

Mason-Dixon Credo

Application to attend as a **CANDIDATE**

Applications and deposits **must** be received two weeks prior to the weekend. Mail application and deposit of **\$50** to:
Mason-Dixon Credo, Attn: Rector/Rectora
P.O. Box 474
Littlestown, PA 17340

Full Name: _____ Name you like to be called: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Age: _____ Birth date: _____ Shirt Size: _____

Emergency Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Please explain any problems or special needs:

Are your Medications time sensitive? (example: take at 10 am & 1 pm) Yes / No
(Explain times, but do not need to list specific medications.)

Special Diet Needs: _____

Additional considerations for room assignments: Smoker? Yes / No Use a CPAP Machine? Yes / No Snore? Yes / No

Any additional information we should know about your physical requirements?

Credo is open to anyone over the age of 17. It is a get away from the stress of daily life leaving everything behind you as you come spend a weekend with others who are seeking something more in his/her life. Credo originally touched people who were in recovery from addiction, abortion and abuse. We discovered that brokenness showed itself in other life issues such as divorce, depression and loss. All of us, if we are honest with ourselves, have struggled sometime in our lives or have been touched by someone else's struggles. Or maybe you are just searching for spiritual answers to questions you haven't yet asked. No one leaves a weekend without feeling the love of Jesus and His amazing grace.

If you have experienced active addiction in your life you must be clean and sober to attend the weekend.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please submit an application with a \$50 deposit to Mason-Dixon Credo. In addition to the deposit, there is currently a cost of approximately **\$275** for each individual to attend a weekend. However, there will be no additional funds needed from you. Your Weekend is being underwritten by individuals who have experienced the weekend and wish to share that experience with you

The weekend is from 6:30 pm. Thursday to 6 pm. Sunday, and your full attendance is required.

Sponsor's Name: _____ 3 Day Walk You Attended: _____

Sponsor's Address & Phone: _____

Signature of Sponsor

Date

Deposit Rec'd: \$ _____ Check# _____ or Cash _____ Date: _____

Zero Tolerance Policy

There are members of the Mason-Dixon Credo community who are in recovery from addiction to alcohol and/or illegal substances. In order to protect the integrity of the Mason-Dixon Credo ministry, as well as to protect our members who are in recovery, Mason-Dixon Credo has a Zero Tolerance Policy regarding the possession and / or use of alcohol and/or illegal substances at any and all Mason-Dixon Credo events. This includes persons who have an official presence at an event, as well as persons who have accompanied someone to the event.

1. Mason-Dixon Credo events include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Team meetings, including cadre meetings
 - b. Gatherings
 - c. The Weekend
 - i. Participation as a Team member
 - ii. Participation as a Candidate
 - iii. Participation on the Agape Team
 - iv. Participation in Candlelight
 - v. Attending the Closing service
 - d. Board meetings
 - e. 4th Day Workshop
2. “Official presence” means a person who is a Team member, Board member, Agape Team member, Candidate or 4th Day Workshop coordinator and/or presenter.
3. Actions
 - a. If a person is found to be in possession of alcohol and/or an illegal substance, s/he will be informed immediately of the Mason-Dixon Credo Zero Tolerance Policy.
 - i. The person should retain possession of the substance. Another person should not take possession of it.
 - ii. If the person desires to get rid of the substance, do not allow him/her to flush any drugs as they may contaminate the ground water.
 - b. If a trained observer is reasonably certain that a person is under the influence of alcohol and/or an illegal substance, that person will be informed immediately of the Mason-Dixon Credo Zero Tolerance Policy. Trained observers include the following:
 - i. Law enforcement officer
 - ii. Mental Health professional
 - iii. Certified Substance Abuse Counselor
 - c. If a person is found to be in possession of and/or under the influence of alcohol and/or an

illegal substance , the following additional action(s) will be taken, according to the role of the person in question:

- i. Unofficial presence: the person shall be asked to leave immediately.
- ii. Team member: the person shall be asked to leave immediately. If the “infraction” occurs at a team meeting, the person shall meet with the Cadre within the next seven (7) days to determine if s/he will be allowed to continue to serve on the Team. If the “infraction” occurs on the Weekend, the person shall leave the Weekend immediately.
- iii. Candidate: the person shall be asked to leave immediately. The person will be eligible to be invited to participate on a subsequent Weekend.
- iv. Board member: the person shall be asked to leave immediately. The Board will pray about the situation and determine at the next Board meeting if the individual will be removed from the Board.
- v. 4th Day Workshop coordinator and/or presenter: the person shall be asked to leave immediately.

SPONSOR’S COMMITMENT

Mason-Dixon Credo’s purpose is to help those struggling with hurts, habits and hang-ups – or those impacted by someone else’s struggles – to recognize and to embrace the loving, healing power of Jesus Christ.

Mason-Dixon Credo is open to anyone 17 years and older. If your potential Candidates have experienced active addiction in their lives, they need to be clean and sober when coming on the Weekend.

The only way to attend a weekend is for someone who has already been on a 3-Day Spiritual Walk and has a strong desire to share this experience with others, to sponsor them. Since you now have experienced a Credo weekend, you realize that much of what happens on the weekend depends upon the help of sponsors. Without them there would be no weekends.

Sponsors have the following responsibilities to their Candidates:

- ❖ Give each an application and collect it with the deposit required and return it to the weekend Rector/Rectora.
- ❖ **If you are aware that your Candidate had substance abuse issues in the past, ensure that s/he understands that Mason-Dixon Credo has a Zero Tolerance Policy.**
- ❖ Provide transportation to and from the weekend.
- ❖ Be responsible for whatever portion of the fee for the weekend is not underwritten by Credo fundraising efforts. (Many times a sponsor can ask for assistance in this from churches, friends, Sunday school classes, etc.)
- ❖ Collect Personal Palanca from the Candidate’s family, friends, church friends, etc.
- ❖ Ask other persons who have attended a 3-Day Spiritual Walk for palanca – see the sample letter for an idea.
- ❖ Credo tries to ensure that all Candidates have a similar experience. Therefore, if there is a special gift item as part of the palanca, please ensure that it is given to your Candidate AFTER the Weekend.

- ❖ Attend the Candlelight Saturday night (bring flowers if you wish).
- ❖ Attend Closing Sunday afternoon.
- ❖ If your Candidate belongs to a church, be available to their home Pastor for any questions they may have about the weekend.
- ❖ Be available or designate someone to be available to your Candidate's family while they are away.
- ❖ Bring them to the first Gathering and encourage them to attend regularly.
- ❖ Help them find a weekly Reunion Group where they can further their spiritual walks through fellowship, prayer, discovery, and accountability.
- ❖ Pray for your Candidate – before the weekend, during the weekend, and after the weekend.

As you can see, being a sponsor requires a full commitment on your part to your candidate. Therefore, we suggest that you pray for guidance, discernment, and the ability to perform the responsibilities of a sponsor before becoming one.

Even though there is much responsibility in being a sponsor, the rewards are much greater. As a sponsor you are able to *experience* the weekend all over again. You will feel the excitement of anticipation at seeing the difference your sacrifices will make in your Candidates' lives. There is nothing to equal the sight of their faces at candlelight or closing. You will have Blessed and you will be Blessed.

DeColores!

**Sample request for palanca –
everything in red type needs to be replaced with specific information, and you
need to modify the “she [he]” parts as appropriate.**

It’s a surprise!

Dear friends and family of *{insert Candidate’s name}*,

On the weekend of *{insert weekend date}*, *{insert Candidate’s name}* will be attending a very special Christian retreat. During the weekend, she [he] will be given a special gift of letters from her [his] friends and family. **THIS IS A SURPRISE! Please do not mention this to her [him] before the weekend.**

I need your help to make this retreat extra special for her [him]. Please write a friendly note, card or letter of encouragement to her [him]. The message should be uplifting and loving, such as telling her [him] how special she [he] is to you and why. These letters will be given to her [him] during the weekend. I will not read your letters. They are private and only she [he] will see them. Please put them in a sealed envelope with her [his] first and last name on it. Then put your letter inside another envelope and mail it to me, or secretly give it to me without her [him] knowing!

Mail to: *{Provide your name & mailing address}*

I need to have your letter by *{insert the date you need them}* at the very latest. So please mail it by *{insert an appropriate date}* to be sure I get it in time for the weekend.

These letters are a very important part of the weekend to let her [him] know how much she [he] is loved. Please share this letter with other friends and family members that might like to participate in this special act of love. I hope she [he] will be showered with many letters from her [his] loved ones. Thank you so much for your kindness, and please remember **IT’S A SURPRISE!!**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at *{insert your phone #}*.

Sincerely,

{insert your name}