
PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

The Committee on Resolutions received eight proposed resolutions by the January 15, 2012 deadline for submissions (extended to January 17 due to the federal holiday). The proposals are reported below, having been edited as to form. The proposers may make additional revisions prior to submission to Convention.

Following hearings at the preconvention meetings and at the formal hearing of the Committee to be held beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 25, 2012, in the Matthews Room at Diocesan House, 808 West State Street, Trenton, the Committee will prepare its Final Report with its recommendations, if any, with respect to the proposals. It is the Final Report that will be submitted to Convention.

As provided by the Rules of Order, proposed resolutions not timely submitted to the Committee on Resolutions, and not required by canon to be submitted to some other committee, may be brought to the floor of Convention for consideration only upon a two-thirds vote of Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Ambos, Chair
Committee on Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2012-1:

Subject: Honoring and Continuing Anti-Racist Leadership in the Diocese

Be it resolved, That this 228th Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey honor the Right Reverend George E. Cuncell for his consistent modeling of anti-racist leadership in word and deed, and for his unswerving support of the ongoing work for justice by our Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission and Team; and be it

Further resolved, That this Convention give thanks that the result of Bishop Cuncell's advocacy has been the steadfast nurture of a growing anti-racist culture in our diocese marked by significant and welcome progress toward that aim; and be it

Further resolved, That our next diocesan bishop be a trained and proven anti-racist, prepared to continue the good work that Bishop Cuncell has so tirelessly fostered; and be it

Further resolved, That, to implement that goal, General Convention Resolution 2000-B049 be applied to require all members of our Episcopal Election Committee to receive anti-racism training, so that such education in the analysis of systemic racism may positively impact our Diocesan Profile and the eventual election of the Twelfth Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey.

SUBMITTED BY: The Diocese of New Jersey Anti-Racism Commission and Team: the Rev'd Joan E. Fleming, Co-Chair, the Rev'd John Thompson-Quartey, Co-Chair, the Rev'd Andrea Hayden, the Rev'd Deborah Piggins, the Rev'd Francisco Pozo, the Rev'd Mark Van Sant, the

Rev'd Martha McKee, the Rev'd Salvador Ros, the Rev'd Ted Moore, Barbara Bach, Kevin Thompson, Noreen Duncan, Susan Espenshade, and Wendy Blackman

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-1 by Proposers:

General Convention Resolution B049 of 2000 requires "That beginning on September 1, 2000 the lay and ordained leadership of the Episcopal Church, including all ordained persons, professional staff, and those elected or appointed to positions of leadership on committees, commissions, agencies, and boards be required to take anti-racism training."

Bishop Cuncell's leadership in the work of anti-racism is deserving of our recognition and thanks. It has been the impetus for laudable progress in our journey toward becoming an anti-racist diocese. If this good work is to continue, the Anti-Racism Commission believes it requires two things:

- that, consistent with Resolution 2000-B049, all members of our Episcopal Election Committee receive anti-racism training.
- that our future bishop is, him or herself, adequately trained and experienced in the application of an informed analysis of systemic racism.

RESOLUTION 2012-2:

Subject: Diocesan Subscription Medical Service

Be it resolved, That the Diocese of New Jersey operate a Diocesan Subscription Medical Service (DSMS) for the benefit of its clergy, parishes, and missions, under which the subscription dues would be (a) waived for employees of the Diocese including of this medical service, retired clergy, and the poor, (b) discounted by thirty percent for active clergy, parish or mission staff, and lay church members, and (c) at full price to members of the general public, employers, municipalities, counties, and the state of New Jersey; a "travel" subscription at a reduced rate would be offered as a rider to any full premium health insurance plans with which the Diocese can negotiate a reciprocal "travel" insurance rider, all such riders to be optional at the choice of the subscriber or insured party; and be it

Further resolved, That the Diocese of New Jersey appoint a Commission of Medical Services, Instruction, and Research (CMSIR) to direct, coordinate, and approve the hiring of staff and the purchase of facilities and equipment for medical offices, clinics, hospitals, and medical schools, so as to provide the best medical service possible given the funds collected in moderate subscription dues, and to establish an ongoing medical institution which trains its own doctors and offers a favorable environment for medical research, including pharmaceutical research; the CMSIR would negotiate licensing of inventions on behalf of researchers, as well as heavily discounted prices for the DSMS on the medical equipment and medicines produced according to those patents by licensed manufacturers.

SUBMITTED BY: Carl Peter Klapper, St. Luke's Church, Metuchen

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-2 by Proposer:

As a member of a church named in honor of Saint Luke, the Physician, as well as the grandson of a noted surgeon, Harry Klapper, MD, I feel a keen sense of mission in reforming medical care so that it serves the people and shows the love of Christ. As an economist, I am acutely aware of the manner in which health insurance has corrupted my grandfather's profession, driving up medical fees, medical school tuition, and the prices of medical equipment and medicines. I am also aware that practicality demands a gradual transition away from health insurance with its commercialization of medicine and toward direct medical care as practiced by centuries of physicians following the Hippocratic Oath.

In this resolution, I propose a way for the Diocese of New Jersey to achieve just such a gradual transition. First, the CMSIR purchases abandoned hospitals inexpensively in parishes with no local medical service and, by opening them again, gains a ready-made subscriber base. The travel subscription then extends the subscriber base into insurance base on a partial basis, while the travel insurance provides a backup for subscription patients needing special care not yet provided by the DSMS. As for reversing the price increases within the DSMS, in-house medical training and instruction avoids the expense of private medical schools while giving to the young, the poor, and the unemployed an opportunity to enter the field of medicine without being bound to debt. Also, medical research at the DSMS advances the medical arts and improves the care of patients at minimal cost when the CMSIR requires patent licensees to at least sell the resulting product to the DSMS at a deep discount, preferably just a little above cost plus a small license per-product fee distributed to the inventors. That would be a small witness of not profiteering off of medicine. Finally, the waiving of the subscription dues for the poor restores the indigent care which health-insurance-financed private "medical centers" (most don't dare to call themselves "hospitals") have been dodging at every turn. Indeed, profiteering health providers and insurers will be seen for what they are and will be all the more easily supplanted by a caring, competent medical staff performing just the procedures and dispensing just the medicines needed to heal their patients, all for modest regular dues.

Luke 9:1-2: "Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick."

RESOLUTION 2012-3:*Subject: Health Insurance*

Be it resolved, That the Convention hereby directs the health insurance Plan Administrator of the Diocese to instruct the Episcopal Church Medical Trust to structure the health insurance premiums of the active clergy and lay employees of the Diocese on a two rate basis beginning on January 1, 2013.

SUBMITTED BY: *The Rev'd Elmer L. Sullivan*

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-3 by Proposer:

For many years the group health insurance premiums of the active clergy and lay employees of the Diocese have been based on a two rate structure: one rate for single persons and a second rate for a family of two or more persons.

At a meeting on September 7, 2011, the Insurance Committee adopted a change to take effect in 2012. This change establishes a more complex rate structure that includes one rate for a single person, a second rate for a couple (husband and wife), and a third rate for a family (husband, wife and one or more children). Whereas at present there is no difference in the premium rate for a couple and a family, the new rate structure will result in a significantly higher annual premium for families with children as compared with couples without children. The difference in premium varies according to which of the health insurance plans the employee chooses, but for the five most popular plans the difference is between \$9,228 a year and \$7,152 a year.

Thus, in 2012 the 47 churches that employ clergy or lay persons who have dependent children will be charged between \$7,152 and \$9,288 a year more for health insurance than the 26 churches that employ couples who do not have dependent children.

To me this seems unfair. Why should churches be penalized to the tune of seven or nine thousand dollars a year simply because they employ clergy and/or lay people who have children? No such penalty existed in 2011.

Moreover, the new policy will place clergy and lay persons who have children at a distinct disadvantage when it comes to applying for a job. \$7,000 or \$9,000 is a significant amount in many church budgets. Will search committees be tempted to automatically screen out all applicants who have children and exclude them from the applicant pool? I see it as a real danger. Remember, this will apply not just to clergy but also to organists, secretaries, and sextons. Do we really want to open the door to this kind of discrimination?

Official policies of The Episcopal Church decry discrimination for a long list of reasons. Although having children is not specifically mentioned in the canonical list, it is certainly implied.

The purpose of this resolution is to do away with such discrimination in our Diocese by returning to the two rate structure.

The claim is sometimes made that families with children should be charged a higher premium because more people means more medical expenses. That might be true with some insured groups, but not with ours. Age is the biggest factor in driving up health care costs, and the median age of our diocesan clergy is way above average. Couples between the age of 50 and 65 whose children have "left the nest" will, on the whole, generate far higher medical expenses than younger couples with children.

Finally, there is the issue of who makes decisions about insurance matters. On September 7, five people sitting around a table on West State Street decided that there was an "urgent need" to act immediately and change the rate structure for 2012, a change that means higher rates for clergy and lay employees with children. We're stuck with that decision for 2012.

In my opinion, changes of this magnitude — changes that will not only saddle 47 churches with an

additional \$7,000 to \$9,000 budget burden but also place clergy and lay people with children at a disadvantage in the deployment process — such changes should be referred to and decided by the Convention.

This resolution gives the Convention that opportunity.

RESOLUTION 2012-4:

Subject: Investment Policy of the St. James' Fund

Be it resolved, That the resolution establishing The Saint James' Endowment Fund for Mission and Ministry, adopted by Diocesan Convention in 1984 and amended by Convention in 1987, be further amended by adding the following paragraph:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That effective March 5, 2012, all dividends received from investment in shares of the Diocesan Investment Trust shall be considered income, and any appreciation of the value of DIT shares shall be considered capital and shall be added to principal.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Elmer L. Sullivan

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-4 by Proposer:

For many years most of the trust funds of the Diocese have been invested in the Diocesan Investment Trust and the annual reports of the funds have shown the value of the shares (including appreciation) as capital, and dividends paid by the DIT as income. Beginning in 2007, a change was made from this long-standing practice and policy. In the three-year period from January 1, 2007, to December 31, 2009, 15,760 DIT shares belonging to the St. James' Fund, valued at more than \$600,000, were cashed in and used as income.

This new practice was based on a letter from the chancellor, dated April 11, 2007, in which he advised that the original resolution that established the St. James' Fund "makes no effort to define income." He further advised that in the absence of such a clear definition, the trustees are free to regard as spendable income all capital gains and capital growth produced by investing the original \$750,000 of capital. Thus began the practice of selling off DIT shares belonging to the St. James' Fund and spending the proceeds.

This needs to be changed, and it can be changed by adopting the proposed resolution. The person or entity that establishes a trust fund and provides the original principal is called the "settlor" in legal parlance. If the settlor has died the trustees are on their own when it comes to clearing up ambiguities, but in this case the settlor is the Diocesan Convention, still very much alive and able to clarify the status of capital gains as principal or income. The Convention could and should have been asked this question in 2007, but it wasn't. The purpose of the proposed resolution is to designate capital gains as principal in accordance with the Diocese's long-standing policy for prudent

investment of trust funds.

Interestingly, the Auditor's Report for FY 2008 (page 15) describes the Diocese's endowment investment policy this way:

The philosophy of the Diocese has been to ensure that assets are protected, through conservative management and investment. This philosophy is aimed primarily at the preservation and safety of principal, with long term reasonable growth. The endowment investments are to be invested in the Diocesan Investment Trust, achieving the investment goals of the Diocese.

Obviously, the auditor was unaware of the new practice of selling off the St. James' Fund DIT shares to fund program. In fact, the St. James' Fund is not mentioned anywhere in the 2008 Auditor's Report, not even in the list of funds invested in the DIT on page 11. It is equally obvious that the new practice is a radical departure from the prudent diocesan endowment investment philosophy of the past, as defined by the auditor.

An Update by the Proposer

A resolution similar to this one was offered at the 2011 Convention. The minutes record that a motion was then made, seconded, and passed to refer it to the Investment Advisory Committee to be appointed pursuant to Diocese of New Jersey Canon 25, to report back to the 228th Convention.

The Investment Advisory Committee met in June with two of the three members present. I attended and asked when they would consider the referred resolution. Both replied that they had not seen the resolution. Since then (as of January 15, 2012) there have been no further meetings of the Investment Advisory Committee, nor any communication about the resolution.

It should also be noted that the Trustees of the Missionary Fund and the Diocesan Council have taken advantage of the one-year hiatus to distribute an additional \$182,000 from the St. James' Fund.

In the absence of any report from the Investment Advisory Committee, and as the deadline for submitting resolutions arrives, I respectfully resubmit this resolution for consideration by the Convention.

Background material submitted by the Proposer

In 1984, in light of the impending sale of St. James' Church, Atlantic City, Chancellor Haring moved the formation of a fund. The initial resolution called for spending of income be "for the work of the Church in the Diocese of New Jersey, with preference being given to work in the Atlantic City area." This was amended on the floor of convention, with the final resolution passed as amended (Journal, 1984, pp. 103–104):

RESOLUTION

THE SAINT JAMES' FUND FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

BE IT RESOLVED, That the capital funds of the extinct parish of St. James' Church, Atlantic City, be set aside as an endowment fund to be known as The Saint James'

Endowment Fund for Mission and Ministry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the trustees of this fund shall be The Trustees of the Missionary Funds of the Diocese of New Jersey, and that they shall invest the fund according to the standards of fiduciary management and in accordance with such requirements as may be set forth in the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of New Jersey, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the income from the fund shall be delivered periodically to the Diocesan Foundation to be used under its direction for the work of the Church exclusively in Atlantic City, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Convention shall retain the right to redirect the use of all or part of the capital of the fund as it shall think best, subject to the provisions of the Revised Statutes of New Jersey 16:12–16, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an annual report of the fund shall be made to the Convention by the Trustees of the Missionary Fund and the Diocesan Foundation.

The 1987 Convention passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION ON THE ST. JAMES' FUND

FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY ADOPTED BY CONVENTION IN 1984

WHEREAS in 1984 Convention adopted a resolution establishing the St. James' Fund for Mission and Ministry and the capital funds of the extinct parish of St. James' Church were set aside as an endowment fund, with the income from the fund to be used under the direction of the Diocesan Foundation for the work of the Church exclusively in Atlantic City, and

WHEREAS a comprehensive study of Atlantic City's needs for mission and ministry was undertaken and the report of the study recommended a collegial approach to ministry in the area that involves St. Mary's, Pleasantville, and Epiphany, Ventnor, two communities adjacent to Atlantic City, as well as St. Augustine's, Atlantic City, and Ascension, Atlantic City;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in order to implement this regional approach to urban ministry in the Atlantic City area, the Resolution adopted in 1984 be amended by deleting the words "exclusively in Atlantic City" and substituting the words "in the Atlantic City Area", so that the third paragraph reads as follows:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the income from the fund shall be delivered periodically to the Diocesan Foundation to be used under its direction for the work of the Church in the Diocese of New Jersey in the Atlantic City area, and . . ."

NOTE FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS:

This proposal is, except for the year of the proposed effective date, identical to Proposed Resolution 2011-4, which was referred by the 227th Diocesan Convention to the Investment Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 2012-5:

Subject: Distributions from the St. James' Fund

Be it resolved, That the Treasurer of the Diocese is hereby directed to make no distributions from the income or principal of the St. James' Fund for Mission and Ministry until such time as the Trustees of the Missionary Funds and the members of the Diocesan Council have issued the detailed financial reports required by Convention Resolution 2011-5 and until the Convention has had adequate time to consider these reports and act on them, and be it

Further resolved, That the Investment Advisory Committee is requested to propose to the Trustees of the Missionary Funds and the Convention a policy and procedure for limiting distributions and increasing the principal of such Fund in order to place it on a more sound footing and provide greater income in the future.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Elmer L. Sullivan

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-5 by Proposer:

The 2011 Diocesan Convention adopted Resolution 2011-5 directing the Trustees of the Missionary Funds and the members of the Diocesan Council to issue forthwith detailed financial reports of the St. James' Fund for the years 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, and future years and distribute copies forthwith.

Although the word forthwith is generally understood to mean immediately, neither the Trustees of the Missionary Funds nor the Diocesan Council had issued any such report as of January 15, 2012, the deadline for submitting resolutions to the Convention. Thus, Convention has had no opportunity to reflect on said reports.

The principal of the St. James' Fund has been so decimated by large distributions in recent years that the opinion of the Investment Advisory Committee is requested to suggest a way to rebuild it so that the Fund will have adequate income in future years to carry out the mission for which it was intended.

NOTE FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2011-5 as passed reads:

Be it resolved, That the Diocesan Convention hereby directs the Trustees of the Missionary Funds and the members of the Diocesan Council forthwith to issue detailed financial reports of the St. James' Fund for the years 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, and to issue such reports in a timely manner in future years, and be it

Further resolved, That copies of these reports be distributed forthwith to all clergy and churches of the Diocese.

RESOLUTION 2012-6:

Subject: Investment Policy of the VIM Endowment Fund

Be it resolved, That all dividends that have been received or will be received from investment of the principal of the Venture in Mission Endowment Fund in shares of the Diocesan Investment Trust shall be deemed to be income available for distribution, and any change in net asset value of the DIT shares shall be considered capital and shall be attributed to principal.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Elmer L. Sullivan

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-6 by Proposer:

When the Venture in Mission Endowment Fund was established by a resolution of the Diocesan Convention in 1982, it did not make clear whether capital gains and capital appreciation should be considered additions to principal or expendable income, although annual financial reports of the Fund have always listed the value of the DIT shares (including appreciation) as capital, and dividends paid by the DIT as income.

In view of the chancellor's letter cited in the Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-4 above advising that when the matter is unclear, it is permissible for the trustees to regard all accumulated capital growth since 1982 as expendable income; and in view of the fact that the trustees have already begun to implement such a policy with respect to the St. James' Fund; and in view of the fact that the capital growth of the VIM Endowment Fund exceeds \$1,500,000; it seems prudent for the Convention to take action to protect the principal of the Fund. The proposed resolution is intended to do this.

The Convention Resolution of 1982 that established the VIM Endowment Fund provided in part that "The Convention shall retain the right to take any action it deems necessary to advance the objectives set forth in the [VIM] Report." Thus, the Convention, as the settlor, reserved to itself the right to take further action. The proposed resolution is such an action. It is a necessary step to protect the principal of the endowment fund so that it will generate income to advance the objectives of the Fund for future generations of the Diocese.

An Update by the Proposer

A resolution similar to this one was offered at the 2011 Convention. The minutes record that a motion was made, seconded, and passed to refer it to the Investment Advisory Committee to be appointed pursuant to Diocese of New Jersey Canon 25, to report back to the 228th Convention.

The Investment Advisory Committee met in June with two of the three members present. I attended and asked when they would consider the referred resolution. Both replied that they had not seen the resolution. As of January 15, 2012, there have been no further meetings of the Invest-

ment Advisory Committee, nor any communication about the resolution. In the absence of their report, as the deadline for submitting resolutions arrives, I respectfully resubmit this resolution for consideration by the Convention.

Background material submitted by the Proposer

In 1982, the Certificate of Incorporation for the Venture in Mission Endowment Fund was authorized pursuant to the following resolution (Journal, 1982, pp. 96–97):

WHEREAS the Convention of the Church in the Diocese of New Jersey has voted to establish a fund known as The Venture in Mission Endowment Fund of the Diocese of New Jersey;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 198th Convention of the Church in the Diocese of New Jersey hereby approves and adopts the following certificate of incorporation:

FIRST: The name of the corporation is "THE VENTURE IN MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY."

SECOND: The officers and trustees of the Fund shall be the same as the officers and trustees of the Trust Funds of the Diocese set forth in Section 1 of Canon 9 of the Diocese.

THIRD: The trustees shall receive and invest the funds of this Trust according to the standards of fiduciary management, and in accordance with such requirements as may be set forth in the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of New Jersey.

FOURTH: After the final allocation of Venture in Mission Funds by the Convention of the Church in the Diocese of New Jersey in November 1984, the Principal of the Fund shall be inviolate, and shall constitute a perpetual endowment of this Diocese.

FIFTH: The income of this fund shall be delivered periodically to the Trustees of the Diocesan Foundation to be administered by them in a manner approved and directed by the Convention of the Church in the Diocese of New Jersey, in support of the programs set forth in the Final Report of the Commission on Planning and Development, and approved by the Convention on November 8, 1980, or such programs as may hereafter be authorized by the Convention for purposes consistent with the objectives set forth therein.

SIXTH: The Trustees shall retain the right to receive additional funds on account of principal at any time, and may, with the concurrence of the Trustees of the Diocesan Foundation, convert to principal any portion of income not currently required for purposes of the trust.

SEVENTH: The Convention shall retain the right to take any action it deems necessary to advance the objectives set forth in said Report, for which purposes the Report is made a part hereof.

Note: Diocesan Council is the successor to the Diocesan Foundation.

NOTE FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS:

This proposal is identical to Proposed Resolution 2011-6, which was referred by the 227th Diocesan Convention to the Investment Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 2012-7:

Subject: Extinct Parish Fund

Be it resolved, That the Convention hereby directs (1) that the Treasurer of the Diocese create an account called "The Extinct Parish Fund", (2) that such Fund be vested in the Trustees of Church Property of the Diocese of New Jersey, (3) that the assets of the three churches that have been declared extinct by the Convention in recent years — namely, All Saints', Highland Park; St. George's, Helmetta; and Holy Communion, Fair Haven —be held in trust in this account, (4) that the assets of all churches that shall be declared extinct by the Convention in the future be held in trust in this account, (5) that the Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese be responsible for the accounting and tracking of the assets in this account and reporting appropriately to the Trustees of Church Property, (6) that an annual report of the extinct parish fund be made to the Convention by the Trustees of Church Property, (7) that the Trustees of Church Property may authorize such disbursements from the fund as may be necessary to maintain the assets held in trust, and (8) that the use to which any part of the assets may be applied be determined by a resolution of the Convention.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Elmer L. Sullivan

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-7 by Proposer:

In 2011 Convention adopted resolution 2011-7, requesting that the Trustees of Church Property prepare as soon as possible a comprehensive report of all assets transferred to them over the past five years by churches that have been declared extinct. As of this date (January 15, 2012) the requested report has not appeared, although a preliminary first draft report of a much broader nature has been given to the Trustees of Church Property that includes some of the requested data.

Research shows that in the last five years three churches have been declared extinct by the Convention: All Saints', Highland Park, in 2008, St. George's, Helmetta, in 2009, and Holy Communion, Fair Haven, in 2010. The preliminary first draft report states that the net proceeds from the sale of the property of All Saints', Highland Park, are \$562,820.89, thus supplying part of the information requested by Convention Resolution 2011-7. However, the preliminary first draft report does not even mention St. George's, Helmetta, nor supply the financial information about its sale as requested by the resolution. The preliminary first draft report mentions Holy Communion, Fair Haven, but does not give the "estimated or appraised value" requested by the resolution.

No information has been given about the kind of account in which the present and future asserts of these churches will be held, nor has there been adequate reporting of these assets to the Convention. The purpose of this resolution is to set in motion a way of putting the Extinct Parish Fund on a more secure footing. It relies heavily on the provisions of State Law, RSNJ 16:12-16.

RESOLUTION 2012-8:

Subject: General Convention Resolution: New Ministries to Community Colleges

Be it resolved, That that the Two Hundred Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey submit the following resolution to the 77th General Convention of The Episcopal Church:

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 77th General Convention of The Episcopal Church reaffirm our commitment to the Episcopal Church Strategic Planning Survey Report's statement that "The Church needs to see campus ministry and young adult ministry as the most important evangelism and mission area there is. It is where our culture is the most dynamic, most committed, most culturally diverse;" and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church recognize the increasing importance of community colleges as critical places for evangelism and Christian formation, particularly among radically, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse populations; and be it further

Resolved, That to respond to this pastoral need, the General Convention support the creation of two new campus ministries at community colleges in each of the nine Provinces of The Episcopal Church and provide training for local leaders of these mission activities; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention direct the Office of Young Adult & Campus Ministries at the Episcopal Church Center, in cooperation with the Provincial Coordinators for Campus Ministry, to oversee a process for application for and allocation of grants to fund these new missions; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$760,000 for the implementation of this Resolution.

Explanation:

In the current economy, a four-year college education is increasingly expensive and is financially accessible to fewer people. At the same time, there is a trend toward higher enrollments at community colleges, which offer broader access to higher education for socioeconomically and ethnically diverse populations. It is important for The Episcopal Church to take note of such trends, and respond boldly by starting new ministries at community colleges as the focal point of accessibility for higher education.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Gregory Bezilla, Chaplain, Episcopal Campus Ministry at Rutgers; the Rev'd Lisa Mitchell, Rector, Christ Church, Shrewsbury; the Rev'd Peter French, Chaplain, The

Episcopal Church at Princeton; the Rev'd Lisa Caton, Chaplain, Canterbury House, The Episcopal Church at The College of New Jersey; the Ven. Dr. John Hanson, Chaplain, Episcopal Campus Ministry at Rowan University; the Rev'd Theodore Moore, Dcn., Chaplain, St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Campus Ministry at Kean University

Statement in Support of Resolution 2012-8 by Proposers:

This resolution has no direct financial consequences or budgetary implications for the Diocese of New Jersey.

The Diocese of New Jersey has benefited from a similar program authorized by the 2009 General Convention that awarded a two-year grant to St. Elizabeth's Church in Elizabeth for the purpose of starting a new campus ministry with Kean University.

A similar version of this resolution was passed by the annual meetings of the Dioceses of Texas, Los Angeles, and Delaware, and it will be submitted to the 2012 General Convention of The Episcopal Church as 2012-C002.