

**Project Transformation Oklahoma
Site Application 2022**

Application Deadline: September 30th, 2021

Name of Church: _____

Address: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Signature

Date

Pastor's Signature

Date

District Superintendent's Signature

Date

Chair of Administrative Board's Signature

Date

Name & Contact Information of Key Volunteers involved in application process:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Project Transformation Site Churches are selected based off of the following criteria:

1. The demographics of the church. The churches must be located in neighborhoods where children and families are in need of the program.
2. The surrounding elementary schools should have a high percentage of children eligible for the Free/Reduced Price Lunch program. (80% or higher is preferred)
3. The church's desire to connect with their community. The congregation must be interested in addressing the needs of their neighborhood and welcoming families into their church. The congregation is expected to become involved by volunteering to read with and provide meals for the children. In addition, the members of the site will be able to engage with the parents and families of the children who attend Project Transformation through a variety of events.
4. The church's ability to support the AmeriCorps members as they lead the program.
5. The church's ability to assist Project Transformation in providing housing for AmeriCorps members during the summer.
6. The church's ability to pay additional utility and maintenance costs throughout the summer.
7. The church's ability to add Project Transformation as an additional insured under the comprehensive general liability policy.
8. The church's adoption of a Safe Sanctuary or Ministry Safe Policy.
9. The pastor's and congregation's ability to have a daily presence at the program.

Sites will be expected to meet the following expectations:

1. Provide space and resources for an average of 50-60 children from the neighborhood.
2. Provide a devoted Site Supervisor (paid staff or volunteer) to supervise the AmeriCorps members and the program every day. The site supervisor(s) must be actively involved in programming and on-site during all program hours (Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm; family fun nights).
3. Provide 4-5 Key Volunteers who will be available on a daily basis during the summer camp.
4. The church's willingness to participate in training sessions to prepare them for the summer. The Site Supervisor(s) is required to attend the initial Site Supervisor Training as well as the quarterly meetings throughout the year. The Site Supervisor must be designated or hired by January 1, 2022.
5. Provide 12-15 reading volunteers Monday-Thursday from 9:30am-12:00pm each week of Project Transformation. These volunteers can come from the site church, partner churches, or partner organizations.

6. Provide daily breakfast, lunch, and snack for an average of 50-60 children over the course of the eight weeks of camp (PT Sites often serve as USDA summer meal program locations to meet this expectation).
7. Coordinate Partner Churches in the site church's community to provide reading volunteers throughout the summer.
8. Coordinate Partner Churches and individuals in the site church's community to provide dinners for AmeriCorps members Monday, & Wednesday evenings.
9. Reserve a minimum of \$2,000 for site supplies, extra utilities, etc. (This money will not be given to Project Transformation; it is to be held for activities, supplies, maintenance and other costs for site management).
10. Host two family fun nights within your church that will engage camper families, members of the neighborhood, and members of your church congregation. Family Fun Nights are outreach events organized and led by the site church's congregation and site supervisor(s).

PART I: SITE CHURCH APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Each church that is interested in applying for site status must provide complete and detailed responses to each of the following questions.

1. What are the demographics of the community surrounding your church? Please provide detailed information on the types of families, schools, social needs and other pertinent information that would familiarize our selection committee with your church and community.
2. How and where do you plan to recruit the children from your surrounding community?
3. Are you aware of any other day camps offered in your community that might conflict with Project Transformation day camp?
4. Are there other children's programs offered in your church during the eight weeks of Project Transformation camp? This includes, but is not limited to, VBS. Please provide detailed descriptions of how you plan to avoid conflict with building resources and facilities.
5. Does your church have adequate space for a library, art room, science room? Does your church have a kitchen facility where breakfast and lunches may be prepared? Does your church have facilities or areas available for indoor and outdoor recreation?
6. Please explain how your church plans to collect adequate paper products, art supplies, and other products that may be needed during camp.
7. Please explain how your church plans to provide breakfast, lunch, and a snack to campers.
8. Please explain how your church plans to recruit and maintain 12-15 reading volunteers for all eight weeks of camp.
9. Please explain how your pastor and congregation will engage in the daily activities. Is the congregation and the pastoral/administrative staff 100% behind the project? You may provide written statements of affirmation to support your answer.
10. What Sunday school classes or programs do you currently have that are specifically geared toward elementary-age children? Please provide current attendance numbers and descriptions.
11. In what ways would your church continue its outreach with the children and families of Project Transformation after the summer program ends?
12. Please list the name(s) of the individual(s) who will be your Site Supervisor(s). If you do not currently have a site supervisor in mind, please explain how you plan to recruit or select a site supervisor. (Reminder: The Site Supervisor(s) must be designated or hired by January 1, 2022).
13. Is your Church willing to do what it takes to hold modified programming, should modifications be in order due to the continued effects of the COvid-19 Pandemic?
14. Please detail your current plans or ideas to help Project Transformation house AmeriCorps members within your local community.

Part II: Partner Church Commitments

Please Identify 4-8 partner churches that agree to the following statement:

“ Our Partner Church agrees to provide support for this Project Transformation Site. We understand that we should be active in the recruitment of reading volunteers from our local congregation, as well as potentially providing other support for the program as we are able. It is our pleasure to partner with Project Transformation to make a difference in the lives of children, college students, and churches, including our own church, through our support in these ways.”

1. Partner Church 1: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

2. Partner Church 2: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

3. Partner Church 3: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

4. Partner Church 4: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

5. Partner Church 5: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

6. Partner Church 6: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

7. Partner Church 7: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

8. Partner Church 8: _____

Partner Church Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

PART III: APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

Please attach the following to your final application:

1. A copy of a comprehensive general liability policy. Be sure this includes specific policies regarding Safe Sanctuaries practices within your church.
2. A proposed budget for Project Transformation. This should include how you intend to reserve approximately \$2000 for additional utilities/expenses. This does not mean you will be asked to donate \$2000 to Project Transformation or that your church will actually spend \$2000 on utilities. It is an estimated amount based on previous site church expenses.
3. A list of Partner organizations and churches that you will work with to help you serve.
4. Photos of the church premises available for use by Project Transformation, or a virtual site tour if possible.

All Project Transformation Site Applications are due by September 30th, 2021.

Project Transformation's site selection committee is composed of members of the PT Board of Directors and Oklahoma Annual Conference Staff. You will be notified about the committee's decision by the end of October 2021.

Please Send Completed Applications to:

Project Transformation
1501 NW 24th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

Roxie Hacker
Project Transformation Director
405.530.2010
rhacker@okumc.org



OUR MISSION

Based on a model founded in 1998 in Dallas, Texas, Project Transformation Oklahoma launched in 2002 to address three unique challenges with one program: 1) how to meet the academic, physical, social-emotional, and spiritual needs of children from low-income communities, 2) how to provide meaningful ways for college-age young adults to explore ministry opportunities and develop as young principled leaders for the church and the world; and 3) how to help revitalize churches in underserved communities.

Children – College students – Churches. This is a win-win-win formula, but relationships are at the heart of everything we do. It is through relationships that lives are transformed.

Our mission is to engage young adults in purposeful leadership and ministry, support children in holistic development, and connect churches with communities.

Project Transformation's collaborative model of ministry harnesses the creative energy and leadership of college age young adults by hiring them to serve as AmeriCorps members and lead summer programs for children in various underserved neighborhoods. Each week, AmeriCorps members meet with church and nonprofit leaders to explore various ministry-related vocations and spend time discerning their vocational call to life-long service. The programs are held at United Methodist churches located in the heart of low-income neighborhoods, thereby helping those churches connect in meaningful ways with their communities. Dozens of other churches and organizations throughout Oklahoma partner together to support this work, investing in these young lives with their time and resources.

YOUNG ADULT SERVICE PROGRAM

Project Transformation's summer service terms are for young adults who have completed at least their freshman year of college and are interested in serving others. The program is designed to offer young adults a hands-on opportunity to build lasting relationships with underserved children, live in intentional Christian community, experience cultural and socio-economic diversity, and explore various careers in ministry and service. At PT Oklahoma, young adults become AmeriCorps members during their service and earn a living stipend plus an education award for their service. As a United Methodist-affiliated organization, Project Transformation Oklahoma also offers young adults opportunities to grow in their faith journey and discern their calling during their service. To clearly separate these activities from the AmeriCorps program, young adults have the option of participating in these faith-based components.

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

Project Transformation operates eight-week summer day camps serving children grades 1-5 in high-need neighborhoods throughout Oklahoma. Our day camps focus on holistic development, enriching the mind, body, and spirit. We place a unique focus on improving literacy and social-emotional development. Each day, children read one-on-one with community volunteers and participate in activity-based literacy intervention. Children also participate in daily enrichment activities including recreational play and exercise, creative arts, and interaction with our young adults

and community volunteers, who inspire and encourage youth daily to value education and pursue their dreams.

LOCAL CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

Project Transformation partners with United Methodist Churches located in high-need communities across Oklahoma to implement our summer day camps. In serving as a host site, each church commits to the ministry of Project Transformation through both financial and volunteer support. It is the goal of each site church to actively build new relationships with the children and their families with the hope that those mutual, supportive relationships will continue after the summer ends.