The 1001 New Worshiping Community Residency

Beacon - Philadelphia

2019-2020

Applicants are sought for a one-year 1001 New Worshiping Community residency established by [Beacon](http://www.thewordatbeacon.org/), a recently chartered church that strengthens our community of Kensington in Philadelphia through art, storytelling, and faith.

Since 2011 Beacon has been re-envisioning worship and what it means to be a faith community as a part of the 1001 New Worshiping Community movement, an initiative of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We are in a post-industrial context that is rapidly gentrifying, which presents us and a future resident many opportunities of how to grow a sense of community across deep cultural and socio-economic chasms. We do this work through explanatory, freshly-written liturgy in worship, facilitating relationship growth between neighbors at community art events, recruiting, training, and maintaining a volunteer base for our weekly after school literacy program at our local elementary school, and hosting twice-monthly meals that gather people to mobilize them for good in the field of social justice. Residents will have a leadership role in all programs, though some may include more delegation than others, according to skill set and sense of vocation.

The pastoral residency at Beacon is a residency for the faith-motivated entrepreneurial in the 21st century. Residents participate in all aspects of Beacon’s life and work: leading worship, building relationships with community members and organizational partners, designing curriculum, supporting community programming, participating in board meetings, and learning about grant-writing, administration, and leadership from one of Beacon’s founding pastors. Beacon offers both one- and two-year tracks for residency. If interested in the two-year track, the first year would be spent as an immersive learning experience on the ground at Beacon and the second year would be a hybrid of refining skills at Beacon and doing the groundwork to begin a different new worshiping community in another area of the city.

Financial Support: The total package available for support of this residency is $40,000 for the year, to include salary and at least a $1500 health insurance reimbursement. Beacon will work with the successful candidate to organize the package to be most beneficial to the resident. The resident will be an employee of Beacon Church. Residents also will take part in an advanced national training (costs covered by the Presbyterian Mission Agency) with 1001 apprentices and other residents this summer in Kansas City. Applications, including letters of reference, are due by March 15, 2019.

For more information about 1001 New Worshipping Communities, go to: [onethousandone.org](http://www.onethousandone.org/) and contact Sara.Hayden@pcusa.org., or listen to episodes from our new podcast New Way.

For more information about Beacon, go to: thewordatbeacon.org and/or find us on social media: facebook.com/thewordatbeacon, @thewordatbeacon.

Selected applicants will take part in the National 1001 New Worshiping Communities Apprenticeship Training program this summer in Kansas City: June 23-26.

Contact information:

Rev. Becca Blake, Pastor of Beacon

Rblake910@gmail.com

Application Checklist

✓ Cover letter including:

What attracts you to this residency?

What do you hope to gain out of this experience?

What would you offer because of this experience?

✓ Completed application

✓ Two Letters of Recommendation

Application deadline is March 15, or when the position has been filled. Questions? Contact Becca Blake at Rblake910@gmail.com or Sara Hayden at sara.hayden@pcusa.org

Email your completed application and cover letter to the following persons:

Becca Blake at Rblake910@gmail.com

Sara Hayden at sara.hayden@pcusa.org

Contact Info

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Education (as applicable) Please complete on a separate page

Work Experience (post-secondary school) Please complete on a separate page.

Church and Community Leadership (post-secondary school) Please complete on a separate page.

Denominational Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Tell Us More

Please answer the following questions. Each answer should not exceed three hundred words.

1. What attracts you to this 1001 Residency? What would a fruitful conclusion to the residency look like for you?
2. Provide one theological issue that matters to you that you hope will be shaped and formed by spending time in this residency.
3. Tell us about a time when you had to seek support from someone outside your immediate circle in order to accomplish a project for which you had limited resources.
4. Describe the relationships you maintain with people who are not a part of a church.
5. Describe an instance in which you had to learn a new skill in order to grow in your current role and/or be successful in another role.
6. What draws you to starting new ministries from scratch? What are important components for a new ministry that you have considered inaugurating?
7. Tell us about a new ministry that you have started, or been a part of.
8. What will you contribute to and how will you benefit from this environment?

Cover Letter

Please submit a cover letter with your application that includes what attracts you to this program and what you hope to gain from this experience.

References

Please provide two letters of recommendation from people who know you well enough to address your theological integrity, gifts for ministry, and capacity for personal relationships.

Provide two additional references we can contact. Indicate relationship (pastor, professor, supervisor, mentor, friend, etc...).

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever been convicted of a felony or found guilty of an incident of sexual misconduct? Yes ❒ No ❒

Marking “Yes” to this does not disqualify you from the Program, but we would like you to attach an explanation including offense and date.