# ECM AMBASSADORS

### "I was in prison and you visited me."

(Matthew 25:36)

"Will you seek and serve Christ in all people... Will you strive for justice and peace among all people... Send them into the world in witness to your love." At our baptism, we are bound to God and sent forth in the power of the Holy Spirit to serve. For the children we serve and for ECM's volunteers and staff, the ministry we carry out to – and as, God's children is transformational.

#### The role of an ECM Ambassador is advocacy and connection.

#### > Inform your church community about the ministry of ECM.

- Serves children aged 11 through 17 in St. Louis City & County Detention & Division of Youth Services
- Historic ministry in the Diocese of MO: Visits to city institutions (Workhouse, City Hospital, Poor House, Jail) began in 1894; focus shifted to youth in detention in 1954.
- 501c3 non-profit funded by churches, individual donations, foundation grants and diocesan support.
- Congregations & Volunteers provide monthly birthday parties, holiday gifts, seasonal goodie bags & cards (Easter, Valentine's Day, Halloween); cookie showers, books, etc.
- Chaplains provide Pastoral Care, Bible study, conversations about faith, resources for during/after release, life-changing programs ("Put the Gunz Down" program at County Juvenile Detention Ctr.)
- "Hope & Healing": Community-based program focused on grief and loss for "court-involved" youth (not in detention centers); five 1½ hour-long sessions; Initiated in 2019 with Diocese of MO grant.

#### Coordinate publicity in your church about ECM special events.

- ECM provides fliers, posters, and electronic files for use in parishes.
- Events raise awareness, increase participation, and provide financial support.
- ECM Sunday (last Sunday of Epiphany): Diocesan-wide, annual; special "Prayers of the People" and Sunday education around the ministry of ECM; option to designate ingathering or loose offering.
- Spring Walk-a-Thon (April or May): Multi-generational FUNdraiser with food, attendance prizes, entertainment; great service opportunity for youth groups
- Moment in Time Gala fundraiser: annually, in early October; semi-formal event with cocktail reception w/music, guest speaker(s), 3-course dinner, live & silent auctions.
- Holiday Gifts & Wrapping Party (in mid-December): Parishes collect gifts in early Advent; ECM hosts a party in mid-December where volunteers help wrap and sort the gifts (Lots of fun!) Lunch is served.
- Birthday Celebrations at Juvenile Detention Centers (JDC): Hosted by a different parish each month. Congregations provide pizza, party supplies, and a birthday card & gift for each child with a birthday that month; Ted Drewes donates frozen custard (picked up by church volunteer and taken to JDC)
- Attend as many events as you are able and personally invite others to attend.

#### > Connect & Invite others to participate.

- Identify people with skills/interest to serve on ECM Board, help with fundraising and event planning,
- Plan/assist with events at your church benefitting ECM (Trivia Nights, Game Night, etc.)
- Recruit another Ambassador to serve with and/or after you.
- > Attend ECM's Annual Meeting in February to elect new Board members and Officers.

# WHY IT MATTERS

## We Believe ...

We believe that all children deserve a second chance.

We believe in the healing promise of God's presence.

We believe in providing a safe environment, free from judgment.

We believe children aren't disposable and are worth our time and attention.

We believe the children we serve are more than the worst thing they have done.

We believe being there, providing a ministry of presence, is healing.

We believe the calming presence of our chaplains reassures the children that someone cares about their spiritual well-being.

If you feel called to be an Ambassador, please return the enclosed form or contact:

Angela Breeher, Development Assistant Episcopal City Mission 1210 Locust Street, Suite 306 Saint Louis, MO 63103

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314-436-3545 OR ecitymission@sbcglobal.net

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	Yes! I'm interested in serving as an Ambassador. Please contact me.
	I'm interested in learning more about the role of Ambassador. Please contact me.
	I'm interested in participating as a volunteer at an ECM event or birthday party. Please contact me.
Name(s):	
Em	nail(s): Phone:
Stre	eet: City:
Sta	ate: Zin: Church: