

# Network Regional Facilitators



## **Why we need regional facilitators:**

- Ensure regional representation
- Create regional connections
- Be aware of and harness unique needs and gifts of individual regions

## **Desired outcomes of Regional Facilitators:**

- Facilitate and communicate the Network to the region
- Increasing regional involvement
- Discover and respond to regional needs
- Work with the staff to be the hands as well as ears and eyes of the network
- Increased Network membership within regions
- Strong relationships with synods and synod staff
- Help cultivate culture of healthy youth ministers

## **Skills necessary in prospective regional facilitators:**

- Awareness of unique culture of the region
- Communication skills; written and oral
- Relationship building
- Encouraging, organized and outgoing
- Passionate about the mission of the network
- Understanding of role and responsibilities
- Team player
- Resource to their region
- Self-starter

## **Attributes of a Regional Facilitator:**

- A member of an ELCA congregation
- Experienced in children, youth and family ministry
- Knowledgeable and influential in their region

## **Functions of a Regional Facilitator**

- Expand the base of leadership in the network
- Serve as a connector
- Accountable to staff and owners (Network Members)
- Strategic and emerging networks can be represented by additional facilitators by the will of the board
- Elected regionally at the Extravaganza for a 3 year term renewable once.
- An alternate will be elected at the same time to serve a 3 year term renewable once.
- The alternate will step into the role of the facilitator in their absence whether temporary (i.e. a specific event or meeting) or permanent. Alternates will work in tandem with the Regional Facilitator • The facilitator will be removed from the responsibilities in the event that they are no longer fulfilling the expectations, they move outside of the region, they leave children,

youth and family ministry, they leave the ELCA (as their role is directly related to their ability to connect with and work on behalf of ELCA children, youth and family ministries and ministers.)

- There will be a brief meeting of facilitators at the Extravaganza following election introducing roles and giving a basic orientation. The facilitators will also gather in the Spring for a meeting at the same time and place as the board.

### **Job Description**

- Communicate as necessary with the region
- Market the Network and extravaganza as resources
- Create and facilitate local networks within region with representatives from each synod
- Connect different parts of youth and family from areas such as outdoor ministry, campus ministry, ELCA colleges, synodical leaders, and congregational staff
- Support, uplift, and connect youth and family ministry in urban, rural, and suburban settings being done by full-time, part-time, and volunteer staff – lay or clergy.
- Be present at programmatic functions of the region including but not limited to youth leader training events and other gatherings of their constituents.
- Responsibilities may vary by region and can be brought forth by the regional caucus at the time of election.
- Attend the annual Extravaganza and a spring meeting of the regional facilitators.
- Communicate with and report to staff.
- The facilitators will report directly to the staff. If the staff so chooses, they ask that the group chooses a convener to work closely with them.