

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR THE DIOCESAN YOUTH RETREAT TEAM

1. Each candidate must be a Catholic who is a sophomore, junior, or senior in high school or a college student age 18-20.
2. The deadline for applications is **Friday, June 17, 2011**.
3. The application, peer recommendation, and adult recommendation forms should be sent to Jennifer Belock, Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14203-1250.
4. **Need more information?** Potential applicants who have questions or would like more information may also contact the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministry (716-847-8789 or jbelock@buffalodiocese.org).

EXPECTATIONS:

- † Lead icebreakers
- † Assist with prayer
- † Give witness talk
- † Facilitate small group discussion
- † Share faith needs of young people when planning retreats

CRITERIA:

- † Age: Sophomore Year of High School through age 20
- † Ability to share faith
- † Openness to growth/learning
- † Ability to travel unaccompanied
- † Ability to communicate effectively to listen and to hear others
- † Ability to speak/share their faith through a witness talk
- † Ability to live and interact in a diverse community
- † Have a solid local support system – family/church

Role of the Peer Minister

- † To be a person of faith and a representative of the Catholic Church.
- † To attend team meetings.
- † To prepare witness talks, assignments, or duties for the retreat.
- † To remember that the retreat is for the retreatants.
- † To be open to the Holy Spirit. Leave your personal concerns/conflicts outside of the retreat so you may serve the retreatants.
- † To strive to integrate the retreatants with each other and with the team.
- † To be constantly aware of and sincerely interested in each participant. Look for the Jesus in them!
- † To support other team members and retreatants and not put them down.
- † To be aware of retreatants who are feeling “out of it.” Make an effort to bring them into the activities, discussion, etc.
- † To have a good ear. It is o.k. to listen but refer problems to the Retreat Team Coordinator or Spiritual Director. Do not counsel.

4. Who is God for you? Describe a time when you were aware that God made a difference in your life.

5. How will you continue to strengthen and nurture your faith and relationship with God in the next year?

6. Is witnessing or presenting in front of others something you feel comfortable doing? Please explain.

Required signatures:

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Parish Youth Director _____ Date _____

Applicant _____ Date _____