

POTOMAC SECTIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR (SYD)

MINISTRY PORTFOLIO



PHILOSOPHY

Each Sectional Director is a direct extension of the District Youth Director. The significance of this role must not be underestimated. This vital position will directly affect the effectiveness of the youth leaders, build relationships and foster unity, and facilitate ministry to the youth leaders and students in each section.

FOCUS

The priority emphasis in the role of the Sectional Youth Director is *pastoral care*. We must address the needs of each individual youth leader and encourage their efforts to build the Kingdom. Obviously the “business” we’re in is “redeeming youth” and sectional ministries to the youth can be a powerful addition to the ministry of the local church.

A SECTIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR IS...

A Shepherd. *“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, serving as overseers-not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” (1 Peter 5:2) “For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your soul.” (1 Peter 2:25)*

A Facilitator. Ministry in your section is not going to happen unless you initiate! But you are not called to do it all. An SYD must seek to establish ministry, and ensure effectiveness through mobilization, delegation, and evaluation.

A Resource. Youth Leaders need to be made aware of quality resources, and have a source for ideas and support. While the District Youth Department and DYD have those goals in mind, the SYD can also make a significant impact in equipping youth leaders.

A Communications Link. It is vital that there are good lines of communication between youth leaders and the district youth department. This not only involves keeping them apprised of programs and ministries, but keeping us connected for the purpose of ministry.

A Leader. The Sectional Director is not only the leader of the section, but is looked to for leadership in the overall ministries of the district youth department. Each SYD will be assigned a Win/Build/Send Commission, and will have ample opportunity for input. And perhaps most important is setting an example for the other youth leaders in your section.

Appreciated. More than you’ll ever hear, see or know!

QUALITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE SYD

Compassionate. *“Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” (Romans 12:15).* We all have crisis, frustrations, discouragement, fears, failures, and weaknesses. Being a shoulder, a hand, and an ear is what fellowship is all about!

An Encourager. We often have no idea of the impact of a timely word, call, letter or visit. Be an encourager and watch the lives of those you touch blossom.

Servant’s Heart. *“Jesus called them together and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your slave-just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’” (Matthew 20:25-28)*

Persistent. *“Therefore my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)* Building relationships and networking isn’t glamorous, easy or fast, but it is vital to building the Kingdom, and not in vain!

RESPONSIBILITIES/IDEAS

A. Shepherding

1. Have a quarterly meeting to pray, encourage, fellowship and provide accountability among one another. Pick a time that works best for the majority of the youth leaders, and especially work to include volunteers.
2. Call one youth leader from your section each week and pray for their greatest need. Make this a personal contact, do not take a survey of how their youth ministry is going.
3. Write or e-mail a note of encouragement to one youth leader .
4. Visit one youth leader each quarter in their home or yours, or their office.

B. Facilitating

1. Sectional Rallies. The SYD needs to plan, promote & direct at least two rallies annually. There is a difference in the interest and expectations of rallies in each section. Dialogue with the youth leaders and the Sectional Presbyter will help to determine what will be most effective. A rally emphasizing *Speed-the-Light* and another emphasizing *Campus Ministry* is what is recommended by the district youth department as a minimum.
2. Sectional WIN Ministries. These would include but are not limited to: Youth Alive, Seven Project, Book of Hope Distribution and Campus Missions under the guidance of the District Youth Alive Director and Ministry Coordinators.
3. Sectional BUILD Ministries. Encourage attendance in District Build events including *Fine Arts Festival, Uth Convention, and Camps.* Encouraging ongoing youth ministry discipleship and recommending discipleship resources is also key.
4. Sectional SEND Ministries. Encourage 100% participation in Speed-the-Light and with a goal of every church giving a \$1000 minimum to STL. Having a sectional STL Fundraiser can be a great enthusiasm builder as well as a blessing to smaller churches that have difficulty conducting such an event. Ideas abound, so ask! Encouraging participation in AIM overseas and stateside will make a big difference in participation. Having sectional outreaches and service projects (e.g. Home Missions) is strongly encouraged!
5. Sectional Account Oversight. You may request a sectional bank account with the SYD managing the check book. Accountability with the Presbyter is recommended (e.g. sending copies of the monthly statements). The DYD must be a signer on the account.
6. Sectional YLT. Developing a sectional team will help to involve and give ownership, make the load easier, and make the ministry more effective.

C. Resourcing

1. Communicate with youth leaders regarding their resource needs. Make them aware of what is available through the district and national youth departments and other sources. Make the district youth department aware of needs that aren't being addressed.
2. Use meetings as times for workshops and dialogue between youth leaders.
3. Plan special sectional resource/training events, or attend one together.

D. Communicating

1. Keeping the section connected together and to the district as a whole. There is great encouragement in knowing that there is a “Big Picture” and that each part is significant.
2. Keeping the section informed of upcoming opportunities in the section and district.
Via e-mail or newsletter.
3. Keeping the DYD informed of sectional activities, ministries, and especially updated on who is youth leader in each church and aware of significant personal needs (e.g. health concerns, pregnancies, weddings, deaths in family, finances, etc.) that can be addressed.
4. Keeping the Sectional Presbyter informed of activities, ministries, and needs of the sectional youth leaders and students. Invite them out for a meal once in a while along with calls and reports to build a relationship, and allow them to invest into your life and ministry.
5. Making sure that quarterly reports are completed and submitted in a timely manner either by fax, e-mail, or snail mail to both the DYD and Presbyter.

E. Leading

1. Setting an example in personal discipleship.
2. Setting an example of involvement in district ministries including, but not limited to; Convention, Camp(s), STL Events (Banquet, Golf Tournament, Rally), Fine Arts, Youth Alive, Back-to-School Retreat, etc.
3. Setting the pace by passionately establishing strong sectional ministries to both youth leaders and students.
4. Giving oversight and encouragement to the Sectional YLT.

EVALUATION

There will be an annual private evaluation meeting between the SYD and the DYD. This meeting will be for the purpose of feedback and instruction. This will also serve as a time of dialogue regarding continued service. It is the desire and intention of the DYD to encourage each individual towards maximum effectiveness and longevity.

** Each Sectional Youth Director’s job description may be adjusted after consultation with the District Youth Director.