Formation for Next Generation
(Christian Parenting and Caregiving Initiative)
Diocese must have identified a CORE group, a minimum of two lead individuals per application (we recommend more, if applying for multiple parishes):
  o A parent-lead, specific to that parish community. The parent-lead should help confirm parents, grandparents, caregivers, elders to attend the session.
  o Parish or faith leader, specific to that community.
  o A partnership agreement must be signed by the designated leaders and the diocesan contact.

Two-phase Program – Guidelines and Expectations

Phase 1: Consultations.
Catholic Extension will underwrite the convenings of parents & caregivers with their religious education and faith leaders to discuss ways in which they can support Christian faith formation through teaching, ritual, and daily practice. A facilitator will be designated and be present at the convenings.

  • CORE group will organize convenings.
  • Facilitator will travel to your community on the date that has been mutually agreed upon with CORE group.
  • Parent-lead contact and parish lead will invite and confirm attendance of parents, caregivers, elders, catechists, and congregation leader(s) who will provide their input and ideas for cultural teachings unique to their community and demographics.
  • Facilitator will enable dialogue and document ideas that surface in these consultations.
  • Facilitator will provide a report of these key ideas that result from this meeting, which will become the basis of step two described below:

Phase 2: Implementation
Once these consultations have occurred, CORE group will work together to design a program to submit Catholic Extension.
  • Religious Education leader will submit a program or project that reflects the input of parents and caregivers.
  • These programs/projects will be eligible for implementation grants of up to $15,000.
  • Catholic Extension may share these program outlines with Facilitators beforehand to ensure that they adequately respond to the ideas surfaced in the convening between parents and faith leaders.
  • The result will be new resources, programs, and tools that support parents and caregivers at the local level.
**Reporting**

Once communities have moved to the implementation stage, CORE groups will provide short stories, reports, and videos capturing how the new tools and resources developed with the input of parents and caregivers were put into practice. This will be an annual collection of results from all participating communities. In addition to this, all dioceses will provide standard grant reporting within our system.

Finally, at the end of the program in three years time, Catholic Extension will convene a gathering of religious education leaders and all program participants (CORE leaders and others) at a national conference to discuss the learnings from this initiative. Dates TBA.