

All-Iowa Task Force

The All-Iowa Task Force is made up of representatives of the Presbyteries of Prospect Hill, North Central Iowa, and Des Moines. Representing Prospect Hill has been Rev. Richard Francis, Lue Baker, Rebecca Brown, Rev. Rikki Sorensen, and Bill Crawford. Rev. Randy Russom represented Prospect Hill until he moved to North Central and remains on the Task Force.

The Task Force has been meeting periodically to consider the future, and if two or the three Presbyteries can share staff. Currently, Prospect Hill has an administrative assistant that is shared with North Central. North Central, in addition, has a Pastor to the Pastors, who is retiring at the end of June, 2019. Des Moines had an Interim Executive Presbyter who is now out of the office on indefinite leave until his contract runs out in the relative near future.

There is no proposal for any of the three Presbyteries to join together, only to share staff. The ideal proposal would be to have three executives and two administrative assistants. The executives would be a Mission Coordinator, an Administration Executive, and a Pastor to the Presbyteries. Their descriptions are:

Administration Executive: This person will be Head of Staff, serve as Stated Clerk to all three Presbyteries, resource Finance Committees, Nominating Committees, PJC's, policies, and Presbytery meetings. Co-resource COMs, CPMs, Personnel.

Pastor to Presbyteries: This person will provide support to pastors and congregations, and PNCs. The focus is on health and vitality of congregations and leaders so will include peer cohort development and administration, educational events for congregational leaders, reference checks. Co-resource to COMs, CPMs, Personnel. Primary resource to PNCs.

Mission Executive: This person will resource mission engagement in the state, presbyteries and congregations. This includes taking the lead in mission initiatives in Iowa (such as the mental health initiative, rural issues, and environmental issues). Coordinating mission opportunities (especially for smaller congregations who may not have enough to do such a trip on their own). Co-resource to Personnel, Resource to Mission Committees of Presbyteries.

Two full time Administrators:

1) Administration: Supporting the work of committees, Stated Clerk office, and being point of contact for calls from congregations. Support for Administration Executive. 2) And Program and Communications: This position will be ½ time program support (support for events and programs from the work of the Pastor to presbyteries and Mission Executive plus support for them). The other half would be spent on communications that connect and communicate with the Iowa Presbyterians (websites, minute for mission pieces, newsletters, etc.). There is potential for this person to also supervise college interns majoring in communications who are looking for internships.

Discussions are continuing about what is possible and what is feasible to recommend to the Presbyteries. Concerns have been expressed about the financial implications of the proposal. Should it start as a shared General Presbyter position being shared by Prospect Hill and North

Central? Where would Des Moines fit in this proposal in the future? Many questions remain, with a spirit of looking at what is best in the future for the Presbyteries.