp
- Recruits and takes adult guest to summer camp

**Psalm 52:9 - I will praise you forever for what you have done; in your name I will hope, for your name is good. I will praise you in the presence of your saints.**

### **Praises...**

- For God meeting our financial needs again this year as we finish the fiscal year with a surplus.
- For our move into the new office.
- For the senior meetings that have happened and kids who are excited about taking ownership and bringing their friends to club.
- For a successful Young Lives trip that Jeni and her senior girls took.
- For Todd Pinkson's safe return from Wilderness.

**Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.**

### **Requests:**

- For God to raise up a staff person for Berkner and that we as an area would continue to be open to what he has for us there.
- For high school clubs starting September 11. That sophomores and freshmen would be invited and feel comfortable coming.
- For a great start to Wyldlife club on September 22 and that word would spread to parents about our program.
- For Joe to continue to make good inroads at UTD as he develops a leadership program there.
- For table hosts for banquet – especially a large turn out of Berkner, Richardson, and Wyldlife parents.
- For new volunteer leaders and we continue to recruit for the fall. Specific/significant needs are at Berkner and in WyldLife.