



LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS

The Barnabas Project

In partnership with the Lilly Endowment's "National Youth and Young Adult Initiative on Faith and Service", The Barnabas Project (TBP) is designed to "nurture and deepen the Christian faith of young people by engaging them in intentional acts of service."

TBP builds young leaders who desire to have a mature and reflective faith and want models around them that demonstrate what it looks like to care for the social and spiritual renewal of their cities and communities and, in turn, would become a core practice of their Christian life as they move into their professional vocation across a variety of sectors.

Design:

TBP will partner with LLF's to engage young Christians, aged 18- 24, through a theological formation process that incorporates service in their community. These members, (that will be referred to as Barnabas Fellows), will matriculate through a curriculum designed by LF that explores theology and reflections on faith. Additionally, through LLF's, Barnabas Fellows will serve in their communities, making explicit the connections between faith and service. Over a 9-month period from September-May of each year, cohorts will interact with the curriculum through a Learning Management System (LMS), meet collectively to reflect, check-in with the local coordinator, and participate in service-learning opportunities each month with LLFs and partners locally.

The LF Global Office will subgrant funds to affiliates to support personnel and local coordination of the program. This subgrant agreement will be codified in a MOU with each affiliate outlining responsibilities of each party, an agreed upon program implementation plan and a payment schedule.

Participating LLFs will commit to a 3-year program with a declining subaward designed to facilitate a process to produce sustainability as the affiliate develops a long-term strategic plan for the permanent operationalization of TBP.

LLF Responsibilities:

LLF's will choose 10 Barnabas Fellows through an open application process. Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in an online formation curriculum designed to deepen their faith through presentations, reflections, readings and more.
- Meet monthly with their local cohort to reflect and discuss that month's lessons.
- Meet monthly with the site coordinator/mentor to help access the spiritual movements in their lives and to learn and grow in their personal spirituality.
- Meet monthly with a peer from a separate cohort for peer-to-peer reflections designed to broaden perspectives.
- Participate in meaningful service coordinated by the local coordinator building the capacity of affiliates, local partners and collaborators across the many sectors that make up cities.



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- Receive a stipend for their time and commitment.

Local coordinators will be responsible for:

- Organizing meaningful service-learning opportunities designed to increase leadership skills and active reflection on the curriculum.
- Broadening perspectives and contributing to Barnabas Fellows' own spiritual growth.
- Recruiting/vetting applicants.
- Initiating the program locally and coordinating with local partners and agencies where service will take place.
- Meeting monthly with their local cohort collectively to reflect on the curriculum and service.
- Meeting individually with each Barnabas Fellow monthly.
- Meeting monthly with other coordinators from different cities facilitated by the LF Global office to troubleshoot specific issues that arise and discuss the progress of the cohort throughout their program participation.
- Ensuring Fellows participation in all aspects of the program.
- Paying stipends to Barnabas Fellows who meet conditions (stipends supplied by LF Global Office).

Curriculum:

The curriculum is designed to nurture, challenge and ultimately provide ballast for the Barnabas Fellows as they enter adulthood and make further discoveries of their own talents and vocational desires. Participating LLF's and Fellows alike will, invariably, come from different faith traditions. We see these different strands of diversity as a strength of the LF Global Network and, as a result, the curriculum will include and celebrate the vast theological perspectives. This theological paradigm of acknowledging the biblical and historically diverse ways from which to view spiritual formation will be operationalized through both a diversity of participants and a diverse set of presenters and topics within the curriculum itself.

Eligibility:

US Based LLFs that are in good standing with the LF Global office (up to date on dues, covenant, SOI, member mark) are eligible to apply. The LF Global office will be responsible for verifying the readiness of the Affiliates, including financial and organizational capacity and ability to manage the subgrant funds.

Annual Schedule:

January: Application and selection of LLFs.

February: Local coordinator begins meeting monthly with LF Global Office to begin developing implementing processes.

March-August: Recruitment and support of program build.

September-May: Monthly curriculum with Fellows, manage service opportunities locally.