



Green Team Coaching Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (the “MOU”) made as of ___ day of ___ (the “Execution Date”),

Between:

Georgia Interfaith Power and Light (GIPL), 701 S. Columbia Dr. Decatur, GA 30030; and _____

(Congregation Name; Green Team Name; and address): _____

Contact Person/Green Team Lead (please identify the person(s) who will serve as the principal liaison(s) for the Green Team):

Contact Name and Email

Background:

A. GIPL was founded in 2003 and incorporated in 2009 as a Georgia non-profit organization that engages communities of faith in the stewardship of creation and faithful environmental action. As an extension of this mission, GIPL offers Green Team Coaching, a program to help establish and support new Green Teams in congregations and religious schools.

B. _____ (Name of Congregation) wishes to enter into this relationship with GIPL in order to receive support and

guidance for its Green Team and larger congregational sustainability efforts. To achieve this purpose, this congregation and GIPL wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support.

Understanding of the Parties

GIPL will enter a cooperative relationship with _____
(Congregation) with the following understandings and commitments:

- A. GIPL will provide a staff member to serve as a committed Green Team Coach for the congregation for a 12-month period. After this timeframe, GIPL will continue to provide support and resources to the congregation's Green Team as needed but the Green Team will not have a dedicated GIPL coach.
- B. The Green Team Coach will attend each monthly Green Team meeting in the first quarter of Green Team coaching. The Green Team Coach will lead the Green Team through a strategic planning process to identify goals and objectives for the Green Team.
- C. The Green Team Coach will attend and lead one monthly Green Team meeting per quarter in quarters 2, 3, and 4.
- D. The Green Team Coach will commit to following up with the Green Team Leader of this congregation at least once a month, outside of the monthly Green Team meeting, to receive updates and provide support. The Green Team Coach may initiate follow up correspondence more often as available.
- E. The Green Team Coach will be readily accessible to all members of the Green Team and congregational clergy/staff as they have questions or need support for their initiatives.

_____ will enter into this agreement and commit to the following:

- A. The Green Team will commit to recruiting and maintaining a membership of no less than 3 individuals (that are non-staff members).
- B. The Green Team will hold at least one regularly scheduled meeting every month, and will record and distribute meeting minutes to all members, the Green Team Coach, and pastoral staff (as appropriate). Additionally, The Green Team should consider more frequent meetings if there is an upcoming event, or planning-heavy program/initiative.
- C. The Green Team will commit to consistent and transparent communication with its members, congregational staff, GIPL Green Team Coach, and additional GIPL staff as appropriate. As challenges arise, the Green Team Leader should communicate to GIPL and their Green Team Coach as soon as possible.
- D. At least one representative from the Green Team will commit to attending one virtual GIPL Green Team Roundtable monthly meeting per quarter.
- E. With the help of the GIPL coach, the Green Team will develop a mission statement and a strategic plan for its operation that aligns with the high impact solutions from Drawdown Georgia.
- F. The Green Team will host at least two events over the 12 month coaching period. One event should be educational in nature (panel, speaker, documentary, etc.) and the other should be action oriented (clean up day, lobby day, etc.).
- G. If appropriate, the Green Team will initiate conversations with the pastoral staff and congregational leaders to participate in GIPL's Practical Climate Solution programs (Power Wise, Water Wise, Solar Wise, Zero-Waste).
- H. The Green Team will provide an opportunity for GIPL to address their clergy, committees, and the congregation as a whole about environmental justice through an Environmental Justice 101, Advocacy 101 or Environmental Racism workshop/training.

- I. Over the 12 month coaching period, the Green Team will provide GIPL with two blog posts about Green Team coaching, a GIPL class or workshop, or one of the GIPL programs they participated in and their understanding of environmental stewardship as a creation care practice.
- J. At the end of the Green Team coaching year, the Green Team will give a brief presentation to the congregation about the impact of the Green Team coaching program and will organize a pass the plate donation, fundraising effort, or love offering to support GIPL in continuing to offer the Green Team coaching program to congregations across Georgia.
- K. The Green Team will commit to creatively exploring ways to engage the congregation and the community in sustainability efforts, conversations about environmental justice, and avenues for faithful environmental action, particularly as it relates to reducing carbon emissions. These efforts should be contextualized to the congregation, and the Green Team should commit to challenging themselves to go beyond the measurable listed here.

Signed: _____

Hannah Shultz, Program Director, Georgia Interfaith Power and Light

Signed: _____

GIPL Green Team Coach

Signed: _____

Green Team Leader(s) & Print Name

Signed: _____

Supervising Staff/Clergy of the Congregation