

How to Start Young Life's Ministry in Your Community

Pray

Begin praying for teenagers in your community who do not know Christ, and seeking out others who also have a heart for kids to know Christ.

Investigate

Find out all you can about Young Life's ministry. Contact the Young Life Regional Office for your area. Ask questions. Visit Young Life's website. If possible, visit a nearby club or Young Life camp.

Invite

Host and invite interested adults to a Young Life informational meeting in your community. Coordinate this event with the Florida Regional Office, who will make the presentation about Young Life as well as answer questions about the ministry and the process for getting started in your community.

Recruit

Recruit 10-12 family units to serve on your local Young Life Board. Young Life boards support, guide, and represent Young Life's ministry in a community, and also help raise contributions to fund the ministry on a local level. Young Life boards typically meet on a monthly basis. Once a core group of people have agreed to serve on your local Young Life Board, set up an initial meeting date and include your Young Life Regional Support Team Member to help get you started on the right foot.

Give

One of the key start-up benchmarks before hiring a Young Life Area Director is to have 50% of your first year's operating budget raised. Young Life annual budgets for new areas usually fall in the \$100,000 range, so the initial funding goal normally starts at about \$50,000. As you would expect, the local Young Life Board is the first group of people that we ask to make a financial commitment.

Ask

One of the most important roles of the board is to also ask other adults to support Young Life financially. In addition to the start-up funding goal, Young Life requires the board to have a game plan in place for raising the remainder of the first year's budget before we hire an Area Director. Your Regional Support Team Member can help with this process.

Hire

Once the key start-up benchmarks have been met, the Regional Office will begin searching for a qualified Area Director candidate for your community. The local Young Life Board has a significant role in approving or disapproving the Area Director candidate before final placement.

Support

Once a Young Life Area Director has been hired and is in place, the board continues to provide the support and resources to help Young Life's ministry to kids begin and thrive for years to come.

Key Start-up Benchmarks Required Before Hiring a Young Life Area Director

- 50% of first year's budget raised (usually about \$50,000)
- Plan in place for raising remaining 50% of first year budget
- 10-12 family units represented on your local Young Life Board
- Broad base of community awareness and support for Young Life

