



Student Leader Handbook

Mission

“Crosspoint City Students exists to pursue students far from God to help them know and follow Jesus.”

Student Ministry Strategy

Gather: *We gather regularly to create a community that every student wants to be a part of through an authentic and engaging gathering where students worship, have fun and sit under biblical teaching together.*

Connect: *Groups are the primary focus of our ministry. Our goal is to connect every student with a leader and other students in groups where they can find community, be discipled, and be cared for throughout middle school and high school.*

Engage: *Students will be engaged to serve at each location, in the community and through domestic and international mission trips. We offer an international trip for high school students each spring in Guatemala where we partner with Hope of Life, and we also offer a domestic trip for both middle and high school students in the spring to South Carolina.*

Multiply: *We will multiply our efforts to reach the next generation by raising up and sending out leaders to pursue students far from God and get them connected in the local church by creating more groups to provide community in each city God leads our church to do ministry in.*

Student Leader Values

People > Program

- *"People are our priority. Students will leave a program but they will not leave people."*

Every Story Matters

- *"Every student's life, situation and story is significant and can be used by God in powerful ways."*

Authenticity Over Imitation

- *"We are a community of authenticity that does not try to pretend to be someone or something we are not, but only who God intended us to be."*

Pride has no Place

- *"We are humble and willing to care for anyone no matter our status. We do not look down on others or judge those we do not know or may think we know. "*

Lead with Love

- *"Our first job is to love first even if we may not be loved in return. We do not judge and or hold grudges, but forgive and invite each other into deeper relationships."*

Equip for Eternity

- *"We exist to equip every leader and student with a biblical understanding of how God designed us to live."*

Group Leaders

The primary goal of groups is to provide community, care and discipleship for each student. We believe students desire a community to belong to, and not an event to attend each week. The primary goal for group leaders is to help students grow closer together and closer to Jesus.

Groups Strategy

Belong. Believe. Become.

Belong: *We want to provide a place where students are welcomed and accepted.*

Believe: *We want to provide a place where students can know Jesus through His Word and His people.*

Become: *We want to provide a place where students can follow Jesus as they become who God designed them to be.*

Group Leader Role Description

Purpose: To help students grow closer together and closer to Jesus

Responsibilities:

- Build relationships with students within the student ministry
- Help students take next steps such as salvation, baptism, serving, etc.
- Facilitate weekly group discussion based on the content provided
- Participate in Crosspoint City Student Events, Camps, and Trips
- Keep group roster up to date in Church Center App
- Be engaged in students' lives outside of gatherings: attend games, lunch with students, school events, etc.

Time Investment: 12 hours per month

Student Experience Leaders

Student Experience Leaders serve to provide a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for every student that attends a student gathering. This team makes students feel like they belong in the student ministry through holding doors, greeting students upon arrival, building relationships with students during hangout time, and providing information about upcoming events at student gatherings.

Student Experience Leader Role Description

Purpose: To help students feel welcome and get connected within the student ministry.

Responsibilities:

- Greet and welcome students as they arrive to student gatherings
- Build relationships with students during hangout time
- Help students take next steps such as; joining a group, sign up for events and meeting other students
- Provide information on what is coming up in the student ministry
- Assist wherever needed during student gatherings: Food Services, Greeter, Set up, Games, etc.

Time Investment: 8 hours per month

Safety & Security Guidelines

Student gatherings and events should be fun and engaging, but the number one concern for parents is the safety of their students while in the ministry's care. We strive to maintain and provide a safe, secure, and reassuring experience for our students through the following guidelines:

We know who is with the students.

Background Checks

All Crosspoint City Students Serve Team members must have a current background check on file. Anyone who is either Shadowing or visiting as a Parent Guest, must check in with the Students Staff.

I am never alone with a Student of the opposite sex.

Opposite Sex

All Crosspoint City Students are prohibited from being in a closed room, vehicle, section of campus, etc. with a student of the opposite gender.

We see or suspect something, we say something.

Reporting Potential Abuse

Crosspoint City Students is an environment required by law to report suspected abuse of a child. We are mandated reporters to the Department of Family and Child Services. In the case that you suspect abuse of a minor, report suspicions of inappropriate and/or abusive to a Students Staff member.

We engage with students age-appropriately.

Age-Appropriate Safety

Use touch in affirming ways appropriate examples:

- high fives
- Fist bumps
- pat on the back or shoulders, etc.

Inappropriate examples:

- demanding/expecting hugs
- slapping on the rear end
- kissing

We share the Student Ministry appropriately.

Wise Social Media Use

We respect the privacy and preference of each student. While we encourage Team Members to share about their serving experience and how God is working in the Student Ministry, we ask that you act wisely when doing so and avoid posting any inappropriate content. Examples of inappropriate content are listed below:

- Drunken behavior
- Swearing
- Questionable outfits

Leader Resources

Orange Leaders provides content on how to effectively lead students. Consider subscribing to their youtube channel and searching through their blogs and articles to help get answers you may need and grow in your leadership.

Axis Resources: Axis strives to connect parents, teens & Jesus in a disconnected world by giving parents and mentors hope by being a guide through culture into conversation around Jesus and offers hundreds of resources regarding faith and culture.

Books: *Lead Small: Five Big Ideas Every Small Group Leader Needs to Know* clarifies the responsibilities of a group leader who works with children and teenagers. It establishes five core principles to empower leaders to reach the next generation in a personal and effective way.

Websites for Articles and Blogs:

Orange Leaders - <https://orangeblogs.org>

Crossway - <https://www.crossway.org>

Lifeway - <https://www.lifeway.com/>

Axis - [Axis.org](https://axis.org)