

Fuerza Transformadora Initiative Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can participate?

- a. Any mission diocese that would like to provide a special outreach and ministry to At-risk Spanish speaking populations that face issues with drugs, gangs, or violence are welcome to apply.

2. Is the Fuerza Transformadora ministry provided in English?

- a. At this time, the national Fuerza Transformadora Initiative is targeted at Spanish speaking populations ages 18 and up. Material and training is currently being developed to provide English speaking training and ministry for future application periods.

3. What will be the cost to the diocese?

- a. Please refer to our Overview and Guidelines document. The diocese is expected to identify local leadership that will receive training. Diocese will also be responsible for certain costs associated with the normal maintenance and support of the Fuerza Transformadora ministry, including retreats and training material. The sample budget provides ideas for local costs, many of which would already be covered by the normal operation of a parish or diocese.

4. Can we have multiple Fuerza Transformadora groups within the same diocese?

- a. For large dioceses, creating multiple groups during one grant period may be beneficial and effective. This will be determined on a case by case basis. However, each Transformative Force group shall be rooted within a local parish.

5. Does this affect other funding from Catholic Extension?

- a. No, participation in this Strategic Initiative does not affect any other funding received from Catholic Extension.

6. How soon will the Fuerza Ministry begin within our diocese?

- a. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated based on the submission of the SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) to at-risk ministry and marginalized communities within the diocese. If your diocese is selected, immediate consultation will begin with Jaime Torres to determine a strategic plan for the development of a Fuerza Transformadora Ministry. The timeline will depend on diocesan support and the identification of minimum 10 leaders to receive training.

7. Can we submit our application in Spanish?

- a. Please e-mail Marina Pastrana at mpastrana@catholicextension.org if you wish to submit your application in Spanish.