

INSPIRE

A Partnership Initiative of Loyola University Chicago and the Archdiocese of Chicago

FAQS

What is INSPIRE?

- A service for continuing development of Pastoral Leadership Teams in the Archdiocese.
- By its completion in 2008, the project will have served 35 Pastoral Leadership Teams representing 46 parishes.

What service?

- INSPIRE provides financial disbursements to Pastoral Leadership Teams for the purpose of educational, formational, and training experiences that will enhance their ministries and performance as collaborative leaders.
- INSPIRE also supplies professional consultation to enrolled teams for the development of individual and team learning plans.
- INSPIRE will also provide participating teams with assistance in identifying and procuring resources to meet the objectives of their learning plans.

Who are the participants?

- Pastoral Leadership Teams: the project recognizes that team profiles vary from vicariate to vicariate, and even among parishes or institutions in the same vicariate.
- Teams who enroll because they have histories of meeting, planning and striving for integrated services in their communities.
- Teams who identify needs that cut across several areas of ministry, especially needs vital to mission, that may call for resources and training that would otherwise be difficult to attain.
- Teams who want to increase their capacities for coherent leadership and common mission.
- Teams who express willingness to learn and share their best practices with other Pastoral Leadership Teams.
- Three inter-parish teams organized to serve a wide community.
- One team of archdiocesan leaders, to study pastoral transition and support systems to help pastoral persons manage significant transitions within a parish staff.
- “No parish is too big or too small.”
- See a current listing of parishes and teams at www.inspireproject.org.

What are the rules of participation?

- Pastor’s participation and support is critical.
- As they enter the project, teams enter a period of personal and shared discernment. They work with the guidance of parish consultants who understand the challenges and commitments of pastoral ministry.
- Teams enroll at a daylong INSPIRE convocation where they meet other INSPIRE teams.
- During first year, they commit to four late afternoon sessions, two for training and two for inter-team sharing and networking.
- For individual learners and teams, learning activities are documented.
- Financial expenditures from INSPIRE disbursements are documented.

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