

## **DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTETOWN**

### **Bereavement Team Member**

#### **Overview**

The Bereavement Team Members provide support to those who are experiencing grief. This ministry calls members to participate in the ministry of consolation and care for the dying and to comfort all who mourn.

#### **Activities/Responsibilities**

- Provides support to those dealing with grief with regard to their spiritual/emotional needs.
- Visit bereaved families in teams of two in the parish community as scheduled by the Bereavement Team Coordinator and keeps a record of all visits.
- Demonstrates, within their capacity, a caring relationship by providing practical assistance to the parishioners.
- May assist in the sending out of the bereavement cards/ group bereavement sessions.

#### **Skills, Experience and Personal Qualities**

- Is an adult (18 yrs. +) baptized member of the Catholic Church in good standing.
- Can relate effectively and communicate compassionately with others.
- Has skills, sensitivity and an understanding of grief, loss and bereavement.
- Desires to serve the community and to commit time and talents to this ministry.
- Honest, dependable and can maintain strict confidentiality; be a person of prayer.
- Possesses good listening skills, relational skills and good judgment.
- Is comfortable with accountability and is sensitive to the observance of boundaries.

#### **Orientation and Training**

Standard parish orientation and bereavement training/approved by the Pastor.

#### **Participant Group**

Other Bereavement Team Members, the bereaved and their family/friends.

#### **Support, Supervision, and Evaluation**

The Bereavement Team Coordinator is the first level of support, supervision and evaluation.

#### **Length of Ministry Appointment**

As decided between the parish and this volunteer.

#### **Benefits and Working Conditions**

Contributes to spiritual life and pastoral care of the parish.

### Screening Recommendations

This is a **High Risk** position, needing completion of a Volunteer Information Form, having an interview and personal reference checks and a Criminal Record Check.

**This ministry position description generally reflects the Ministry of Bereavement Team Member currently practiced at \_\_\_\_\_ Parish.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish Volunteer Screening Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Adaptation by the Diocese of Charlottetown *April, 2010*