



# Riverview Youth

**Youth Staff Leadership Packet**

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# [WELCOME]

The goal of this packet is to share what it means to be a part of the Riverview Youth Staff Team, the student ministry of Riverview Community Church. We are passionate about reaching junior and senior high school students with the hope and love of Jesus Christ. To do this effectively we have a team of adults who commit to being a part of our Youth Staff Team and making an eternal difference in the lives of youth.

As you are making your way through this packet, please don't hesitate to email or call with questions that you might have!

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# **[VISION]** passionate witnesses, Christ followers, leaders

The purpose of RIVERVIEW YOUTH is to connect students to Jesus. We want students to make permanent decisions for Christ because of the Youth Staff's *passionate* witness. This happens as the Youth Staff does the following:

1. Intentionally connect to students in meaningful ways during weekly service, winter and summer camps, mission trips, and quarterly events. As well as focused follow-up for guests and new believers and weekly Wednesday phone blitzing.

Wednesday @ 6:30 PM: RIVERVIEW YOUTH SERVICE – pre-service prayer followed by the main student ministry gathering focused on worship and preaching.

2. Disciple students to become *passionate* followers of Christ through authentic community, life training and intimacy with God. This takes place through the avenue of mentorship, biblical teaching, service projects and ministry outreach opportunities.

Weekly Mentoring: It is our goal to empower the Youth Staff to build relationships and influence students using their gifts, strengths and passions. Each Youth Staff Leader mentors a group of students by connecting individually with them, praying for them and with them, and making sure they have rides to Youth services and events.

Sunday @ 9 AM: RIVERVIEW YOUTH FOUNDATIONS – solid practical, and relevant biblical teaching

## **Student Leaders**

Riverview Youth is also committed to developing *passionate* leaders to influence this generation. Each year a group of students commit themselves to do more than just attend Riverview's Youth services and events and step up to take ownership of their youth ministry as Student Leaders. They come early on service days for mentorship and service preparation, take part in pre-service prayer, and practice leading parts of youth service.

# **[CORE VALUES]**

1. Biblical Authority- Training students to know God
2. Intimacy with God- Loving God personally
3. Intentional Outreach-Sharing God's love
4. Authentic Community- Serving God and others

# [YOUTH STAFF DEFINED]

Youth Staff Leaders are the key to Riverview Youth Ministry. Without our Staff Team, our student ministry would not be what it is! Youth Staff are men and women over the age of 18 who have a passion to reach and raise up students in Junior and Senior High (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) to be life long followers of Jesus Christ. In order to reach many students, it takes a team of people each with their own individual gifts, talents and passions.

Leadership is made up of volunteers who help make Riverview Youth more than just a weekly service. Instead, it's our desire to be an ongoing ministry that takes place in multiple forms throughout the week. Leaders are encouraged to get involved in the lives of students and make a difference through mentoring, encouraging, and equipping their lives to be successful in their faith. We are not looking for warm bodies at Riverview Youth. We want people who are passionate about connecting with students and helping them connect with Jesus.

There are four basic expectations for Youth Staff Leaders beyond the biblical lifestyle standards.

1. Mentor your group of students
2. Come at 6:30 pm each Wednesday for Youth Service
3. Attend our monthly leadership meetings
4. Join us at the annual Youth Leaders Summit in March

## [WHAT IT TAKES] requirements and process

Now that you have a better understanding of what RIVERVIEW YOUTH is and how it functions, lets take a few moments to look at what it takes to become a part of the leadership team.

### LEADERSHIP

To be on Youth Staff means to be committed to the student ministry in a leadership role. Leadership simply defined means "influence". Here are a few expectations for your leadership.

#### **3 Commitments of Leadership:**

1. Commitment of loyalty (to the students, ministry, other leaders and pastors)
2. Commitment of a TEAM mindset (together we can accomplish great things, each doing our part)
3. Commitment of showing up (leadership meetings, youth services and events, church services)

### STUDENTS

Each of us has a circle of influence. For some, we easily connect with and build relationship with people. For others it takes a little more effort. No matter where you land on the scale, as an adult leader there are students who want to be, and need to be influenced by you. Below you will see 3 keys to weekly ministry as a leader.

### **3 Keys to Weekly Ministry as Youth Staff Leader:**

1. **Pray** for the students in your Mentor Group, in our ministry, our church and our pastors
2. **Connect** with the students in your Mentor Group while at church. Sit by them, pray with them, build relationships with them
3. **Contact** the students in your Mentor Group at least once a week outside of church. Call, text, email, facebook, instagram, coffee, ice cream...something

## **CONDUCT**

If we are going to be successful in leadership, we need to live successful lives. This takes a willingness and a vision to live with character and integrity. If we cannot lead ourselves, we will have a hard time leading others. In the world we live in, there are many “gray” areas. Leaders don’t live their lives trying to see how close to the line they can get. They set a standard and live their lives with those convictions. Therefore, our conduct and the choices we make are incredibly important as leaders.

### **3 Keys of Christ-like Conduct:**

1. I will develop a lifestyle of GROWTH (I will continue to pursue a passionate relationship with Jesus)
2. I will live PURE (what I watch, listen to and partake in)
3. I will live above reproach (I will flee even the appearance of evil)

## **STEPS TO BECOME A YOUTH LEADER**

**Step 1:** Carefully read through the Youth Leadership Packet, fill out the application and return to Riverview’s Youth Director

**Step 2:** Interview with the Youth Director and complete an online background check

**Step 3:** Once background check is cleared, visit the Wednesday Youth Service for 4 consecutive weeks

**Step 4:** Evaluation meeting with the Youth Director, define leadership role, and sign the Youth Staff Commitment

**Step 5:** Review meeting with the Youth Director after 4 weeks of serving on Youth Staff

# [YOUTH STAFF COMMITMENT]

AS A MEMBER OF RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH'S YOUTH STAFF TEAM, I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING EXPECTATIONS:

1. I will participate enthusiastically in services and events and passionately serve the Youth Ministry.
2. I will commit to attend weekly church and youth services, monthly leadership meetings, and all Youth events.
3. I will arrive at least 30 minutes early to all scheduled meetings, services and events and stay until the end.
4. I will call, text or email Abel as soon as I know of a conflict that will prevent me from attending any meeting, service or event.
5. I commit to actively pursue a growing and maturing relationship with God by consistent bible reading, prayer and worship.
6. I will attend the annual Youth Leaders Summit in March.
7. I am a model of Jesus for the students. So I will live a God honoring lifestyle. Whatever I do in moderation students will do in excess.
8. I will treat others with respect.
9. I will come to Abel any time with concerns or suggestions.
10. I will resolve conflict biblically. If I have an issue with Abel or any one of the Youth Staff, I will go and talk with them privately. I WILL NOT talk to the person about the issue publically.
11. I will communicate with Abel if there are any behavioral issues that need discipline.
12. If a student is hurting themselves or planning on hurting themselves, or is being abused I will contact Abel so that he can get the proper people involved.
13. I will mentor, disciple and lead the students to Jesus, focusing specifically on my mentor group.
14. I will appropriately communicate with students outside of Riverview Youth services and events using a variety of communication methods – Facebook, IM, Twitter, email, text & cell, face time is always best but many times a simple connection can make all the difference in the world to a student.
15. I will never allow myself to be alone with a student of the opposite gender. (Protect yourself and the students that we minister to)
16. I will NOT date a student or be romantically involved with a Riverview Youth student. (Any adult with prior incident of sexual misconduct in this regard will not serve in any capacity of youth ministry. There are no exceptions.)
17. I will exemplify leadership through my conduct, attitude and commitment.

I understand each of the above expectations and will adhere to them while I am on the RIVERVIEW YOUTH STAFF TEAM. I understand that by signing this commitment, I am agreeing to be a RIVERVIEW YOUTH STAFF TEAM MEMBER for a period of 12 months, unless extraordinary circumstances arise.

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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