

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NET TEAM:

WHAT IS NET MINISTRIES?

NET stands for National Evangelization Teams. NET Ministries seeks to “challenge young Catholics, through relational ministry, to follow Christ and embrace a life of community in the Church”.

WHAT IS A DISCIPLESHIP TEAM?

“Discipleship Teams offer a unique opportunity that combines the efforts of a parish or school and that of a NET team, in order to enrich Catholic culture and build a community of disciples that have a lasting relationship with Christ. A partnership is formed between a parish/school and NET Ministries in which they work side-by-side to bring Christ to the community.” (source: netusa.org/discipleshipteams/)

IVE HEARD ABOUT NET- LED YOUTH RETREATS.... IS THIS THE SAME ORGANIZATION?

Yes! NET Ministries also deploys missionaries on Retreat Teams to minister to middle school and high school youth at parishes and Catholic schools across the country.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING WHILE THEY ARE HERE?

The missionaries are here to support and expand our existing efforts to accompany young people (middle & high school & young adults) on the path of becoming spirit-filled disciples of Jesus Christ. The Discipleship Team will engage in a variety of outreach and discipleship activities for the youth and families of our parish communities.

HOW LONG IS THE TEAM HERE?

Our current team of missionaries will be here through May 2025. This is our first year of having a team here, out of potentially 3 years.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

The missionaries stay in host homes with parish families who have generously agreed to house 2-5 missionaries in their home for 3 weeks of the year. If you'd like to learn more about being a host family, click on the “Support the Team” button on this page.

HOW DOES NET SCREEN THEIR MISSIONARIES?

The missionaries are thoroughly screened by NET Ministries in order to ensure their suitability for working with youth. NET Ministries follows the recommendations laid out by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops in their “Charter for the Protection of Young People”. These measures include: criminal background checks, numerous reference checks, a letter of suitability from their Pastor, and completion of “VIRTUS - Protecting God’s Children” course, and additional instructions on maintaining safe environments for youth during their initial 5-week training.

HOW ARE THE MISSIONARIES TRAINED?

All NET Missionaries complete a 5-week training process prior to beginning ministry. This training equips them to conduct outreach and discipleship efforts among the youth in a parish/school community. They are taught how to model a life of discipleship for young people, engage youth in outreach activities outside of church/school, share testimonies, run small groups, encourage peer-to-peer faith sharing, mentor individual youth, teach young to develop a habit of daily prayer, and more.

HOW ARE THE MISSIONARIES SUPERVISED?

Our Discipleship Team works closely with staff member Erin Duba (Youth Ministry). They also are supervised and supported remotely by staff at the NET Center in Minnesota. These supervisors are in regular weekly contact with the missionaries and make 4 site visits throughout the year.