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■ POLICY

□ GUIDELINE

YOUTH MINISTRY PERSONNEL

RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION OF VOLUNTEER YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM MEMBERS

The ministry of Leadership Development calls forth, affirms, and enables the diverse gifts, talents, and abilities of adults and young people in our faith communities for comprehensive ministry with adolescents. Leadership roles in adolescent ministry are key. Leaders must be trained and encouraged. This approach involves a wide diversity of adult and youth leaders in a variety of roles. Many will be involved in direct ministry with adolescents; others will provide support services and yet others will link the ministry effort to the resources of the broader community.

A volunteer youth ministry team, made up of adults and young people, may be formed to work with the ministry coordinator in organizing a comprehensive ministry with adolescents by planning the overall ministry, developing a leadership system, identifying the resources of the faith community, and connecting the ministry with the other ministries and programs of the faith community.

Within the Diocese of Columbus, volunteer youth ministry team members are to be recruited without discrimination on the basis of race, sex, disability, or national origin. No age requirements may be in place to discourage older adults or parents from being team members.

All youth ministry team members must be active, participating Catholics.