

June, 2009

Dear Youth Contact:

We would like to invite you to appoint a young person from your parish or Catholic High School to represent your group on the AYAC [Archdiocesan Youth Advisory Council.]

Briefly review the structure and role of the Archdiocesan Youth Advisory Council.

THE AYAC

The Division of Youth and Young Adult Ministry invites each parish and Catholic high school to appoint one junior or senior to serve as representative on the AYAC for a minimum of one year. New council members are expected to attend their first meeting in September. Ideally, council members are incoming juniors and are able to serve for two years. Sometimes a parish or high school asks if they can have a second AYAC representative. This request will be considered but please send a letter or email to us making this request. We will respond promptly.

The AYAC meets seven times between September and April. **Meeting dates for the 2009 - 2010 year are:**

September 27th	January 10th	April 18th
October 18th	February 21st	
November 8th	March 21st	

All meeting dates are on Sunday. The AYAC usually meets for 3 hours starting at 10 or 11 AM. Our first meeting will be on September 27th, at New All Saints Parish, 4408 Liberty Heights Avenue. The meeting on September 27th will begin promptly at 10:00 am. and run until 2:00 pm. The first meeting will be a little longer.

Last February the AYAC selected members to serve as the leadership team. The leadership team runs AYAC meetings, coordinates projects and represents the council at youth ministry events. The leadership team will complete its term in January 2010, when a new leadership team will be selected. The current leadership team members are: **Allison Boyd** – Sacred Heart, Glyndon, **Amanda Ceraldi** – Our Lady of the Chesapeake, **Francesca Cerquetti** – Maryvale Prep. High School, **Rachel Fraczkowski** – St. Brigid, **Meghan Kennedy** – St. Andrew by the Bay, **Meghan Sprankle** – St. Louis, Clarksville.

Each year the AYAC takes on several projects. For the 2009-2010 school year the AYAC will work on the National Catholic Youth Conference, the March for Life, Catholic Lobby Night in Annapolis and the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage for Young Adults and Youth. The council may also develop a special project so long as it relates to one of the five focus areas of the council's work. The focus areas are outreach to Catholic youth, faith development among young people, youth at-risk issues, justice education and service to the community.

APPOINTING A YOUTH TO THE AYAC

Enclosed with this letter is an **AYAC APPOINTMENT FORM**. **This form must be completed and returned** to our office for any youth to become a member of the council. The **form must be signed** by the parish or school youth contact. Note that the form reminds the youth contact to do three things:

- ✓ explain the purpose and structure of the AYAC
- ✓ share the meeting dates and speak about their responsibility to attend all meetings
- ✓ give the parent permission form to the young person

Please help us keep track of membership by submitting an appointment form for youth who were on the council last school year and will return this September.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR AYAC MEMBERS

- AYAC members should be in their junior or senior year of high school. Exceptional sophomores should be cleared with the Division staff.
- AYAC members should be dependable, ready to attend all AYAC meetings and available to assist with council projects.
- AYAC members should be capable speakers, organized, creative and cooperative when working with a team.
- AYAC members should have some Christian leadership skills and be able to create solutions to problems and challenges.
- AYAC members should witness gospel values in lifestyle and understand his or her role in modeling those values to peers.

MODERATORS

Before closing, please join us in offering our thanks to Tim Janiszewski and Bianca Gentile who serve as the AYAC moderators. They are just terrific.

Your prompt attention to this issue would be appreciated. Thanks for all that you do for Catholic Youth Ministry and your support of the Archdiocesan Youth Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

The Division of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

**ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE
DIVISION OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

PERMISSION FORM AND RELEASE - AYAC

Youth Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent Name: _____ Work Phone: _____

Other number where Parent can be reached: _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Social Security Number of Young Person _____ - _____ - _____

Date of Birth: _____ Male Female (please circle)

In consideration of the wholesome recreational and learning experience in which my son/daughter will participate, I as parent or guardian of _____ do hereby agree to allow my son/daughter, to participate in and attend the functions of the Archdiocesan Youth Advisory Council during the 2009-2010 school year.

I/we acknowledge receipt of the accompanying information sheet listing the meeting dates.

In consideration of the opportunity for my son/daughter to participate in the Program, I agree to RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY the Division of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Baltimore and his successors, a corporation sole, and all their agents, servants and employees from any liability, claims, demands and causes of action arising out of or relating to any loss, damage or injury sustained in connection with or arising out of my son/daughter's participation in the Program.

I hereby grant permission to Division Staff, Tim Janiszewski and Bianca Gentile to obtain medical care from a licensed physician, hospital, or medical clinic for my son/daughter in the event that I cannot be reached.

(Check one of the following)

I am covered by hospitalization and medical insurance under policy # _____ issued by _____.

I do not have medical coverage and assume responsibility for the cost of hospitalization and medical care for my son/daughter.

(over)

I hereby grant permission to Division Staff, Tim Janiszewski and to Bianca Gentile to provide the following over-the-counter drugs to my son/daughter if requested by my son/daughter (***Circle all that apply:***)

Tylenol Benadryl Advil Sudafed Midol Kaopectate Neosporin Pepto Bismol

ADD any other medical information concerning medication, allergies, illness, etc. _____

ADD any dietary restrictions: _____

Parents/guardians of participants are advised that photographs or videotape of participants may be used in publications, websites or other materials produced from time to time by the Division of Youth and Young Adult Ministry or the Archdiocese of Baltimore. (Participants would not be identified, however, without specific written consent.) Parents/guardians who do not wish their child(ren) to be photographed or filmed should so notify the Division in writing. Please note that the Division has no control over the use of photographs or film taken by media that may be covering the event in which your child(ren) participate(s).

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Child's Name

**2009 – 2010
AYAC APPOINTMENT FORM**

PARISH/CATHOLIC SCHOOL _____

AYAC REPRESENTATIVE _____

REPRESENTATIVES ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

SCHOOL _____

GRADE IN SEPTEMBER '09 _____

GRADUATING YEAR _____

E-MAIL _____

- CHECK HERE IF THIS APPOINTMENT FORM IS FOR A YOUNG PERSON WHO WAS ON THE AYAC DURING THE 2008 - 2009 SCHOOL YEAR.**
- HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO YOUR AYAC REPRESENTATIVE, SHARING ALL THE MEETING DATES WITH HIM/HER?**
- HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO YOUR AYAC REPRESENTATIVE ABOUT REPRESENTING YOUR PARISH/SCHOOL AT THE COUNCIL MEETINGS TO THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR?**
- HAVE YOU GIVEN YOUR AYAC REPRESENTATIVE A COPY OF THE PARENT PERMISSION FORM? PLEASE SEND THE PERMISSION FORM TO DYYAM OR BRING IT TO THE FIRST AYAC MEETING IN SEPTEMBER.**

YOUTH CONTACT'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

***Please submit an appointment form and permission form
for both new and returning representatives.***

Appointment forms must be received no later than September 11th

**Send forms to the Division of Youth and Young Adult Ministry,
320 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201
or fax to 410-625-8481.**