

The Youth Federations of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Operational Guidelines

Preamble

Realizing that we are living in earth's closing days, and comprehending the need, which is greater than ever before, for united and organized Christian activity of Seventh-day Adventist young people; and recognizing how all-inclusive is our responsibility, as brought to view in the Spirit of Prophecy statement, "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon coming Savior might be carried to the world" (Education, 271), we do here unite ourselves into an organization and adopt the following constitution.

Article I – Name

The names of this organization shall be the "**respective area: Chicagoland, *FEHJA, Illiana, Michiana, Motor City**" **Youth Federation** of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, also known as MYF. *FEHJA is under the direction of the Associate Youth Director for Hispanic Ministries.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote and to sustain the high spiritual standards of its members, to enlarge the scope of their soul-winning activities beyond those which are being fostered by the individual federated societies, to furnish additional impetus to Adventist Youth Society membership, to provide added opportunities for broader social fellowship, to promote united support for a greater interest in Christian education by cooperatively establishing scholarships and fostering other appropriate education stimuli, and to lend coordinated assistance for the full support of all phases of Adventist Youth involvement that will assist in producing our objective and product – Christian men and women.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. General Members of the **Lake Region Youth Federations** shall consist of:

Anyone, who has is a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, has reached the age of thirteen, or who though younger, is attending a secondary school.

Section 2. Members must uphold the standards and ideals expressed in the Adventist Youth Aim, Motto, Pledge, and Law.

Article IV – Federation Officers and Council

- Section 1. The elected Federation Executive Officers of this organization shall consist of a President, Vice President(s), a Secretary, a Treasurer, Chaplain, a Minister of Music, Single's Ministry Coordinator, and Parliamentarian.
- Section 2. The Federation Officers, each local Adventist Youth Leader, JAY Superintendent, Pathfinder Director, and Area Youth Liaison District Pastor, Area Adventurer Coordinator, Area Pathfinder Coordinator, CFL Area Division Commissioner, Area Bible Bowl Coordinator, Area Young Adult Life Coordinator, by virtue of their office, shall be members of the Federation Council.
- Section 3. The Conference Youth Director shall be the general supervisor, and sponsor to the Executive Committees respectively.

Article V – Duties of Officers

- Section 1. Each federation officer is expected to harmoniously carry out his or her designated leadership responsibility in the organization, with specific responsibilities being designated as belonging to the regional vice-presidents by the Federation Council and/or president.
- Section 2. Any officer who finds it inconsistent with their time and availability to provide active cooperation in the federation's responsibilities shall resign and/or be relieved of his/her office and a replacement made upon recommendation of the Federation Council and majority vote of the federation membership.
- Section 3. The Federation Secretary shall keep a permanent record of all Executive Committee, Federation Council and regular Federation Business Meetings, and report recommendations and actions to the Federation Business Meetings and forward a copy of the same to the Conference Youth Director. A notice of all Federation Council and regular Federation Business Meetings shall be provided to all federation officers.
- Section 4. The Federation President should set the federation calendar using a workable agenda, call meetings of the executive committee, federation council, and federation business meetings. The President should preside at executive meetings, federation council meetings, and business meetings. The authority to finalize or follow thru on all details that have not been cared for by assigned officers or persons of the federation – belongs to the President. This authorization should be agreed upon with the Federation Council in conjunction with a federation planning cut-off date.

Article VI – Executive Committee

- Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Federation Officers.

Article VII – Federation Meetings

The Federation Meetings shall be held twice a year, and upon dates which can be adopted as a regular annual schedule, whenever possible, and at a place which can be secured and arranged by the host church, with each member church of the federation being given the opportunity to “host.”

Article VIII – Election and Terms of Office

- Section 1. Officers shall be elected for a term of three years by a majority vote of members present at the last regular federation meeting of the year, or duly called meeting.
- Section 2. Election shall be held at the last regular meeting in the year for the federation, and the elected officers shall assume their responsibilities within two weeks following close to the last regular meeting in the year of the federation or on January 1, of the new year, whichever date is earlier.
- Section 3. The nomination committee shall consist of the Pastor and one member from each church of the federations, whom the respective local AY Council will elect. The Conference Youth Director, or his/her designee, shall chair the nomination committee.
- Section 4. All vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by a majority vote at the next regular federation meeting, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Article IX Funds

- Section 1. The operation expenses of the federation as authorized by the Executive Committee shall be met by the offerings taken at the Federation Meetings, assessments paid by federation churches, and fundraisers.
- Section 2. Validation of expenditures of funds voted by Federation Council must be granted by a majority vote of a quorum of members of the federation council at the following regular meeting.
- Section 3. All funds of the federation shall be received, receipted, and accounted for by the federation treasurer. Disbursement of funds shall be by check with two signatures, the treasurer’s and a president and/or vice president.
- Section 4. A report of all federation funds shall be made at least twice a year by the federation treasurer, at the first and last regular federation meeting, and at whatever other times may be deemed necessary by the Federation Executive Committee. A copy of the treasurer’s financial report shall be forwarded to the Conference Youth Director.

Section 5. Funds for special projects and scholarships shall be authorized and promoted by the Federation Council as found acceptable and worthy and not in conflict with the local church AY projects.

Article X – Amendments

These operational guidelines may be amended by two-third vote of the members that are present at any federation meeting. The proposed amendment must be approved by the Lake Region Conference Executive Youth Council prior to presentation.