

Appendix A

## NAECED Survey Question (77 responses)

*Are there resources or assistance for your Christian education ministry that you need more of than seems available? If any, please describe:*

<b>Resources</b> (26 responses)
---------------------------------

- Drama and music that relate to Episcopal liturgical year - I always have to write my own.
- Lessons on MDGs
- Adult Christian education
- Need adult education and formation programs that address different populations of a parish: i.e. moms, dads, parents, couples, etc. Need programs that are appropriate theologically for a mainstream Episcopalian
- Episcopal curriculum choices and resources
- Good Episcopal curriculum.
- As a person responsible for cradle to grave faith formation, I find basic "how to" information is lacking. Often times books, magazines and NAECED members go into great depths on specific ages that basic information is overlooked.
- Middle school curriculum, adult theology 101, intro to The Episcopal Church, parenting, professionalism in the field, Christian Educator's role in congregational development
- Resources for small Church School Programs with limited funds and volunteers
- Teen or youth material
- We keep looking for material on "the ministry of the baptized", emphasizing the ministry of the lay rather than the ordained.
- Children's books related to scripture, pieces of liturgy and special days in the Church Year, ie Pentecost.
- Spiritual/Reflection materials for Youth
- Children's Chapel programs
- Children's progressive Christianity resources
- Self-study programs for adults (adult curriculae designed for lay leaders).
- Preteen youth groups and curriculum
- Revised Common Lectionary for children's Liturgy of the Word that connects with broader theology of progressive Christianity.
- More ideas and resources
- Information on faith formation in the home.
- Information on recruiting persons in the parish to fulfill the needs of our programs.
- Designing programs that recognize how children learn and how we can teach and support the children here in 2008 in their faith formation.
- Curriculum reviews, pageant reviews
- Better adult resources -more relevant for people's everyday lives; more resources for creative homilies in emerging church type worship settings; more for older children that builds on foundation we've laid
- Online resources and directory of existing resources.

- Marketing/Outreach/Welcome materials

<b>Diocesan Support (18 responses)</b>
----------------------------------------

- Some focus at the diocesan level on ministry with children and with families. Youth is the primary focus.
- Nearby networks of colleagues; I am extremely isolated in this ministry in my diocese.
- Local or regional networks
- Would like to meet with others doing similar ministry in my diocese.
- A resource center nearby that allowed browsing and study of materials/curriculums
- Recognition by the church and clergy of the importance of education to be understood as integral to formation, and for it to be supported and held up as such
- CCCF through the Diocese of NC
- Our Diocese has very little Children's Ministry support. There has been one luncheon in the last many years. We have good youth/teen support, but not for children. It would be good to improve on it.
- Local resourcing and support would be great.
- Yes. There are no diocesan programs that I know of the assist in Safeguarding training or other opportunities for training teachers
- Yes. I need a safe group/friend to talk to who doesn't know my rector or church. That's difficult because he's well known and his wife works for the seminary.
- We could all use more obvious, public support from our bishops.
- The churches on Cape Cod seem, at times, disconnected to the greater diocese. It's hard to make church members understand or desire the need to be involved in Diocesan activities and resources.
- More initiative and intentional support from bishops, diocesan councils, and Standing Committees around implementing the initiatives for lifelong learning from General Convention
- Support groups specific to curriculum (e.g. Godly Play, Rotation)
- Yes -- I'm not familiar with most of what's on this survey and would love to have a way to become familiar with them. My parish is over three hours (plus a disadvantageous time change) from the diocese's office; I work full-time and am a single parent; it's a hardship not to have web-based resources from which I can draw. I have a very minimal budget for Christian Formation
- A diocesan missionary for children and youth
- Diocesan resources and network
- *Also see Communication*

<b>Training, Conferences &amp; Continuing Education Opportunities (13 responses)</b>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- More frequent sponsored national conferences from the Church Center that are practical for local ministry
- Affordable Conferences and Continuing Education.
- I am doing much more pastoral care than I feel equipped for, and will in the next 12 months ask for CPE
- I would love to find a D.Min program in Formation that does not require an M.Div
- More local continuing education

- We have adequate monies in our budget for training.
- Workshops, continuing ed, networking for educators, etc.
- I need help recruiting and managing volunteers.
- I would love to participate in a directed group for case discussion, support, ideas. The current local educators group does this on an informal level but an outside resource person (like in CPE) directing the group would be great.
- More time and events that have hands on activities and network opportunities
- Conferences that affordable and nearby
- Access to free training etc.
- Teachers, continued ed for the teachers.

#### **Salary & Benefits (10 responses)**

- Assistance with setting salary and benefits guidelines like clergy have
- Making parishes feel that they need to provide health ins and retirement benefits
- I am rector of a mid-size congregation with part-time lay staff for youth ministry and part-time clergy for young adult ministry, so those areas are well-covered. As a former lay Children's Christian Formation Director/Minister, I have assumed responsible for that area, as well as Adult Formation and general supervision of the whole. Most weeks I am stretched incredibly thin with other parish duties, so that while I have the skills and background (and passion)for this work, it often gets less attention than needed. I hope that within the next 5 years the parish will have grown to the point of bringing on a part-time staff member to focus particularly on children or enlarge the duties of one of the present staff to full-time. The fact that I am ordained skews the answers to No. 4 & 5 above. As a full-time Christian Educator in the mid-1990s, my salary was around \$22,000 with benefits. There's nothing fair about the financial benefits a seminary degree and collar brought. I wrestle with finding ways to bring fair practices as a norm to the church and appreciate any assistance with educating vestries about these issues. We do provide benefits (health ins., life ins., & pension) to lay employees working more than 20 hours a week, but the overall salary package is still low.
- Time and Money. I am paid for 25 hours a week and could easily work 50. And in this year's budget cuts, the CEEd dept took a big hit.
- I could use a bigger continuing ed. budget but couldn't we all.
- Better information about benefits for lay professionals. I cannot get accurate information from the Church Pension Group. They are set up to deal with clergy, and get confused dealing with lay professional questions. I still don't know if I have a pension, or not (was on the old plan, but moved to a church with the new plan before I vested).
- The position needs to be respected.
- I need to find reliable source of money for continuing education and conferences
- Equity in salary.
- Time & money

#### **Satisfied (7 responses)**

- No - I am starting out and am amazed at the resources I have found so far
- Our diocese does a pretty good job of getting additional resources for Christian

formation.

- We have a excellent resources and people to help implement them.
- There are more opportunities than I have time or resources to utilize.
- I am very satisfied with the resources available/workshops/programming for children and youth ministries of my Diocese
- I am new to my position and it seems so far in the past five months I have been able to find what I am looking for either online or through the CENET network, NAECED network, or my peers in my diocese.
- Episcopal Teacher publication is wonderful!

#### **Communication (4 responses)**

- Better communication from the Episcopal Church Center
- Diocesan communication
- Our diocese is doing nothing these days. If anything is going on in Province IV, I don't get the messages. I need some collaboration!
- Continue and strengthen the Diocesan Educators Network

#### **Support from Parish & Support of Parish Volunteers (4 responses)**

- Better committed volunteers
- Support for volunteer lay people in the area to CEEd.
- Parental support
- More parish involvement

#### **Miscellaneous (8 responses)**

- What is a certified lay professional?
- N/A
- I didn't know about all those professional assoc. listed above!
- Always, but at the moment, no time for specificity.
- I'm fresh out of seminary and have only been at my job for a couple of months - please read my responses with that in mind. I'm still investigating all that is out there!
- N/A
- I don't know anything about the groups listed under "Association Memberships." Which would you recommend?
- Perhaps if you could invent more hours in the day.