

2018 Diocesan Convention
Resolution C-1

Originator: The Rev. Mark Elliston
Parish/Mission: Christ Church, Oil City
Subject: Drug and Alcohol Committee

RESOLVED, That this Convention of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania requests Diocesan Council to establish a Drug and Alcohol Committee, to be composed of clergy and laity from throughout the Diocese;

This Committee is to develop programs for churches within the Diocese to use for Recovery Sundays and other events that reach out to those in recovery from substance abuse in their area;

This Committee is to provide educational services as needed for children, youth, and adults throughout the churches of the Diocese. Educational services would include speakers, literature, and additional materials as needed;

This Committee is to aid the Diocese in implementation of Resolutions A158, titled "Adopt Policy on Alcohol and Other Drug Misuse" and A159 "Promote a Healing Ministry to Those Affected by Addiction", approved at the 78th General Convention of 2015, and any other previously approved resolutions relating to substance abuse.

Rationale

Substance abuse occurs in all areas of the Diocese, with no regard to social class, educational levels, income, or race, and impacts all communities in the Diocese. The Episcopal Church has recognized the pervasive nature of this issue and has encouraged development of programs and ministries at the local level, in co-operation and with the assistance of the Recovery Ministries of the Episcopal Church. The actions of General Convention on the matter date back to Resolution B122 "Request Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism.