

## FAQ about IHM's Parish Subsidy

**Why the need to record hours?** It's not about hours but serving the ministries within the parish. The primary goal of this new accounting system is to help the parish meet its community building goals and financial needs by strengthening the bonds that create the foundation of this parish.

**Will the parish consider implementing an online reporting platform in the future?** Possibly if we can find resources and expertise to help build a system.

**Are all parishes tracking volunteer hours for subsidy purposes?** Yes.

**Does a sticker mean an increment of time or an event?** Volunteer ministries are viewed as life changing events not specific time amounts. A sticker will be given each time you come to serve the ministry even if an event is cancelled as the intent was to serve. You do not need to keep notes of dates/times. An adult member of the family needs to request a sticker from the ministry head which identifies the ministry. Colorful stickers will be provided for those 7 to 17 who are serving.

**How many stickers does each family need to have?** We are asking subsidy families to serve a ministry a month for a total of 12 stickers. The subsidy calendar year runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**If someone works all day at Oktoberfest is that worth the same "sticker" as someone who hands out bulletins for 10 minutes at the end of Mass?** To build ministries within the parish, serving means commitment to the ministry. Commitment means showing up and being available!

**If I show up for an event and the ministry director is not there how do I get a sticker?** It is the responsibility of ministry heads to make sure stickers are available when the ministry is happening. Please notify the office if you encounter such a situation.

**Who will review sticker forms?** The Pastor at IHM and support staff as necessary on the application deadline in April.

**Will there be considerations for special circumstances?** Definitely. Parishioners have the option to request a meeting with the pastor to discuss any special circumstances.

**What if I lose my sticker form by the time I need to turn it in?** The "We Serve at IHM" form is the responsibility of the subsidy family so take steps to ensure you can replace it if needed. Photo copies are acceptable should it be necessary.

**Can someone do the same activity all year (i.e. making meals for CMU, Mass hospitality) or is a variety of ministries required to count as their parish involvement?** Choosing how you serve is a prayerful decision. Either way is acceptable.

**Are any other aspects of the subsidy application changing?** (i.e. minimum dollar donation amount, subsidy application process) IHM has not considered changing the application process.