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 Dear Church,

At Annual Conference in June 2021, the conference passed a resolution to bring a branch of Project Transformation (PT) to Pine Bluff, Arkansas. PT’s mission is to bring children, college students, and churches together in purposeful relationships. The main avenue for these relationships is a summer day camp program for children hosted in United Methodist churches and run by young adult interns.

This unique ministry is connected to the conference’s initiative of 200K More Reasons and Culture of Call. PT will work to create opportunities for congregations to engage in literacy ministry and support young adults exploring their calling through ministry exploration opportunities. PT is a tried and tested program with branches operating in 9 different Annual Conferences and with opportunities for interns to further their education with seminary partnerships.

We are currently seeking two churches that would like to partner with us by becoming hosts for the summer day camp. This is a unique opportunity to United Methodist churches in Pine Bluff. Our prayer is to provide a safe place for children in our community while helping young adults discern God’s call on their lives. If you are interested, please fill out the attached form and return it to the listed address by January 7th.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Rev. Sam Meadors, Lead Champion, at 501-650-0565 or samantha.meadors@arumc.org. Rev. Meadors is happy would love to visit with you about this program or join in on your conversation with your church leadership.

Thank you for your consideration,

The Project Transformation Arkansas Leadership Team

Rev. Sam Meadors

Amanda Cofer

Rev. Natasha Murray

Cara Brazeal

Rev. Garry Teeter

Virginia Hymes

Michelle Moore

**Host Church Application**

Thank you for your interest in applying to serve as a host location for Project Transformation’s summer program. In partnership with local churches, Project Transformation is committed to provide quality programming for underserved children and youth with a focus on developing the mind, body and spirit, as well as encouraging young adults to engage in ministry and service through leading the summer day camp. Each church that is interested in participating in Project Transformation as a host church is required to complete the following application.

**PT Connect Team:** Our goal for each host church partnership is to equip congregations to connect with their neighbors. Relationships are the foundation of church or community development. Each host church must also designate a 4-6 person PT Connect Team on their application that will focus on using PT to connect the congregations in building mutually transformational relationships with neighbors. Training will be made available to equip this team for its vital, hands-on ministry. *One member of the team should serve as the contact person in addition to the site pastor/supervisor.*

If you have questions or would like to set-up and informational meeting, please contact Rev. Sam Meadors.

samantha.meadors@arumc.org.

Applications must be mailed or emailed to:

**PT Arkansas**

**℅ Sam Meadors**

2502 Cherry Crossing Benton, AR 72015

samantha.meadors@arumc.org

Host Church Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Church website:

Church Social Media Handles/Account: Instagram      Facebook       Other

Pastor’s Name:

Pastor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pastor’s Email:

Supervisor’s Name (if different): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor’s Email (if different):

Name of Lay Leader (if applicable):

Lay Leader’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Administrative Board Chair:

Administrative Board Chair’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Board of Trustees Chair:

Board of Trustee Chair’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Applying for **One Year** or **Three Year** Partnership

The 4-6 person PT Connect Team will focus on using PT to connect the congregations in building mutually transformational relationships with neighbors. Training will be made available to equip this team for its important hands-on ministry. For this application, please name those who have been recruited to be trained to serve on this team, as well as a contact person.

PT Connect Team Contact(s):

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Email | Phone Number |
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Communication Contact: Please list the designated communications contact(s) in charge of bulletins/powerpoints, newsletters, website updates, or social media so we can push important messages and resources to them.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Email | Phone Number |
|  |  |  |

1. What are the boundaries of the immediate neighborhood your church serves and within which it is located? Include a map, if available.

2. What are the demographics, poverty levels, and major life concerns of the immediate community surrounding your church (you might use [missioninsite.com](http://../../../Downloads/missioninsite.com) reports accessed through the Conference- contact Jacob Turner (jacob.turner@arumc.org) for more information)?

3. As you look at your surrounding neighborhood, what assets are evident? (ex. physical spaces like parks or meaningful places, skills of neighbors, local businesses and buying power/needs, partners in other churches or organizations, area institutions like hospitals or schools)

4. Please provide the percentage of students from the nearest elementary school who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. Attach any additional documentation that demonstrates economic need within the community.

5. Please describe your current relationship with local schools in your immediate community.

6. Share some ways your church has made an effort to connect with the community.

7. How many children and youth do you foresee participating in Project Transformation’s summer program?

8. Do you have a long-range plan for how your church and neighborhood could benefit from Project Transformation? For example, in what ways would your church be able to continue the ministry with the children and families of Project Transformation at the end of the summer program? How could your congregation engage with the families during and after the summer program?

9. Share how the pastor and congregation members would become involved with Project Transformation (i.e., being present to connect with neighbors at family engagement activities, commit to having lunch weekly with the children and interns, volunteer to read with a child on a weekly basis, provide communion for the interns, provide a meal for the team of interns, provide a host each day to greet the families and/or volunteers, etc.).

10. The mission of the Church is *“to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”* How would a child or parent that you build a relationship with through Project Transformation pursue becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ at your church?

11. Host pastors and/or church staff supervisors are expected to meet regularly with the team of interns during the summer (weekly with the site coordinator and every other week with the full team of interns) to provide encouragement and support and to keep open lines of communication with the team. Who from your church will commit to meeting regularly with the interns and site coordinator?

12. Which parts of the church campus will Project Transformation be able to utilize for the program (number of classrooms, fellowship hall, gym, library, kitchen, playground, green space, etc.)?

13. And are there any facility challenges or concerns about which we should be aware (i.e. HVAC problems, building renovation plans, possible safety concerns, spaces that are not ADA accessible, areas that are off-limits, etc.)?

14. It is important for the host church to provide an administrative workspace for the site coordinator to use during the summer with access to Internet, copier/printer, office supplies, and computer. Please describe the space that will be made available to the site coordinator.

15. Is there someone at the church who would be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facility (e.g. trustee, building or facilities manager)? Please include a name and contact information for who we would need to contact if facility issues arise.

16. For liability reasons, it is necessary to have a pastor or authorized congregation member at the church while the children and interns are present (Monday to Thursday from 9-3pm). Please state the name of the person(s) who would be the daily presence for the interns during the program.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

17. What kind of transformation are you hoping for through a partnership with Project Transformation? Whose lives are impacted and how?

All applications will be reviewed by Project Transformation staff and the Board of Directors. You will be notified in late January of the selection of summer sites for 2022. All host pastors and at least one member of the host Leadership Team are required to attend a mandatory meeting in the spring (**Date/Time TBD)** to prepare for the summer program.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a host church with Project Transformation!