

***Covenant of Affiliation between
The Village at Manor Park, Inc. and the
Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church***

(Approved by David Affeldt, Chair, Board of Directors, The Village at Manor Park, 3/24/09)

The primary objective of the Covenant of Affiliation (Covenant) between the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church (Conference) and The Village at Manor Park, Inc. (VMP), a United Methodist related health and welfare ministry within its borders, is to identify mutually agreeable expectations for each party. The Conference Health and Welfare Ministries Committee (Committee) will function as the point of contact between VMP and the Conference. This Covenant replaces any and all prior Covenants.

Conference Expectations

1. Communicate to VMP the requirements and changes in The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (current edition), the rules of the Conference, and the actions of the Conference and the General Conference of The United Methodist Church which may affect VMP.
2. Communicate to VMP the rules and regulations established by the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church regarding use of the name “The United Methodist Church” and the “Cross and Flame” insignia of The United Methodist Church.
3. Maintain Conference membership and active participation in the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries (UMA).
4. The Resident Bishop will designate a member of the VMP Board of Directors as the liaison between the Conference and the VMP Board to facilitate information sharing and mutual accountability for the expectations agreed to by both parties.
5. Encourage VMP’s efforts to obtain accreditation through the Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence (EAGLE) Accreditation Program of the UMA.

VMP Expectations

1. Be guided in decision making by The United Methodist Social Principles (current edition), The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (current edition), and the investment policies of The United Methodist Church.
2. Abide by rules and regulations established by the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church regarding use of the name “The United Methodist Church” and the “Cross and Flame” insignia of The United Methodist Church.
3. Maintain VMP membership and active participation in the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries (UMA).
4. Nominate a member of the VMP Board of Directors to be designated by the Resident Bishop as the liaison between VMP and the Conference to facilitate information sharing and mutual accountability for the expectations agreed to by both parties.
5. Obtain accreditation through the Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence (EAGLE) Accreditation Program of the UMA.

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6. Every 4 years in the spring following the UMC General Conference, review the relationship of the Conference and VMP and reaffirm the relationship as long as both parties are in compliance with the expectations agreed to in the Covenant.
 7. Advocate and promote VMP's mission and programs through the communication channels of the Conference, including the Conference Journal, the Conference proceedings, the Golden Cross appeal, the Conference publications and website, and other means.
 8. Celebrate annually at the Conference session the contribution of VMP to the mission of the church.
 9. Encourage collaboration among health and welfare ministries, Conference entities, and local churches to respond to health and welfare needs within the Conference.
 10. Assist VMP when requested in identifying persons to serve in spiritual leadership roles.
6. Every 4 years in the spring following the UMC General Conference, review the relationship of VMP and the Conference and reaffirm the relationship as long as both parties are in compliance with the expectations agreed to in the Covenant.
 7. Provide for publication in the Conference Journal:
 - (1) the VMP mission statement and other foundational statements as amended from time to time;
 - (2) an annual summary of operations including the financial amount of benevolent care provided;
 - (3) a list of names, addresses, and church affiliations (if known) of members of the VMP Board of Directors; and
 - (4) descriptions of programs and services in response to emerging trends and community needs, particularly noting initiatives related to racial/ethnic groups, people with disability conditions, the disenfranchised, and undocumented immigrants.
 8. Identify in promotional materials that VMP is affiliated with the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church.
 9. Cooperate with the Committee, the Conference Board of Global Ministries, and congregations in the VMP service area in creating new and expanded health and welfare ministries within the Conference.
 10. Provide high quality spiritual life resources to VMP residents.

11. Make available to VMP:
 - (1) information regarding the availability of grants;
 - (2) information regarding relevant resources available through Conference staff and General Church boards and agencies;
 - (3) assistance through the Wisconsin UM Foundation with fund raising through grants, wills, trusts, and other methods of giving;
 - (4) training resources for VMP staff and Board of Directors in mutually identified areas of interest, for example governance and planning; and
 - (5) fair consideration of requests for conference wide fundraising appeals.
12. Give consideration to the financial needs of all Conference related health and welfare ministries in the Conference's annual budget setting process.
13. Instruct the Conference District Superintendent to engage in a face-to-face conversation with the CEO of VMP at least once a year in order to be familiar with, and supportive of the VMP mission and ministry.
14. Instruct pastors appointed to the West Allis area that one of the missional reasons for their appointment to that community is to be involved in developing an active on-going relationship between their congregations and VMP.
15. Have churches in VMP service area annually report to the annual Church/Charge Conference their support (financial, promotion, volunteer, leadership, etc.) of VMP.
16. Indemnify and hold VMP harmless from and against any claims, causes of action, and costs (including reasonable attorney's fees) which may arise from any Conference operations.
11. Seek written approval of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration prior to engaging in conference-wide fund raising efforts.
12. Provide to the Committee a dissolution clause for the real property of VMP which is consistent with The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (current edition).
13. Arrange an annual on-site visit with the Conference District Superintendent.
14. Link VMP to the Annual Conference session by electing to the VPM board of directors one or more lay or clergy members of the Annual Conference.
15. Encourage local United Methodist pastors to participate in VMP programs through the VMP Pastoral Care Department.
16. Indemnify and hold the Conference, its boards and agencies, volunteers, employees, and members harmless from and against any claims, causes of actions, and costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees) which may arise from any VMP operations.

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17. Carry general liability insurance in coverage amounts sufficient to insure the conference, its officers, employees, volunteers, and constituent boards and agencies from and against any claims by third parties for activities undertaken by the Conference.

17. Carry professional and general liability insurance in coverage amounts sufficient to insure VMP, its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and constituent boards and agencies from and against any claims from third parties for activities undertaken by VMP.

Resident Bishop
Wisconsin Conference of UMC

Date: _____

Board Chair
The Village at Manor Park, Inc.

Date: _____