

SPONSOR'S COVENANT

Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc. is a lay led Christian ministry with the express purpose of strengthening the desire for greater lay activity in Christian churches. DeColores Ministries is not to be considered as a substitute for the church; however, it is an extension of the church, supported by Christians from local church communities. The ministry's intent is to lay a foundation for a Christian life by calling persons to a renewed faith and/or to call persons to conversion to Christ. It does not seek church status, nor does it offer any sacrament.

BEFORE THE APPLICATION:

- ❖ Understand that sponsorship requires a commitment in time and effort that begins before, takes place during and continues after the weekend.
- ❖ These weekends are not for everyone. People with emotional, medical, physical and substance abuse problems, may find it too overwhelming. As a sponsor, YOU MUST KNOW your candidate.
- ❖ Pray for God's guidance in selecting individuals for you to sponsor. DO NOT sponsor more than 2 candidates on one weekend – you have MANY responsibilities.
- ❖ Meet with your candidate and his/her spouse (if applicable) to discuss the DeColores weekend and post-weekend activities. Every effort should be made to encourage BOTH husband and wife to attend the upcoming weekends and answer any questions.
- ❖ To be a sponsor means that you will serve as a model of faith so that your very life will be an inspiration for your candidate.

BEFORE THE WEEKEND:

- ❖ Pray for the spiritual growth of your candidate, for his/her family and for the success of the weekend.
- ❖ Make arrangements to take your candidate to the weekend's host church on Thursday evening.
- ❖ Attend Sponsor's Chapel for your candidate on Thursday evening.
- ❖ Be sure you invite your candidate's family and friends to Holy Hour on Friday night and the Church Service on Sunday morning (everyone is welcome, even if they haven't made a DeColores weekend).
- ❖ Make arrangements to deliver palanca for your candidate from: you, their family & friends, and their pastor. Personal palanca needs to be able to fit in a 10x13 envelope or smaller.

DURING THE WEEKEND:

- ❖ See to the needs of your candidate's family while he/she is away – babysitting, preparing meals, or eating with them if they are alone.
- ❖ Attend serenade and closing on Sunday evening for your candidate (this is not open to everyone, only those who have made a DeColores weekend or other similar Cursillo can attend).
- ❖ Provide transportation home. Before going home, you might want to spend time talking about the weekend to help them unwind, but remember, he/she may have an anxious spouse waiting at home.

AFTER THE WEEKEND:

- ❖ Make a commitment to follow-up with your crucista (crew-see-sta: one who has completed a DeColores Ministries weekend as a candidate) for at least three months after the weekend is over.
- ❖ Explain the concept of and assist him/her in attending Follow-Up meetings, Ultreyas and Reunion Groups.
- ❖ Continue to pray for your crucista and be available to discuss what he/she discovered on the weekend after he/she has had time to reflect upon it.
- ❖ Help your crucista achieve the proper goal of the DeColores weekend – reinforcing individual commitment to Christ through piety, study and action.
- ❖ Encourage participation in the DeColores Community. Explain to your crucista how he/she can be a sponsor, serve as an inside or outside team member, serve as Kitchen Help, pray on 24-Hr Prayer, send Palanca, or serve on the Secretariat Board.
- ❖ Encourage him/her to complete the Servant Survey Form provided in his/her going home packet and mail to:
SWMI DeColores President, P.O Box 225, Niles, MI 49120.

By completing and signing the separate Sponsor Recommendation Form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to uphold your responsibilities as stated above. Pray for God's guidance when selecting someone to sponsor. Remember, you have many responsibilities as a sponsor, therefore, DO NOT sponsor more than 2 candidates on one weekend. Thank You and God Bless.