

Leadership Application

Thank you for your interest in becoming a leader/apprentice in Get Real Youth Outreach, a ministry of Passion 4 Community at New Life Christian Church. We attempt to create an environment which empowers pre-teens and teens to confront and discuss struggles caused by poor self-image, peer pressure, personal loss, dysfunctional families and/or painful relationships by dealing with deeply rooted issues. Support Group Leaders and Apprentices are critical in helping provide young people with valuable life skills that can be carried into adulthood. Our Group leaders help kids grasp divine healing and freedom and develop a personal relationship with God.

We look for specific qualities in Group Leaders and Apprentices. Candidates must demonstrate both a strong faithfulness to God and a deep commitment to our outreach program. We are not looking for perfection - just a strong personal commitment to Christ and personal growth. We look for dependability and availability to invest time and energy. We look for "teachability." We also look for honesty in relationships, genuineness, and transparency.

Being a leader in Get Real Youth Outreach is a tremendous responsibility that requires commitment. The payoff comes as you witness, first hand, the healing power of Christ at work in the lives of people. Before filling out this application, please pray about your decision to serve in Get Real Youth Outreach. After reviewing your application we will contact you about an interview. **Thank for your interest!**

Application Process:

To be considered for Get Real Youth Outreach, you must:

- Complete the leadership application in it's entirety (attached)
- Consent to undergo a thorough background check process
- Interview with the ministry director and the campus leader where you will be serving

Your Personal Information

First and last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (M) _____

Date of Birth _____ Email _____

Professional Work Status (part-time, full-time, self-employed, retired, other _____)

Employer _____

Occupation _____

Martial Status: _____ If married, how long? _____

Do you have children? If so, what are their names and ages?

Education:

High School Year Graduated

College/trade school Year Graduated

Degree Minor

Other Education Year Graduated

Qualifications (Check all that apply):

- I have direct or indirect experience with the topic of a particular group Get Real Youth Outreach offers
- I have a professional background in working with people who deal with one or more issues Get Real Youth Outreach addresses
- I have participated in a support group as a participant or apprentice for at least one year
- I am willing to serve as an Apprentice in a group for at least 4 months to earn a positive recommendation from the leader you served under.

I am applying for (Please circle your selection):

Group Leader OR Apprentice Leader

I want to serve as a Group Leader or Apprentice for the following support group(s)
(Please select all that apply):

- Divorce Care (targeted to kids in divorced families or broken homes)
- Anxiety, Panic, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
- Codependency
- Loss: Death/Grieving
- Foster Care/Dealing with issues of being adopted
- Addictions (Drugs, alcohol, pornography, school, sex, work)
- Eating disorders
- Teen Pregnancy
- Depression
- Homosexuality
- Anger Management

Commitment (Please check each item as you read it)

- I agree to make a long-term commitment to the program of six months or more. We typically ask for a commitment of one year.
- I agree to maintain confidentiality of all group members unless a participant indicates a threat of suicide, homicide, intent to harm another, or in the event you have suspicion that a participant is a victim of abuse (child abuse and/or sexual abuse). **Please note, Training will be provided.**
- I have read and affirm the mission and core values of New Life Christian Church and agree to support and cooperate with the elders and those God has called into other positions of leadership.

Church attendance/membership:

- Where do you regularly attend worship services?
- How long have you been attending New Life Christian Church?
- Do you consider yourself a member of New Life Christian Church?
- Please list the churches you have previously been affiliated with (if any)

Church	Denomination	Dates Attended	Reason for leaving

Personal and Spiritual History (Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet.)

1. Write a brief testimony about how you become a Christian. Please include significant events in your life that have impacted you spiritually. Please highlight major milestones, including your water baptism.
2. Please describe the authority of scripture in your life.
3. How would you describe your spiritual journey now?
4. To whom are you accountable in your spiritual walk?
5. Describe how you handle a situation when you have a conflict with someone? How do you handle confrontation?
6. Are there any special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would have an impact in your commitment and involvement in the youth ministry? (e.g., relationships, other commitments, etc.)
7. Why are you interested in helping teens deal with tough issues?
8. What gifts, talents, and/or abilities do you feel you possess to help in the care ministry?
9. In groups we will be talking about serious issues, some which are embarrassing to teenagers. How would you handle this kind of discussion? Are you comfortable with handling the confrontation of delicate subject matter?
10. Describe your relational skills with teenagers. Why do you feel that God is calling you specifically to work with teens?
11. Please state any concerns that you may have in working with the *Get Real Youth Outreach*? What are some of your expectations of the youth ministry staff?
12. Please describe any other church/ministry experience you have been involved with and the reason for ending that ministry if you are no longer involved. Describe your experience as being positive or negative, or both. Please include any recovery/support groups you have lead or participated in.
13. Get Real Youth Outreach asks its Leaders to prayerfully make our outreach your primary or only significant ministry commitment. What changes, if any, would you need to make in your life in order to fulfill this commitment?

14. The following are topics that Get Real Youth Outreach will be discussing in groups:

- Divorce Care (targeted to kids in divorced families or broken homes)
- Anxiety, Panic, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
- Codependency
- Loss: Death/Grieving
- Foster Care/Dealing with issues of being adopted
- Addictions (Drugs, alcohol, pornography, school, sex, work)
- Eating disorders
- Teen Pregnancy
- Depression
- Homosexuality
- Anger Management

All subjects will be addressed based on the authority of the Bible.

Are there any subjects listed above that you are uncertain of related to Biblical positioning or knowledge? Are there any topics above that you feel you may have feelings about that may be contrary to what the Bible expresses? Please describe this thoroughly.

15. In caring for students, we believe it is our responsibility to seek an adult staff that is able to provide healthy, safe, and nurturing relationships. Please answer the following questions truthfully. Any special concerns can be discussed individually with the pastoral staff.

- Have you, or are you currently illegally using prescription medication or illegal drugs?
- Have you even gone through treatment for alcohol or drug abuse?
- Have you ever had sexual relations with any minor (since you became an adult)?
- Have you ever been accused or convicted of any form of child abuse? If yes, please describe.
- Are you willing to be fingerprinted for state criminal conviction clearing?
- Have you ever received treatment for any emotional or psychiatric problem?

Please note: We ask these questions so that we can be as fully informed as possible about our leaders, and their unique qualifications for leadership. If you answered yes to any of the questions above, someone from Get Real Youth Outreach Leader Team will speak with you about this so that we may better understand its significance in your life and ministry. We recognize that many excellent caregivers have been made stronger in their care-giving ministry *because of* the care they themselves have received. This includes the receipt of care from a mental health professional. Our leadership affirms the work of mental health professionals, who have helped many individuals to experience growth and healing.

16. In what ways do you think you would benefit personally from your training and service to Get Real Youth Outreach?

17. Based on your current understanding of what it means to be on the Get Real Youth Outreach team, what do you think would be difficult or challenging aspects of this role for you?

Background Information

Due to the nature of youth work we ask that all our volunteers undergo a police background check prior to beginning the ministry with *Get Real Youth Outreach* Groups.

References

Please provide three references who are not members of this congregation. Please include the leader of a previous recovery/support ministry you served in or the leader of the previous youth ministry you served in.

First reference

Name _____

Address _____

Relationship _____ Phone # _____

Second Reference

Name _____

Address _____

Relationship _____ Phone # _____

Third Reference

Name _____

Address _____

Relationship _____ Phone # _____

GROUP LEADER POSITION DESCRIPTION***Purpose:***

To facilitate support groups that allows students to meet God even in the midst of their deepest pain, which will result in a continual growing relationship with the Lord.

Job Title: Group Leader

Relationships:

- Supervised by Get Real Youth Outreach leadership team
- Build trust relationships with Jr. and Sr. High school groups **and** their parent(s)

Responsibilities:

- Plan/Lead/Mentor weekly care groups
- Meet monthly with other leaders for additional training, prayer, vision, goals...
- Build trusting relationships with teenagers
- Be aware of our own personal vulnerabilities and temptations
- Treat all matters with the strictest of confidentiality subject to the limits of legal reporting and pastoral oversight
- Demonstrate commitment to live in purity, as a role model students
- Minister the healing love and power of Jesus to students
- Challenge students to turn away from sinful and destructive behavior that interferes with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ

Time Required: We request a two-year commitment for Get Real Outreach in Northern Virginia, although we discuss commitments with leaders on a one-to-one basis. The first four months of this commitment will be focused on training.

Training and Support Provided:

- You will be required to attend Stephens Ministry training
- You will be challenged to grow spiritually
- You will be challenged to grow in your personal relationships
- You will be asked to make this your primary or only significant ministry commitment

Qualifications and Special Skills:

- Teaching and/or facilitating
- You must be a baptized believer with a maturing relationship with Jesus Christ
- Ability to communicate with teens
- Willingness to be trained/teachability
- Attend church worship weekly
- You must have a heart for teens and be a role model to which they can aspire

Reporting Child Abuse Responsibilities – Legal Requirements

Get Real Youth Outreach and New Life Christian Church follow the state mandated guidelines for reporting situations of child endangerment. The following excerpts are taken from Virginia State Statutes; US Department of Health and Human Services, National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information

The state definition of child abuse is as follows:

“any child less than 18 years of age: whose parents or other person responsible for his care creates or inflicts, threatens to create or inflict, or allows to be created or inflicted upon such a child a physical or mental injury or other than accidental means, or creates a substantial risk of death, disfigurement, or impairment of bodily or mental functions..., neglects or refuses to provide care necessary for his health..., abandons such child..., commits or allows to be committed any act of sexual exploitation or any sexual act upon a child in violation of the law..., who is without parental care or guardianship caused by the unreasonable absence or the mental or physical incapacity of the child’s parent, guardian, legal custodian, or other person standing in loco parentis.”

The state standard for mandated reporting of child abuse is having “reason to suspect.”

Professions that are mandated reporters of child abuse:

- Health Care
- Mental Health
- Social Work
- Education
- Child Care
- Law Enforcement Professionals
- Mediators
- Christian Science Practitioners
- Probation Officers
- Court Appointed Special Advocates

Reasons and Benefits for reporting suspected cases of child abuse:

- Avoiding legal prosecution of the church or professional in the event of a child’s death or injury.
- Upholding a legal, ethical, and moral obligation to keep the children within our treatment and care safe.
- Creating a safe environment in the minds of the parents and children, as they are aware of the boundaries of confidentiality and the process.
- Avoiding internal conflicts for the professional, as the responsibility for the assessment of actual abuse is given to the Child Protective Services.
- Maintaining rapport with the family upon whom an abuse call has been made, as they are aware that it is out of the hands and judgment of the professional, as this is a legal mandate.
- Avoiding increased abuse upon the child by a parent, who was contacted and questioned by the professional first, rather than Child Protective Services, who have the authority to keep the child safe once they have disclosed.
- Understanding the removal from the home is not the first option when Child Protective Services assesses for abuse. This occurs when the child is in immediate danger. CPS will first want to provide services to the family and every effort is made to maintain the family.

NOTE: All information discussed in group sessions by leaders and participants of *Get Real Youth Outreach* and New Life Christian Church will be held confidential except as required by law. No information disclosed in a session may be used in legal proceedings or in arbitration, except for what is otherwise noted above.

Affirmation and Signature

I certify that the information contained in, and attached to this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I, the undersigned, give my authorization to Get Real Youth Outreach (a ministry of Passion for Community) and New Life Christian Church or its representatives to release any and all records of information that may reflect on my ability to work with minors. Get Real Youth Outreach (a ministry of Passion for Community) and New Life Christian Church may contact references and appropriate government agencies as deemed necessary in order to verify my suitability as a youth worker. I understand that the personal information in this application will be held confidential by the professional church staff.

(Print Name)

(Signature)

(Date)

Please return application to your campus leader or mail to:

Lucy Martinez
New Life Christian Church
4451 Brookfield Corporate Drive Ste 104
Chantilly, VA 20151