



Youth Ministry Initiative

YMI Site Partners Application

YMI's MISSION

To nurture authentic human flourishing within the life of the church by enhancing, supporting, and connecting transformative youth ministries.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Youth Ministry Initiative (“YMI”) Fellows and Coaching Program combines coaching for “YMI Site Partners” that are passionate about growing and improving a transformative relational youth ministry and training and robust support for “YMI Fellows” who are passionate about ministering with and to youth.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Each YMI Site Partner will commit to a YMI Coaching Partnership and to collaborating with YMI to develop core youth ministry values identified as the “YMI Way.”
- Each YMI Fellow will commit to participate in the activities of the YMI Fellowship and to adhere to their employment contract with a YMI Site Partner.

EXPECTATIONS and REQUIREMENTS FOR SITE PARTNERS

- Complete a YMI Site Partner application and interview
- Demonstrate a passionate commitment to growing and improving a transformative relational youth ministry
- Commit to a regular coaching relationship with YMI
- Commit to the collaboratively developed YMI Way
- Commit to compensate YMI Fellows fairly, in amounts commensurate with church capacities
- Agree to hire 2 YMI Fellows
- Demonstrate the existence of a relational youth group which meets regularly with some degree of structure
- Identify an existing leader/minister serving this group who will also serve as the YMI Fellows’ Site Supervisor
- Demonstrate the existence or make a commitment to convening a youth ministry support committee (of parents/parishioners)

- Agree to manage the accountability for Fellows' work hours and fulfillment of Fellowship/employment requirements
- Participate in monthly coaching meetings with YMI Associate Director(s)
- Participate in weekly mentoring/planning meetings with YMI Fellows
- Participate in a one-day orientation prior to the start of the program (August/September)
- Participate in a One-day, mid-year training day (January)
- Attend at least four YMI Lectures during the year
- Complete Fellows' mid-year and final evaluations

Site Partner Church Application

Site Information

Name of Church _____

Website _____

Institutional Address _____

Denomination _____

Church Description _____

Supervisor Information

Name _____ Position _____ Email Address _____
 Telephone Number _____

YMI expects partner churches to compensate their YMI Fellows fairly and in amounts commensurate with church capacities. What stipend will you offer your YMI Fellow? _____

What excites you about the possibility of hosting a Youth Ministry Initiative Fellow?

What emphasis is there on youth ministry at your church?

Position Description

Please describe the position that the fellow would fill at your site. Please be specific with respect to expectations, opportunities, and responsibilities, and/or attach a position description.

Commitment to Youth Ministry

YMI seeks to support and partner with a small number of churches that discern a call to invest deeply in training a new generation of youth ministers and who are themselves committed to taking a robust and vital youth ministry to a new level of excellence. Call and commitment to youth ministry may be manifested in a wide variety of ways. Please help us understand your church's commitment by responding to the following queries.

1. Do you have a budget allocation for relational youth ministry? If so, what is the church's total aggregate expense budget and what is the budget allocated to relational youth ministry? _____
2. How many ordained ministers are on staff? With respect to each ordained minister on staff, what percentage of their time is allocated to relational youth ministry? _____
3. Do you have any lay staff members working on relational youth ministry? If so, then with respect to each lay employee, how much of their time each week is allocated to relational youth ministry? _____

4. Do you have a vision/mission statement for your youth ministry? If so, please attach the statement. If not, would you be willing to work with YMI to develop a vision/mission statement? _____
5. Do you have a lay or parent's committee to support your relational youth ministry? If so, is that committee responsible for any other programs as well? _____
6. Do you have a confirmation program? How many children of your church do you confirm in an average year? _____
7. Do you already have a relational youth ministry? If so, what ages or grades meet together? _____ What is your average attendance? _____
8. What staff member(s) would participate in the training and support of a YMI Fellow? On what schedule? _____
9. Do you have a "Safe Church Policy" for your church? If not, would you be willing to work with YMI to develop one? _____
10. Will you conduct a law enforcement background check and check references on your YMI Fellow? _____
11. Would you be willing to have your minister(s) and lay leader(s) designated to supervise the YMI Fellow attend a one-day retreat with ministers from the other YMI Partner Churches in the fall? _____
12. Would you be willing to have your minister(s) and lay leaders(s) designated to supervise the YMI Fellow attend the YMI Summer Study term course? _____
The YMI monthly lunch and lectures? _____

Please return to Allison Van Rhee at the Yale Center for Faith & Culture, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511 and/or email a copy to allison.vanrhee@yale.edu.