Faith in Action

Frequently Asked Questions

On April 6, 2018, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced the introduction of the Faith in Action program model. Below is a list of questions and answers that can be shared with jurisdictions and local councils. If you have additional questions or would like clarification of an answer, please contact the Fraternal Mission Department.

OVERALL FAITH IN ACTION MODEL:

Q: What is Faith in Action?

A: Faith in Action is the umbrella for all Supreme Council-recommended programs.

Q: What happened to Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish?

A: Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish remains and is foundational to the vision and ongoing strategy for creating strong and dynamic parish-based councils. This will include resources for spiritual renewal and the integration of family, council and parish life in a complementary relationship. The Faith in Action program model is an evolution of the Building the Domestic Church initiative and focuses on the most direct way a council can impact its parish community – activities. All of the programs included in Building the Domestic Church have now been integrated into the Faith in Action model or retired. There is now only one model that encompasses all Supreme-recommended programs and it is Faith in Action.

CATEGORIES:

Q: What are the program categories?

A: The four program categories are Faith, Family, Community, and Life and represent our main priorities as an Order. This model by no means seeks to eliminate the need for Knights to serve youth or foster fraternity; rather, it seeks to expand on these in a more holistic way.

- **FAITH:** Our goal is to strengthen our men and their families in the faith. When we entered the Order, we were reminded to constantly inform ourselves in the Catholic faith. This formation goes beyond mere facts or religious practice to an authentic connection with a loving God and his son Jesus Christ.

- **FAMILY:** Father Michael J. McGivney sought to strengthen the familial bond of father to mother and children to parents. Our family programs are an evolution and response to a society that seeks to weaken the bonds of family. We must make it clear that society should value a family that is faithful to God and each other.

- **COMMUNITY:** As Knights of Columbus, we are called to serve our family and our God. Our first principle is Charity, at home with our families or in our communities. This is a critical part of our Knights of Columbus mission.

- **LIFE:** The urgency of the threat to a culture of life cannot be misunderstood. Respect for the dignity of life demands a commitment to human rights across a broad spectrum. Both as Knights of Columbus and as followers of Christ, "Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition" (Saint John Paul II, 1995).

Q: What happened to the Youth category?
A: The Youth category is consolidated into the Community category to better align all community outreach programs including those involving youth and their families.

Q: Do I need to assign a council youth director?
A: No, there is no need to assign a council youth director. The program responsibilities have moved under the Community program category.

Q: What happened to the Council category?
A: The Council category is consolidated into the Faith and Family categories. Council programs that involve fraternity should include both faith-based activities and family activities. These programs offer opportunities for Knights to come together in shared purpose to foster unity and spirituality.

PROGRAMS:

Q: What are the Supreme-recommended programs?
A:

FAITH	COMMUNITY
RSVP	**Coats for Kids**
Into the Breach	**Global Wheelchair Mission**
Spiritual Reflection	**Habitat for Humanity**
Holy Hour	**Leave No Neighbor Behind****
Pilgrim Icon Program	Disaster Preparedness
Building the Domestic Church Kiosk	Free Throw Championship
Rosary Program	Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest
Sacramental Gifts	Soccer/Hockey Challenge
	Helping Hands
FAMILY	**LIFE**
Food for Families	**March for Life**
Family of the Month/Year	**Special Olympics**
Family Fully Alive	**Ultrasound Program**
Family Prayer Night	**Pregnancy Center Support**
Keep Christ in Christmas	Christian Refugee Relief
Family Week	Silver Rose
Consecration to the Holy Family	Mass for People with Special Needs
Good Friday Family Promotion	Novena for Life

Faith in Action Programs — Table 2
***Bold** denotes Featured Programs*
**Only for this Fraternal Year

Q: How many programs are required to fulfill Columbian Award requirements for each category?
A: Four (4) program credits in each category are required to earn the Columbian Award. To earn the Columbian Award, the council is required to complete a minimum of sixteen (16) program credits.

Q: What are the featured programs?
A: RSVP, Into the Breach, Spiritual Reflection, Holy Hour, Food for Families, Family of the Month/Year, Family Prayer Night, Family Fully Alive, Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Leave No Neighbor Behind, March for Life, Special Olympics, Pregnancy Center Support and Ultrasound Program.

Q: Will the council still receive four credits, or full credit, per category for a featured program?
A: No. The council will only receive two credits, or half credit, per category for a featured program. We are encouraging councils to enhance their fraternal and parish life with a variety of enriched programs available in the new Faith in Action model or programs uniquely their own.

Q: Are there required programs?
A: No. Councils are encouraged to participate in a variety of programs that best fit the needs of the men in their council and parish.

Q: Can supporting a food bank or food pantry count for both Food for Families and Leave No Neighbor Behind service activity 4. Feed the Hungry?
A: Yes. Participating in the Food for Families program may be counted towards both categories (Family and Community), and should be reported for both. To ensure your council's refund, please also submit the *Food for Families Refund and Plaque Application* (#10057). To obtain one credit for Leave No Neighbor Behind, completion of one additional service activity is required, in addition to service activity 4. Feed the Hungry.

Q: Where can I find information on the Featured Program Requirements?
A: Featured Program requirements can be found in this guidebook beginning on page 34, or within the individual program guide sheets found online at kofc.org/fiaresources.

CATHOLIC INFORMATION SERVICE:
Q: What role does the Catholic Information Service (CIS) play in the Faith in Action program model?
A: CIS will continue to provide the same resources it has in the past. As always, councils are strongly encouraged to order booklets that will supplement the Faith in Action Programs.

WEBSITE SUPPORT:
Q: Where on the website can I find resources for the Faith in Action programs?
A: All Faith in Action resources can be found on the Programs website. www.kofc.org/fiaresources. Additional links and program information can be found on the Programs page at www.kofc.org/faithinaction.

Q: Will the Building the Domestic Church (BDC) section of the website go away?
A: No. Building the Domestic Church will continue to live on as part of its original intent to provide members and their families with resources to build up the family and the Church. All BDC programs will now be listed only on the Faith in Action page of the Knights of Columbus website, as Building the Domestic Church is foundational to the program model and no longer has a separate program component.

FORMS AND REPORTING:

Q: Where can I find the report forms for all of the Faith in Action programs?

A: All program report forms can be found online at kofc.org/fiaforms. We highly encourage every council to report their program activity online immediately following the program or council activity using the *Program Report Form* (#10784). At the very least, program activity should be reported quarterly. Refund programs continue to require their own unique applications and forms, also found at kofc.org/fiaforms.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM:

Under Faith in Action, certain state and council officers/chairmen are required to take safe environment training and may also be required to provide authorization for a background check. Some positions also have access to Praesidium's ARMATUS Administration dashboard to view member compliance within their council or jurisdiction.

Safe Environment Program Training and Background Check Requirements – Table 1

ROLES	TRAINING	BACKGROUND CHECK	ARMATUS ADMINISTRATION
State Council			
State Deputy	✓		✓
State Advocate	✓		✓
State Program Director	✓		✓
State Youth Director	✓	✓	✓
State Family Director	✓	✓	✓
State Community Director	✓	✓	✓
State Squire Chairman	✓	✓	✓
Subordinate Council			
Grand Knight	✓		✓
Faithful Navigator	✓		
Program Director	✓		✓
Family Director	✓	✓	
Community Director	✓	✓	
Chief Counselor	✓	✓	
Adult Counselor	✓	✓	

Safe Environment Program Training and Background Check Requirements — Table 1

If members in certain positions are not compliant within thirty (30) days of notification, they are subject to removal from those positions.

As the *Service Program Personnel Report* (#365) is being completed, ensure that all member email addresses are accurate. Praesidium, the Knights of Columbus' safe environment partner, will use these email addresses to send email notifications to the program directors and chairs required to complete safe environment training and to provide authorization for a background check. Directors and chairs should look for email notifications from Praesidium in their inbox or spam folder for their assigned username and password to complete the required training and the link necessary to provide their background check authorization. Knights of Columbus covers all costs associated with these requirements.

Email notifications are unique to each recipient and cannot be forwarded or used by another director or chair, and are also time sensitive. The recipient must complete the training and background check authorization within thirty (30) days of notification.