

RESUMING IN PERSON GATHERINGS

Considerations for Faith Formation Leaders

In the midst of COVID-19, as faith communities consider returning to in person gatherings, it is important that we move forward with intentionality and care. The guidelines below are meant to help you and your leadership make the best decisions for your community.

START WELL

WORK TOGETHER

Build a team to help make decisions well. This team will help shape and guide the process for resuming in person gatherings for your congregation.

NAME YOUR WHY

Focus on your why, your ministry purpose, as you consider when and how you want to reopen. Keep God's call and your ministry objectives before you as you make these important decisions.

FOLLOW ALL GUIDELINES

The Governor/State of Texas, Bishop, and your local community leaders will help you discern when and how you will re-open. As will your community's guiding principles, values, and safety policy.

COMMUNICATE COMMUNICATE

Consider sending a survey to families members of your community as you plan your reopening. Listen to people of all ages. Share all plans, policies, and expectations as you resume in person gatherings

REMEMBER



SMALLER

Social Distancing is still important. Consider how you will offer smaller group gatherings which can allow for more space between participants.

How will you encourage participants to maintain a safe distance?



SAFER

Preventing the spread of COVID-19 includes wearing masks when in groups, increased sanitation of facilities and supplies, and frequent hand washing.

How will you offer gatherings that encourages these practices?



LOCAL

Travel is not recommended unless deemed essential. The CDC and ACA are working on their recommendations for summer camps. Consider partnering with a local agency to create relationships in your communities that will continue through the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.

How will you serve your community this summer?



VIRTUAL

The online spaces created out of necessity are vital for faith formation ministry with all ages. Staying connected and nurturing relationships is essential. Continue these virtual connections to allow for larger gatherings and to include those that are at risk or not comfortable returning in person. How will you stay connected this summer?

YOU ARE DOING IMPORTANT MINISTRY

This has been a difficult, stressful, and exhausting time for many. It has also been an opportunity to reconnect and focus on what is important. As a ministry leader you are making a difference in the lives of those in your community. We believe in you and give thanks for the ministry God has called you to do in such a time as this. It is a blessing to be in ministry with you as we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.