

Monthly Ministry Motivator

e-newsletter from the BeFriender Ministry National Office

JULY 2008

Foundations for BeFriender Ministry

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

2008

Aug. 5-8
Richmond, VA

Sept. 15-18
Golden Valley, MN

Sept. 29-Oct. 2
Pullman, WA

Oct. 27-30
Iowa City, IA

Nov. 10-13
Brookfield, WI

Nov. 10-13
Louisville, KY

2009

Jan. 12-15
Albuquerque, NM

Jan. 26-29
Golden Valley, MN

Feb. 9-12
Fargo, ND

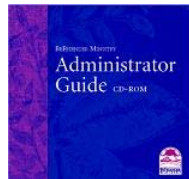
More information:
Details including fees and deadlines

Who attends Foundations?

New programs: A team of leaders (2 to 5) attends the workshop. Discounts are available for multiple registrants.

Existing programs: Additional program leaders are trained as a program grows or when there is turnover in the leadership team. Discounts may apply for active programs.

A message to you from the Executive Co-Directors



Other church activities might slow down during the summer, but the need for pastoral care doesn't take a summer break. Summer is a good time for your leadership team to start preparing for autumn training of new BeFrienders and for annual planning for your BeFriender Ministry program. Check your Administrator Guide CD for suggestions regarding planning. For instance, we recommend that continuing education for BeFrienders be conducted quarterly. What needs have

been brought to light during "Making Meaning" that might warrant additional training?

For ideas on how the national office can support your group, go to our [products and services](#) web page. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Barb Schwery barb@befrienderministry.org
Executive Co-Director and Program Manager

Our e-newsletter has a new look and a new name. We also are beginning a new feature: **SPOTLIGHT**. Each month we will publish a story of a BeFriender group, program leader, or BeFriender, but first we need you to tell us your story! Some ideas include:



- Anniversary celebrations of your BeFriender group
- News or achievements from within your BeFriender group or your leadership team
- Training, general program, or leadership ideas that you have found helpful
- Stories of befriending
- Ways of recognizing BeFrienders
- Insights you've gained from BeFriender Ministry

We want to hear about any significant event, achievement, or idea that you would like to share. You can send an e-mail to me with your story. Don't like to write? You can call our office to orally tell your story, and we will put it into writing.

Joanne Hansen (joanne@befrienderministry.org)
Executive Co-Director and Operations Manager

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Quick links

1-866-468-8708 (toll free)
952-767-0244



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. CDT

Friday - Sunday
Closed



In your area: Richmond

Registration deadline is extended to July 23



The State Capitol is a Richmond, VA, landmark.

The Catholic Diocese of Richmond is once again hosting a "Foundations for BeFriender Ministry" workshop, as they have done annually or biannually since the 1980s.

The deadline for registration has been extended to July 23 due to recent technical problems with our website or e-mail (see "Trouble Connecting?" below). If you've registered online and have not yet received a letter confirming your registration, please contact the national office at our toll free

number, 1-866-468-8708.

Volunteers in the Richmond area serve on an ecumenical BeFriender Ministry advisory committee. The group supports BeFriender program leaders and BeFrienders of all denominations through regular gatherings of program leaders and continuing education for BeFrienders. In October, the advisory committee will provide a continuing education session titled "The Changing Face of Ministry."

BeFriender Ministry goes to Italy

Workshop to be held at Aviano Air Base

The BeFriender Ministry National Office has been invited by Chaplain Kristoffer Cox, Capt, USAF, to conduct a "Foundations for BeFriender Ministry" workshop at Aviano Air Base in Italy. The training is scheduled for September 9-12. Aviano AB is home to about 10,000 service members and their families.



Inspirations

"Deep listening is miraculous for both listener and speaker. When someone receives us with open-hearted, non-judging, intensely interested listening, our spirits expand."

Sue Patton Thoele, author

Trouble connecting?

Technical problems July 4-7

After we returned from the Independence Day weekend, we discovered that there had been problems with our website and e-mail over the weekend. The issues have been resolved, and we apologize for any inconvenience the problems caused.



If you sent an **e-mail** during that time, please contact us at 952-767-0244 (toll free 1-866-468-8708) to make sure we received it.

If you tried to connect to our **website** on between July 4 and July 7 and

were not able to do so, you might need to clear your **browser history** or your **browser cache**.

If you have further problems connecting, please let us know.



Featured products

Multi-message pens

Program leaders, if you are looking for a small gift for BeFrienders to express your gratitude, consider the multi-message pens. These ballpoint pens with burgundy comfort grips have white barrels with the BeFrienders Ministry logo on the side. With each click of the pen, a different message is displayed on the barrel. There are six messages in all, including the four Foundations Principles. You also could provide the pens to BeFrienders candidates as they begin training or to volunteers who attend an information night when you are recruiting new BeFrienders. The pens are regularly \$5 each. If you place an order for pens between now and August 6, the price will be \$4 each. You can [place your order](#) on our website.

Clearance price for note cards

Only 15 sets remain of our note cards! The set of 10 note cards and envelopes originally was \$8. The clearance price is 50% off ... only \$4 per set, or save even more if you purchase a bundle of 5 sets for \$18. Once this remaining supply is gone, we are considering introducing a new note card design. [Place your order](#) on our website for the clearance-priced cards.



Earn credit for referrals

Up to \$650 can apply to "Foundations" registrations

Word-of mouth referrals always have been strong for BeFrienders Ministry. In gratitude, we are introducing a program that will allow active BeFrienders Ministry programs to earn credit for making referrals. Your church will earn \$50 credit for each church or other organization that starts a new program based on your referral. You will receive a voucher, which you can apply to a "Foundations" registration for a new program leader for your leadership team. Your program can earn up to \$650 credit every two years, and each voucher is good for two years. For more information see [Referrals](#) on our website.



Volunteer hosts can earn rebates

A rebate program for volunteer hosts also is being introduced. Workshop hosts can earn up to \$650 in rebates. A \$50 rebate is issued to the host for each church or organization that, based on the host's referral, sends participants to the host's workshop in order to start a new program. [Volunteer Host Rebate](#) on our website outlines the details.

Be a "Publicity Partner"

Is there a workshop being held in your area (including the Saint Paul-Minneapolis area)? If you are willing to put **posters** on neighborhood bulletin boards, you can request posters for placement in locations other than your own church. Some suggested locations are:

- Community bulletin boards in coffee shops or other public locations
- Meeting facilities for groups of clergy or associations of parish nurses, pastoral ministers, or chaplains

- Training or conference facilities used for ministry- or church-related programming

You can go to our [website](#) to request up to 5 posters at a time. For each poster that you display, you will receive 1 note card and envelope. The note card is a prototype of for new note cards that may replace the current design (see Featured Products above).

If you would like to distribute **flyers and registration forms**, we can e-mail the file to you in PDF format. You can forward the file or print copies to hand out.

Volunteer opportunities

Current opportunities with the national office



While we are short-staffed, we can use the help of volunteers more than ever. You can volunteer from any location. We hope you will consider the following opportunities. Anyone who contributes three hours or more of volunteer time will receive a **free tote bag**. If you can't contribute that much time, you will receive a **free gift** ... your choice of a travel candle, multi-message pen, postcard-size magnet, or a set of 10 note cards.

From your own home

We need individuals to do **research on the Internet** to find key contacts at denominational governing bodies in several cities.



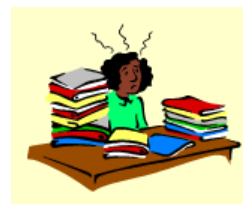
At the national office in Bloomington, MN

We have several projects that involve **assembly of materials**. The assembly projects are appropriate for any age. Consider volunteering with your children or grandchildren or using this as a service project for a student or confirmand. For a recent graduate it can be valuable office experience.

New members for our **Board of Directors** are needed to replace those whose terms have expired. Are you are interested or know someone who might be? We are particularly looking for individuals with experience and expertise in marketing and development.

Contact us

More information about current [volunteer opportunities](#) is available on our website. If you are interested in any of the opportunities, send an e-mail to joanne@befrienderministry.org or call toll free 1-866-468-8708 (952-767-0244 in the Saint Paul-Minneapolis area). Barb and Joanne will be very grateful!



Fundraising update

A good start toward our goal

We have received \$4,875 in contributions toward our 2008 fundraising goal of \$95,000. That is a good start! You can [Make a donation](#) via credit or debit card on our website using PayPal.

Special funds

We appreciate the many program leaders and clergy who have made arrangements for contributions from special funding sources. Does your church have a foundation, endowment fund, grant program, or other special fund? If you think BeFriender Ministry would qualify for a contribution from

the fund, please contact us at 952-767-0244 (toll free 1-866-468-8708) to let us know the process for making a request.

Pilot of a new service Training Network



We occasionally get calls from program leaders who are interested in conducting BeFriender candidate training with another church. To help with connecting program leaders, we have launched a networking service as a pilot. You can complete and submit the online form to have your contact information listed. For more information and to complete the form go to the [Training Network](#).

Looking ahead

National observance of pastoral care in October

In the next issue of the monthly update, we will provide information about National Pastoral Care Week, which is observed in October.

New e-newsletter feature

In the August edition of the newsletter, we will introduce another new feature: **Question of the Month**. Barb Schwery will post a question, and in the following issue, we will feature a sampling of the answers.



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