

# SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES

## COT WALK TO EMMAUS

Room assignments and table assignments are handled by the Walk Team.

No requests are permitted.

When you sign an application as a pilgrim sponsor, you accept certain responsibilities for that pilgrim.

You agree to:

A. PRAY for them

- Before you ever approach them about attending an Emmaus Walk.
- Once they have applied to attend.
- While they are on the Walk and when they return from the Walk.

B. FILL THEM IN on what the Walk is all about

- Don't be SECRETIVE - don't even use the word SECRET. Tell them what they need to know. If you are not open and honest, you only help them to be more fearful of the experience. This includes telling them about the talks, table discussions, singing, prayer services, etc.
- Give them the booklet "What is Emmaus?" by Stephen Bryant to read. These booklets are very open, informative, and answer many questions. They are available for a very reasonable price at: <http://bookstore.upperroom.org>.

C. Tell them WHAT THEY WILL NEED for the Walk and WHAT THEY WILL NOT NEED

- Will need: Comfortable clothing, jacket, towel and washcloth, medications, personal items, anything for comfort. A book table will be available, so they may want to bring some money.
- Will not need: Books, radios, clocks, CELLULAR PHONES, PAGERS, CAMERA, food, things to keep busy, etc.

D. Try to CALM ANY FEARS they may have BEFORE they go

E. Help them with SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES that may affect them while they are on the Walk

- Childcare, house sitting, car pools, meals, volunteer services, etc. If you can't do these things yourself, find someone who can help you.

Other responsibilities and commitments as a sponsor:

A. BEFORE mailing in the application

- Be sure ALL QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED.
- Be sure to discuss the Emmaus Walk with the spouse (if married.)
- Be sure the pastor's signature (of the church where they worship) is included.
- Be sure pilgrim and sponsor signatures are included.
- Be sure sponsor's initials are on the Sponsor Form stating you have read and agree to the responsibilities as outlined in this document and "Guidelines for Sponsors".
- Once you have confirmed everything is complete, mail Sponsor's form and Pilgrim's form, along with Walk application fee, to Registrar. If you fail to do any of the above requirements, the application will be returned.

B. IMPORTANT REMINDERS (for sponsors, pilgrims, and all 4<sup>th</sup> Day)

- THE USE OF CAMERAS IS PROHIBITED DURING AN EMMAUS WALK!
- Please let your pilgrim know to leave their cell phone at home!

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### C. Make arrangements for AGAPE LETTERS

- Write a personal agape letter to your pilgrim.
- Arrange for other letters from his/her spouse (if applicable), family members (including small children), friends, church family, relatives and friends from out of town, etc.
- DIVIDE letters as follows and mark them accordingly in the upper left-hand corner of the envelope as indicated in parentheses below:
  - a. SPONSOR (SPONSOR)
  - b. SPOUSE, if applicable (SP)
  - c. 8-12 personal family and friends (CFR = Close Friend; FAM = Family; FR = Friend)
  - d. All others as general agape letters (FAM = Family; FR = Friend)
- Write the pilgrim's first AND last name on every envelope!
- Bring ALL LETTERS ON THE EVENING YOU DELIVER YOUR PILGRIM. Put the letters in a large envelope and give it to an Assistant Lay Director at check in.
- Please, absolutely NO gifts for a particular pilgrim. It is very important that each pilgrim receive the same treatment. Your cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

### D. **A MUST**

- Be sure your pilgrim eats prior to arriving at the Walk site.
- TAKE THE PILGRIM TO THE EMMAUS WALK SITE YOURSELF AND ONLY IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED A CONFIRMATION FROM THE REGISTRAR.
- **MAKE SURE YOU DELIVER YOUR PILGRIM TO THE EMMAUS WALK SITE ON TIME (7:00 - 7:45 PM)**
- **STAY FOR SPONSOR'S PRAYER HOUR (8:00 - 9:00 PM)**

### E. AGAPE

- This means the prayers and sacrifices you are offering to God for them (not the little gifts, etc.)
- PRAYER is the most important gift you can give to your pilgrim. You should be praying throughout the entire Walk. Be sure to sign up on the prayer clock at: <http://www.cotemmaus.org>
- Special Offerings: During the Walk, please stay in contact with your pilgrim's family and be responsive to their needs.

### F. **A MUST** - Attend CANDLELIGHT - Saturday, 8:30 PM

- Your presence at CANDLELIGHT services is a unique and very special blessing to your pilgrim. It is a major responsibility and commitment to your pilgrim as a sponsor.

### G. Concerning the Saturday evening AGAPE DINNER

- Questions have been raised about sponsors and spouses serving their pilgrim this dinner. This is NOT allowed! The 4<sup>th</sup> Day Walk Board Director has made prior arrangements with the 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community to prepare and serve this dinner. **The sponsor and spouse's contact with the pilgrim on Saturday is to be limited to Candlelight.** Again, it is important that each pilgrim receive the same treatment. Your cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

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### H. **A MUST** - Be there for CLOSING - Sunday, 4:00 PM

- If you are unable to go to the CLOSING, be sure that someone will represent you for your pilgrim and send a note to him/her. Only in cases of emergency should you ever consider NOT attending a CLOSING if you are a sponsor. You are his/her link to Emmaus. You will be the very first person they look for at the closing.
- Drive your pilgrim home from the Walk. This is not a time for them to be alone. This is an opportune time to let them express themselves about their experience. They will be tired after the Walk and this is not a time for them to have to confront traffic or other conditions.

### I. Post Walk

- Be sure to make contact - especially the next day.
- Escort your pilgrim, who is now new 4<sup>th</sup> Day, to the Walk follow-up meeting.
- Take your new 4<sup>th</sup> Day to the next Gathering after the Walk.
- Persevere in helping them get involved in a REUNION GROUP and involved in service at his/her church.
- Continue to PRAY for them.

**Please pray long and hard about sponsorship!**

Sponsorship is a 3-5 year commitment. You are asked to make an investment in their lives. Have you considered this? Can you be "THE SPONSOR" you are supposed to be?

These things are the BARE minimum for sponsoring.

**If you are not willing to do these things do not sign as a sponsor for a pilgrim.**

If you would like more information about sponsor responsibilities or would like to receive sponsorship training, please contact the COT Board Lay Director.

Board contact information can be found at <http://www.cotemmaus.org>.

**Remember, "Christ is counting on you."**