

## **Strategic Plan for United Methodist Campus Ministry in Kansas, Inc.**

**Our Mission:** Making disciples for Jesus Christ of college students in Kansas.

**Our Urgency:** Making disciples of college students is a strategic priority for the future of the United Methodist Church in Kansas. Our success in this area is essential to the vitality of our congregations and the future recruitment of church leaders.

**Our Scope:** UMCM in KS currently coordinates and supports campus ministry programs at our 4-year public universities: Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas, Washburn University and Wichita State University.

### **Primary Tasks of UMCM in KS**

- ❖ **To manage and oversee Kansas area funding and properties related to the seven ministry sites**
- ❖ **To evaluate and hold these sites accountable for certain criteria of ministry**
- ❖ **To advocate for campus ministry on a statewide level**
- ❖ **To provide training, support and communication for campus ministry staff**

**PROPOSAL 1:** In addition to the current seven campus ministry sites, UMCM in KS will include the three United Methodist schools in Kansas (Baker University, Kansas Wesleyan University, Southwestern College) as part of its scope for advocacy and for training, support and communication.

**RATIONALE:** There is a wide range of ministries for college students in Kansas. We encourage local churches to provide ministry for students attending nearby institutions of higher education. Private institutions like Baker, Kansas Wesleyan and Southwestern have their own privately funded ministries. Although the funding and evaluative duties of UMCM in KS relate solely to the seven public university sites, there is a statewide need for support, training and communication for those who work with college students.

This was illustrated in the summer of 2005 when Bishop Jones received a grant to host a weekend retreat for both the UMCM campus ministers and the United Methodist college chaplains/campus ministers. All who were involved in this weekend experience agreed that there is much to be gained from training events like this.

Likewise, there is a need for a centralized body that will advocate for *all* college-aged ministries. The current system fosters an air of competition for funds between state and private ministries, but the reality is that better coordination and communication will provide for a better response from both conferences.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** We will address this proposal in these ways:

1. Bi-yearly summer retreats for all campus ministers/chaplains.
2. The Spring UMCM in KS meeting will be accompanied by an overnight event for staff and/or students from all UM college-aged ministries in Kansas for the purpose of fellowship, connecting, resourcing and sharing.
3. A session of the Spring UMCM in KS meeting will be open to the chaplains/campus ministers from both private and public college-aged ministries, for the purpose of coordinating communication at both annual conferences.

**PROPOSAL 2:** UMCM in KS shall hold each of the seven campus ministry sites accountable to certain standards of ministry.

**RATIONALE:** UMCM in KS needs to be engaged in yearly meaningful site evaluations. While each ministry program (like each church) has different ways of living out its faithfulness, a centralized, broadly framed list of criteria will provide ministry sites with a benchmark towards which to work, and will provide UMCM in KS a standard by which to evaluate each site's effectiveness in ministry.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** We will address this proposal in these ways:

Criteria (to be answered about current year and about goals for future years)

- What worship opportunities are offered and how many attend?
- What Bible Study and other small group opportunities are offered and how many attend?
- What mission/service opportunities are offered and how many attend?
- What counseling relationships are offered and how often are they utilized?
- What fellowship opportunities are offered and how many attend?
- What ministry of presence in the University is maintained and what results can be documented?
- What systems of contacting and inviting new students into the ministry are being utilized?
- How financially stable is the ministry?
- How does this ministry raise up spiritual leaders?
- Is there adequate day-to-day care of the facilities (where applicable)?
- How often does the local board meet?
- How is the board being developed and trained?

*These criteria will be revised as needed.*

Evaluation Cycle

- **Local Evaluation:** Self-evaluation will take place with the local board in the spring (after the UMCM in KS spring meeting). One or more UMCM in KS representatives will be on hand to listen, facilitate and convey any recommendations. The local board will use the criteria above to discuss successes, challenges, and growth areas over the past year, before setting specific goals in these areas for the next year.
- **State Evaluation:** An evaluation committee from UMCM in KS will review all reports during the summer and make recommendations to UMCM in KS at the fall meeting.

**Accountability** If a local site exhibits inability to meet or address a previous year's goals or if there is perceived need for assistance, UMCM in KS may choose one of the following forms of accountability:

- **Training.** Additional training or continuing education for the campus minister, staff or board of a ministry site may be necessary and important. UMCM in KS can choose to require additional training as seems appropriate.
- **Goal Setting.** If a ministry site is having trouble addressing one of the criteria on a continual basis, UMCM in KS may recommend goals for the next year.
- **Evaluation.** Evaluating the campus minister is the responsibility of the local board, however, if there is a perceived connection between problems in a ministry setting and the effectiveness of the campus minister at that site, UMCM in KS may contact the appropriate District Superintendent raising any concerns.
- **Reducing funding.** Ultimately UMCM in KS may choose to reduce its support of a ministry that has moved outside the range of what is deemed acceptable.

**PROPOSAL 3:** UMCM in KS requests a 10% increase in support from both Kansas area conferences for the year 2007.

**RATIONALE:** The climate in Kansas is more receptive to campus ministry than it has been in years. The need for strong ministry to students is more apparent than ever. Each of the seven state school boards has presented detailed strategic plans for the growth of its ministry. The plans identify a pressing need for full-time ministry at each site.

The prevailing wisdom among campus ministers and trustees of UCMCM in KS is that our conferences will never be able to adequately fund the staffing and programming that is necessary at these sites. Because campus ministry is an extension ministry without its own giving base, it is difficult if not impossible to rely on conference funds to maintain or grow these ministries. Each site must be held accountable for its own efforts to secure funding.

At the same time there is more that our conferences can do in terms of support. A 10% (\$34,000) increase in 2007 followed by more modest increases thereafter, will go a long way towards full-time positions at all of these sites. Over the past two years the conferences have increased funding for both KSU and KU by \$10,000 to more adequately provide for full-time ministry.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** We will address this proposal in these ways:

- Budget Request. The UCMCM in KS budget for 2006 is \$340,200. This proposed request for 2007 would increase that amount by \$34,000 to \$374,200.
- One half (50%) of the increased funding (\$17,000) will be placed in a Salary Support fund to be made available for strategic salary enhancements for up to two years at any one location. Requests would come from local boards in consultation with the District Superintendent/cabinet and be approved by UCMCM in Kansas.
- 20% of the increased funding (\$6,800) will be used for across-the-board site support increases. The remaining 30% (\$10,200) will be used for strategic program enhancements at the discretion of the Trustees of UCMCM in Kansas.

PROPOSAL 4: UCMCM in KS will have a ministry presence at each of the seven 4-year public schools.

**RATIONALE:** As ministry continues to grow at each of our sites, it is important to have a visible United Methodist presence on each campus. Our goal is to create a place where students can gather for worship, Bible study, fellowship and spiritual growth. Each site needs to have office space, meeting space and worship space based on the needs of that campus. Having a presence on campus gives students an easy way to connect with God and become involved in campus ministry.

**Capital Fundraising Needs:**

- Emporia State \$550,000--Furnace replacement, exterior upgrade, parking lot, A/C, new roof, handicap accessible bathrooms, purchase land & construct addition for a chapel.
- Fort Hays State \$50,000—Updating of the chapel & making entire facility accessible.
- Kansas State \$1,200,000—Pay off current debt on home & build new building/chapel.
- Pittsburg \$50,000—Handicap bathroom renovation, kitchen update, heating and air.
- University of Kansas \$1,500,000—Purchase of a building & renovations when one becomes available to enable a ministry presence on campus.
- Washburn \$750,000—Construction of a new building on existing site.

**TOTAL \$4,100,000**