

113th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Utah

REPORT OF EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

On behalf of Episcopal Community Services, Inc., I am honored to provide this report to the 2018 Diocesan Convention. As a reminder, ECS is a Utah nonprofit charitable corporation separate from but linked to the Corporation of the Episcopal Church in Utah. It was intentionally not incorporated as a religious corporation to enable it to be eligible for contracts and access to funding sources that do not fund religious entities. Our current ECS activities reflect some of the possibilities and ministry in community social services that this corporate form permits.

A. Members

ECS is governed by a Board of Trustees, chaired by the Rt. Rev. Scott B. Hayashi. Other members of the Board include Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Mr. John Hanshaw, Mr. Michael Herron, The Rev. Canon Pablo Ramos, D.D. and Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq. (who also serves as Executive Director of ECS). ECS is staffed by The Rev. Nancy Piggott, Director of Spiritual Care; Karen Pena, Administrator, The Rev. Susan Toone, Community Pastoral Care Chaplain; and approximately 20 ACPE Chaplains trained through our CPE program at St. Mark's Hospital.

B. Mandate

This historic mandate of Episcopal Community Services is to address unmet and ill-met needs in the wider community. Currently, this mandate is exercised in the area of spiritual care services in hospital settings the YWCA women and children's facility, community pastoral care services at two senior housing complexes of the Episcopal Management Corporation, and medical services coordination in the Uintah Basin, and maintaining the Episcopal Church connection to the Youth Impact program in Ogden.

C. Goals

Currently, ECS has two overarching goals. The first is to effectively represent the Episcopal Church in Utah in extending the Church's presence in the wider community. The second goal is to firmly establish Episcopal Community Services as the preeminent provider of pastoral care services in Utah.

D. Action Items

The current action items include the following:

- Strengthen the Spiritual Care Services program and professional staffing at all current venues
- Continue the training of a new ACPE Certified Educator to sustain the future of the CPE program

- Explore the future of meaningful ECS services within the Uintah Basin
- Explore greater engagement with Youth Impact and possible development of additional youth services programs in other communities
- Engage congregations of the Diocese in collaborative ministries
- Develop a strategic plan for financial sustainability of ECS without undue financial burden on the Diocese

E. Analysis

We're currently engaged with the training of one Chaplain in the ACPE Certified Educator training program. This is a 3-5 year commitment. Additional Certified Educator resources may be required in the future.

We have begun to be more intentional in recruiting participants in the CPE program to make available the training for people who wish to become employed long-term by ECS as hospital or community Chaplains.

We have begun conversation around appropriate fundraising models to bring in additional monies to ECS for the purpose of funding the core administration functions of the Corporation that are not otherwise by services contracts. We have reached out to clergy leadership in the Uintah Basin, corporate leadership at Youth Impact, and will be seeking to engage leadership from congregations in service areas within the Diocese to enhance the working relationship in ministry collaboration with these individuals and organizations.

F. Findings and Conclusions

There is tremendous opportunity for ECS to grow and further compliment the ministries of the Diocese. I am optimistic about the quality of services and ministry leadership available through ECS, but I am also mindful of the tremendous amount of work it will take to maximize these unique gifts and ministry opportunities.

G. Recommendation

I strongly urge the continuation of diocesan support through administrative services and financial allocations to support the development stages of ECS until it is able to be completely self-sustaining. ECS services reach many thousands of people in Utah in each of the communities it serves. The awareness of the Episcopal Church and its ministry is through this engagement that is invaluable to the overall ministries of the Church, including the Episcopal Diocese in Utah. There is a significant need for greater awareness of ECS activities and opportunities for participation by people within the congregations of the Diocese. I believe that mutual engagement will benefit the ministries of the congregations as well as support the focused ministries of ECS.

H. Statement

The ministries of ECS are beyond the scope and capability of individual congregations for the Diocese separately. However, the Spiritual Care services and ministries of ECS significantly broaden and compliment the ministries of the Diocese and the congregations in providing spiritual guidance and support, comfort and presence with people at the most desperate times, and the circumstances of their lives. Our highly trained and professional Chaplains provide a quality and authenticity of spiritual care beyond that which could be sustained by clergy or lay ministers in occasional participation. In addition, the ongoing presence of these Chaplains in spaces within institutional settings separate from congregations provides us with an opportunity for the ministry of the Episcopal Church to show up and be fully present to people with whom we would otherwise have little if any engagement.

Canon Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq.
Executive Director