

SUSTAINABLE YOUTH MINISTRY

Workshop by James Bryant
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▶ **Quick intro self /prayer**

- ▶ welcome to session on sustainable youth ministry – This is a small taster - very brief overview -
- ▶ Youth Ministry is complex, very complex, but we need to start somewhere
- ▶ Why sustainable or not
- ▶ Our aim to avoid boom and bust ministry
- ▶ To create long term, effective ministry for today and future generations

KEY FACTORS AND ELEMENTS

- ▶ **Structural & Cultural (Environmental)**

- ▶ **Three Key elements:**

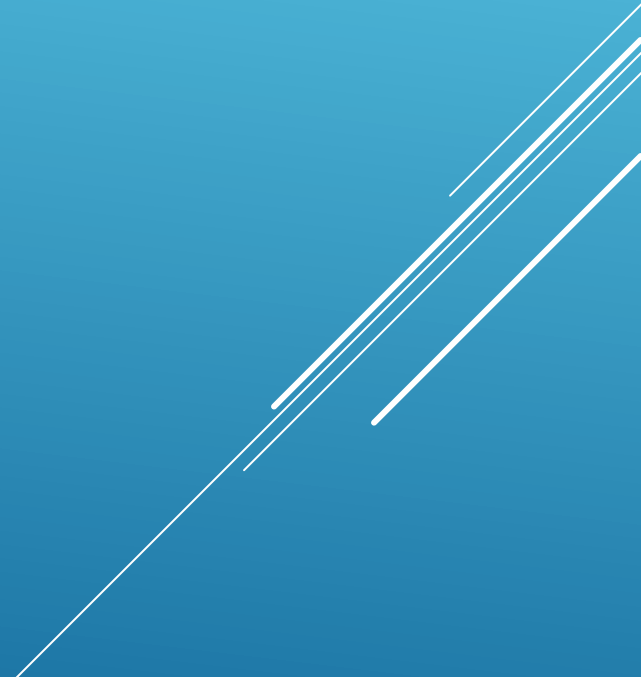
People, Systems, Resources

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PEOPLE

- ▶ Jesus
 - ▶ Priests and leadership teams
 - ▶ Youth Council / Reference group
 - ▶ Youth ministry Coordinator
 - ▶ Volunteers – core team – parents / young adults
 - ▶ Young people and Families
 - ▶ Wider community
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SYSTEMS AND SYSTEMS DOCUMENTATION

- ▶ Vision / Mission/ Values / Goals
 - ▶ Planning - Curriculum / Liturgical plan / Calendar of events
 - ▶ A Comprehensive Approach
 - ▶ Policy and procedure / Safeguarding (vetting) / Health and Safety
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SYSTEMS AND SYSTEMS DOCUMENTATION CONTD

▶ Budget / Investment

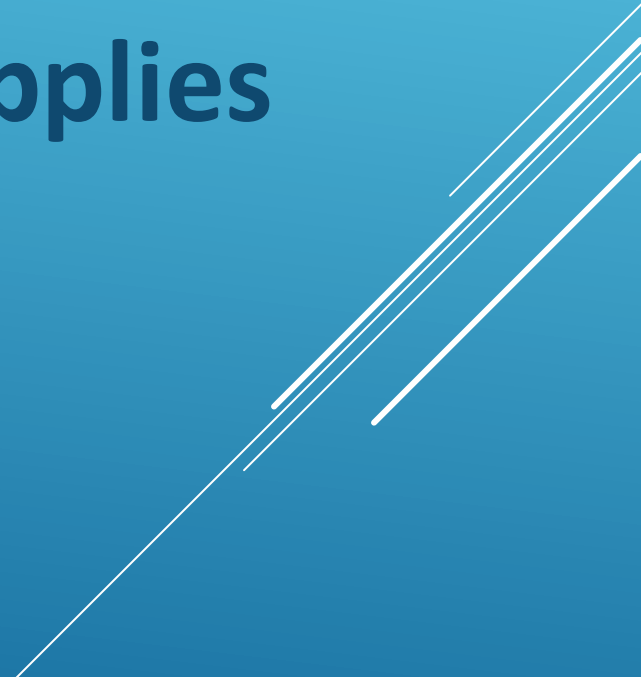
▶ Tying back into people


- ▶ • Employment Documents / Role descriptions (including Volunteers)
- ▶ • Code of Ethics/Behavioural standards agreements
- ▶ • Training and Formation processes for workers and volunteers
- ▶ • Databases – invitation and registration processes / Volunteer recruitment lists / Emergency contacts – first aid/ medical details – permission records

RESOURCES – PHYSICAL NEEDS

- ▶ Ties back into the planning and budgeting
- ▶ As big as a venue / space for young people to meet, feel at home, store other resources, mission base – all the furnishings that make this place

RESOURCES – PHYSICAL NEEDS CONTD.

- ▶ **Activities/Sports/First -aid equipment**
 - ▶ **Prayer / Environment/Creative supplies**
 - ▶ **Tech/Sound equipment /Musical instruments**
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- ▶ **All these are some of the things that underpin truly sustainable youth ministry**
 - ▶ **Please don't be overwhelmed**
 - ▶ **Creating Youth Ministry is a Marathon not a Sprint – actually more like an Ultramarathon**
 - ▶ **No easy button – expect at least five years to get something established effectively**
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NEXT STEPS?

Start somewhere if you have not already

- **Gather people / Create a plan - timelines**


If you have already started

- **Next steps to strengthen**

SUPPORT

Responsibility for supporting these Systems should and must go beyond the Parish

Diocesan Agencies – Youth Offices / Pastoral Offices

- **Consultation**
 - **Templates**
 - **Resources ideas and support**
 - **Training and formation**
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Online resources / Other Organisations / Books

Acknowledgments – these are not just my ideas or experiences

Thanks – once again – Start with Christ draw on his strength and the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

And Remember – Marathon, Not a sprint.

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SOME OF THE RESOURCES MENTIONED

- ▶ Book – Sustainable Youth Ministry – Mark DeVries (Available as audiobook)
- ▶ Book - Divine Renovation – Fr James Mallon
- ▶ Series of Books/Resources: Rebuilt – Michael White & Tom Cochran
- ▶ Series of Books/Resources: Forming Intentional Disciples – Sherry Weddell
- ▶ Tu Kahikatea – A Framework for Catholic Ministry with Young People in NZ
- ▶ Online Youth Programme and Training Resource: Lifeteen.com
- ▶ Online Learning & formation: franciscanathome.com

If you are in the Christchurch Diocese and would like to check any of these out or have other questions please contact James : jbryant@cdoc.nz