

## Jubilee Ministry

In 1982 The General Convention in New Orleans established Jubilee Ministry. From this pledge to address Justice and Peace issues, more than 600 centers have been established over the intervening years across the United States, Central and South America, and Hong Kong. The Episcopal Church recognizes these centers as exemplary outreach programs. Our Diocese of West Missouri has seven Jubilee Centers: Episcopal Community Services, Kansas City, housed at St. Paul's in K.C., KS; The Community Kitchen at 750 E. Paseo, having moved from Grace and Holy Trinity; the Parenting Life Skills Center in Springfield; the Hispanic Ministry at St. Nicholas, Noel; the Church Army in Branson; and the Necessity Pantry at St. Michael's in Independence, and Grace's Grocery at Grace Church, Liberty.

**Criteria for Jubilee Ministry Center recognition include the following:**

1. Must be an Episcopal Congregation, Episcopal cluster or an ecumenical cluster with Episcopal presence, and/or an agency with connections to the Episcopal Church.
2. Must be involved in mission and ministry among and with poor and oppressed people wherever they are located.
3. The mission and ministry must be rooted in worship.
4. The mission and ministry must include several programs, including at least one human rights advocacy program and one human services program.

**Once designated a Jubilee Center, the ministry must be willing to:**

- a) Demonstrate the operation of its programs to others as models
- b) Maintain "how to" files
- c) Act as a resource center and funnel for information
- d) Be subject to annual review.

Any Episcopal congregation in our diocese with an outreach program is eligible to apply to become a Jubilee Center. There are several reasons a congregation with an outreach program should apply for Jubilee status. The first is to recognize the outreach ministry and have it recognized by others. Second, the National Jubilee Ministry office makes available training workshops with resource materials that are opportunities to learn and share. Lastly, training and networking with other Jubilee Centers provides the opportunity for program development, and implementation, with advisors and technical assistance.

Any congregation wishing to be recognized may apply for Jubilee Center status by contacting the DJO, The Rev. Larry Allen. The application now on line is sent to you, then filled out and returned to the DJO, signed by the Jubilee officer of this diocese and by the bishop of this diocese. The signature of the bishop is what designates a new center. Consider joining or expanding the work of Jubilee Ministries in your area.

Respectfully submitted, the Rev. Larry Allen