

**Veteran
Peer Council
Members
Only**

S.T.A.F.F.

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**Jr. High Youth Ministry
Peer Council 11-12 Application**

*Veteran Applications are due to either the Parish or School Office
by Wednesday, Sep 14th. First 8th Grade Meeting is Thursday, Sep 22nd*

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Homeroom Teacher (School) or Catchiest Name (Rel. Ed.):

Homeroom Room #: _____

↑←←←←←←←←←←(OLW School Students Only)→→→→→→→→→→↑

Home Phone #: _____

Street Address _____

Name of Parents: _____

Veteran Peer Ministers:

So instead of filling out another application like you did last year, let's try something different. How about you take a little time to think of what your experience in Jr. High Youth Ministry has been so far.

Here are a few questions to help you get thinking: *Why do you want to be a part of Peer Council again? What did you get out of it last year? What do you want from it this year? How do you want to grow? How can you do better? Why is this important for you during your 8th grade year?*

On the back of this sheet, please write a few paragraphs with your reflections. *(Please take this seriously. As a potential Peer Council veteran, we are looking for leadership and teens who know when to rise to the challenge.*

S.T.A.F.F.

Please Keep This Form

Dear Parents,

Peer Council is a wonderful opportunity to help develop leadership and community skills within a faith setting. This year the OLW Youth Ministry Program, which is called S.T.A.F.F. (Seeking The Answers, Finding Faith) desires to take the Jr. High Youth Ministry component to a whole new level. Our goal is to gather willing 7th & 8th graders together in a committed group to have fun, seek out their faith a little more, as well as provide input for the various jr. high youth ministry activities. We will once again have separate Peer Council sessions for the 7th & 8th graders.

Commitments are designed to help build a special community of committed young people while also understanding that our middle school students are already quite busy. We are looking for committed individuals, but the actual amount of time involved will be kept to gatherings one-to-two times a month (generally on Thursdays) in the Wayside Youth Room, from 3:15-4:30pm. In addition, Peer Council students are asked to especially consider the Jr. High Winter Overnight Fest & Retreat on Jan. 13th-14th. Wayside will join over 12 other parishes for this special event. There will be other various optional opportunities in which to be involved.

An excellent thing we are continuing with this year is the service component. Each month we will have a theme or group of people we encourage the students to reach out to (ie: homeless, military, elderly, etc). During the month, we will offer at least one service opportunity for students (this is not limited to PC members only). We will alternate between on-campus and off-campus activities.

The Wayside Jr. High Peer Council is a part of the OLW S.T.A.F.F Youth Ministry Program. If there are any questions please feel free to call the Youth Ministry Office (847-253-5353, ext. 241) and ask to speak to Kevin O'Connell, OLW Director of Youth Ministry.

In September, we will have an Introductory/"Come and See" gathering from after school until 4:30pm in the Youth Room located in the Parish Center. This will allow students to get an idea of what Peer Council is all about. Veterans are asked to turn in their applications before this gathering. 7th graders will meet on Thursday, September 15th and 8th graders on Thursday, September 22nd.

Final Veteran Application deadline is Wednesday, September 14th

Seeking The Answers, Finding Faith

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OLW Peer Council Team

PARENTAL INFORMATION/RELEASE FORM

Student's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Student's Birth date: _____

Parent Email: _____ (Very Important!!!)

Father's Work Phone: _____ Mother's Work Phone: _____

Father's Cell Phone: _____ Mother's Cell Phone: _____

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Policy Number: _____

Student's allergies (medications or otherwise):

Medications taken on a regular basis:

Other Medical conditions of which we should be aware:

We (I) give permission for our (my) child to attend and participate in the Peer Council Team events sponsored by Our Lady of the Wayside Parish during the year beginning Sept.1, 2011, and ending on June 15, 2012.

In case of an accident, we (I) authorize an adult, in whose care the minor has been entrusted, to consent to any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical, surgical, or dental diagnosis or treatment, and hospital care, to be rendered to the minor under the general or special supervision and on the advice of any physician or dentist licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act on the medical staff of a licensed hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

We (I) will be liable and agree to pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with such medical and dental services rendered to our (my) child pursuant to this authorization.

Parent: _____

(signature)

(date)

Please Turn Over

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Parental Information/Release Form (Continued)

Please briefly answer the following questions. These questions will help us in getting to know your son or daughter. Thank you for taking the time.

1. Why do you feel that your son/daughter would like to be a part of the Peer Council Team?

2. Please list and briefly describe two strengths and one area for improvement for your son/daughter.

3. Does your son or daughter have your full support? Do you have any concerns?

We definitely rely on parent support to make this program a success. Most of the tasks are on the scale of either supplying snacks or driving students to a special event or occasional chaperoning.

With the numbers steadily growing, we are in need of a bit more assistance. Please review the information below and consider where you might be able to lend a helping hand. Please check all the areas in which you could assist.

___ **Bulletin Board Coordinator** (meet with Kevin once a month to discuss ideas for bulletin board, mostly focusing on service theme. Update the YM bulletin board each month)

___ **Service Volunteer Helpers** (Coordinate the sign-ups and drivers (if necessary) for each monthly service opportunity—*does not plan the service opportunity itself.*)

___ **Peer Council Helpers** (*helps organize materials for meetings, if needed, assist with decorations and theme*)

___ **Special Event Helpers** (Coordinate volunteers for special events like Christmas Party, Jr. High Fest & Retreat, etc)

___ **Database Chief** (*creates database of contacts that supports new School Reach program.*)

___ **General Helper** (*misc. assistance, i.e. baking, driving, picking up Kevin's laundry, etc.*)

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**Updated Dates!
Please Mark Your
Calendars**

8th Grade Peer Council Gatherings:

(7th Grade PC Schedule on reverse side)

Thursday, September 22nd

Thursday, September 29th—PADS 2 Hope Service Opportunity

Thursday, October 6th

Thursday, October 20th—Yellow Ribbon Service Opportunity

Thursday, November 3rd

Tuesday, November 15th—PHD On-Campus Service Opportunity

Thursday, December 1st

Tuesday, December 8th—Moorings Service Opportunity

Tuesday, December 13th—Christmas Evening Extravaganza

Thursday, January 5th

Thursday, January 19th—On-Campus Service Opportunity

Thursday, February 2nd

Thursday, February 16th—Feed My Starving Children Evening Service

Thursday, March 1st

Thursday, April 12th

Thursday, April 26th—Jr High YM Service Opportunity

Thursday May 3rd

Tuesday, May 8th—End of the Year Blow-Out (Time:TBD)

Other Important Optional Activities & Dates:

Camp WOW Registration:

Tues, Oct 4th—RE, Veteran, & 8th Graders

Wed, Oct 5th—7th Graders

Thurs, Oct 6th—6th Graders

Fri-Sat, Jan 13th-14th: Multi-Parish Overnight Fest & Retreat

Fri-Sat, Feb 3rd: Enchanted Castle All-Nighter

Wednesday, May 23rd—Camp WOW Bonding Afternoon

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**Updated Dates!
Please Mark Your
Calendars**

- 7th Grade Peer Council Gatherings:**
(8th Grade PC Schedule on reverse side)
- Thursday, September 15th—PC**
 - Thursday, September 29th—PADS 2 Hope Service Opportunity**
 - Thursday, October 13th—PC**
 - Thursday, October 27th—Yellow Ribbon Service Opportunity**
 - Thursday, November 10th—PC**
 - Tuesday, November 15th—PHD On-Campus Service Opportunity**
 - Tuesday, December 8th—Moorings Service Opportunity**
 - Tuesday, December 13th—Christmas Evening Extravaganza**
 - Thursday, January 12th—PC**
 - Thursday, January 19th—On-Campus Service Opportunity**
 - Thursday, February 9th—PC**
 - Thursday, February 16th—Feed My Starving Children Evening Service**
 - Thursday, March 8th—PC**
 - Thursday, April 19th—PC**
 - Thursday, April 26th—Jr High YM Service Opportunity**
 - Tuesday, May 8th—End of the Year Blow-Out (Time:TBD)**

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