



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
Diocese of Helena



## FEATURING:

- Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT
- Steve Angrisano
- Bishop Joseph Espallat
- Meg Hunter-Kilmer
- Brian Greenfield

# NCYC

NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is a powerful three-day experience of prayer, community, evangelization, and catechesis, for Catholic teenagers (Grades 9-12) and their adult chaperones. NCYC is the premiere national Catholic youth event that gathers people from all across America for a life-changing encounter with Christ

**NOVEMBER 20-22, 2025**

Indianapolis, IN ✓

High School Youth  
(Grades 9-12) ✓

\$675 (plus transportation) ✓

**MORE INFORMATION** ✓  
[diocesehelena.org/ncyc](https://diocesehelena.org/ncyc)



2025 THEME:

BECAUSE HE IS THE  
GREAT I AM, I CAN BE

EXODUS 3:14



# HANDBOOK



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## NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

NCYC is the premiere Catholic youth event on a national scale that gathers people from all across America for a life-changing encounter with Christ. It is a powerfully unique three-day experience of prayer, community, evangelization, catechesis, service, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers (of high school age) and their adult chaperones.



# Quick Facts

November 20-22, 2025

Indianapolis, IN

Find more details in the Handbook:  
[diocesehelena.org/ncyc](http://diocesehelena.org/ncyc)

For High School Youth in

## Grades 9-12

and their adult chaperones.

# NCYC

**Registration :** **\$675**  
 (includes housing & some meals)

**Airfare:** **\$600**  
 (estimated)

**Total Cost:** **\$1,275**

**Registration:** [diocesehelena.org/ncyc](http://diocesehelena.org/ncyc)

**Deadlines:** Aug. 1 & Oct. 1

**Coordinate with your parish/school.**

Please do not register as an individual. NCYC is meant to be experienced with a local parish/school. All youth must be accompanied by a Safe Environment (VIRTUS) adult. This is usually the youth minister or other adult volunteer from the parish/school and will also help coordinate travel, food, and housing.



## Details:

**Where:** Indianapolis, IN

**When:** Nov. 19 - Travel Day  
 Nov. 20-22 - NCYC  
 Nov. 23 - Travel Day

**Who:** High school youth in grades 9-12 & their adult chaperones.

**Housing:** Included with cost of registration & coordinated by OYYAM

**Airfare:** Travel to/from Indianapolis is the responsibility of each parish/school. OYYAM can offer only tips & referrals to travel agents.



Together



Christ-Centered



Lucas Oil Stadium  
 500 S Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46225



[kmolm@dohmt.org](mailto:kmolm@dohmt.org)



[diocesehelena.org/ncyc](http://diocesehelena.org/ncyc)



**+406-389-7055**

Call Kevin with ?'s

"These moments [like NCYC] of encounter and sharing are widely appreciated, because they offer the possibility of journeying together as if on pilgrimage, of experiencing fraternity with all, of sharing the faith joyfully and growing closer to the Church.

***It therefore becomes important to plan and to experience these gatherings as significant stages of a larger virtuous process."***

*-"Young People, the Faith, & Vocational Discernment"*

## DEAR PILGRIMS & LEADERS,

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) is excited to offer the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) to high school youth. This year NCYC will be held **November 20-23, in Indianapolis, IN.**

NCYC, the premiere national Catholic youth event, gathers high school-aged youth for a **transformative encounter with Christ**. Through dynamic keynote speakers, vibrant liturgies, engaging workshops, and meaningful prayer experiences, young people will deepen their faith, grow in discipleship, and have a lot of fun making new friends and sharing fellowship with peers from across the country.

The **2025 theme, I Am / Yo Soy**, will reflect on the time God appeared to Moses through the burning bush and explore how the Sacraments are the living story of God's love, uniting us with Him through Jesus and the Church. Through the Sacraments, we encounter the fullness of salvation and the tangible presence of Immanuel—God with us.

What to expect:

- **Inspiring Speakers** – Featured speakers include: Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, Bp. Joseph Espallat, Meg Hunter-Kilmer, and Steve Angrisano
- **Mass & Adoration** – Celebrate our faith through liturgy and the Eucharist with thousands of young people
- **Music and Worship** – Praise and entertainment led by Catholic artists
- **Interactive Exhibits** – Games, crafts, obstacle courses, meetups, live radio, and podcast shows, and so much more

We are excited to go on this pilgrimage together, with young people from across the Diocese of Helena. Because the Christian faith is not meant to be done alone but in community and because there are lots of logistics to coordinate in order to accompany accompany young people on this adventure, we encourage our school and parish faith communities to **begin organizing your group as soon as possible!**

Please contact me with any questions. Find more information and register now at **[diocesehelena.org/ncyc](https://diocesehelena.org/ncyc)**.

God Bless,



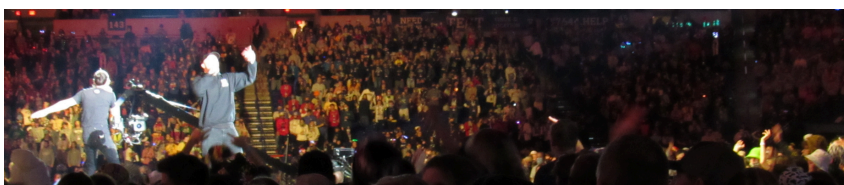
Kevin Molm  
OYYAM Manager  
[kmolm@dohmt.org](mailto:kmolm@dohmt.org)  
406.389.7055





# Why bring a group to NCYC?

We invite you to join the celebration of our faith with thousands of young Catholics from all over the country. You do not want to miss out on this experience.



## Deepen Their Faith

NCYC provides young people with an unparalleled opportunity to connect with their Catholic faith through vibrant liturgies, dynamic speakers, and meaningful prayer that help participants experience the beauty and depth of their relationship with God.

## Build a Stronger Community

Attending NCYC as a group fosters a sense of unity and belonging. Whether it's during travel, small group discussions, or shared activities, the experience strengthens relationships among peers and creates lasting memories that deepen the bonds within the local community.

## Inspire Lifelong Faith Formation

The energy, joy, and transformative encounters at NCYC often become a turning point in the lives of attendees. These experiences help spark a desire for ongoing faith formation, encouraging young people to remain active in the Church.

## Experience the Universal Church

Being surrounded by thousands of young Catholics from across the country helps participants realize they are part of a much larger, vibrant Church. This communal experience fosters a sense of solidarity and inspires them to see themselves as part of the global Catholic family.

## Empower Young People for Mission

NCYC equips young people with the tools and inspiration to become leaders in their faith communities. The sessions and workshops address real-world challenges, providing them with the confidence and practical skills to live out their Catholic identity and make a difference in their world.

**Will you join us to give young people these gifts?**

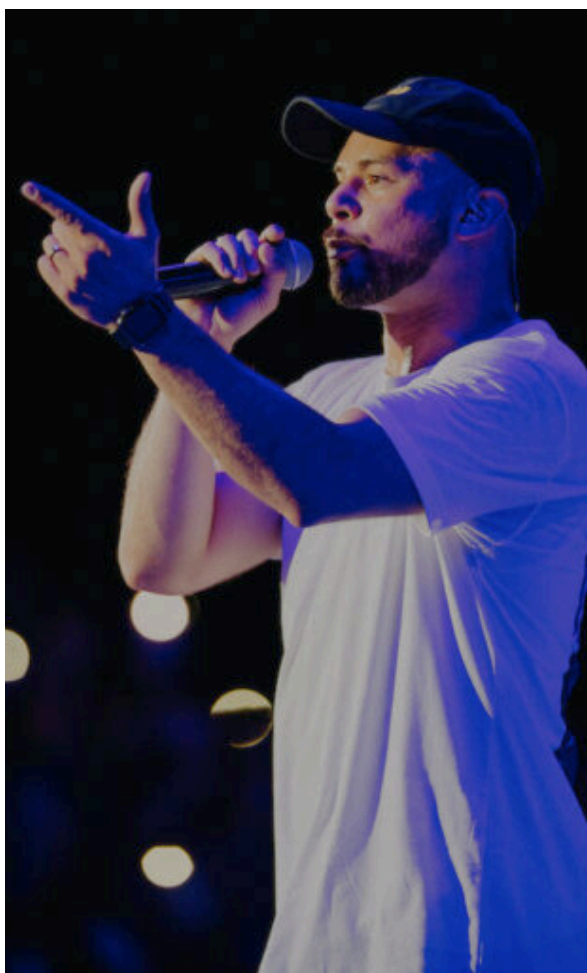
Official NCYC website:  
(warning: do not purchase your ticket directly from NCYC if you plan to come with us!)

# NCYC.INFO

# Group Leaders

"In brief, to accompany requires placing oneself at the disposal of the Spirit of the Lord and of the one accompanied, with all his or her qualities and capacities, and then having the courage to step aside with humility."

-Synod on Young People, the Faith, & Vocational Discernment (101)



- **Register Yourself as a Group Leader:**

One Group Leader per parish/group is required. This does not have to be a paid person (e.g. Youth Minister). It can be any adult (21+) who meets Safe Environment guidelines and agrees to be the main contact between the diocese and those in your group (and their parents).

This means you will be responsible for communicating deadlines, managing registration paperwork, collecting fees, assisting with fund raisers, coordinating travel, etc.

- **Registration: online at [diocesehelena.org/ncyc](https://diocesehelena.org/ncyc)**

**Do NOT register through [ncyc.us](https://ncyc.us)!** If you want to be a part of our group, then register with our group through the [diocesehelena.org/ncyc](https://diocesehelena.org/ncyc) site. If you purchase tickets directly from NCYC, then you are organizing your own trip and will not be included with our group.

Group Leaders will be expected to collect all registration forms and documents. How you manage that process is entirely up to you. The bottom line is that you must get your people registered online at [diocesehelena.org/ncyc](https://diocesehelena.org/ncyc) by the deadlines. If registering your entire group at once, you may pay by credit card or print an invoice to pay by check. Individuals may register online (after communicating with you, of course).

- **Forms & Deadlines:** We have **two registrations**. A partially-refundable deposit of \$325 is due by Aug 1. The remaining registration fee (\$350) is due by Oct. 1. Group leaders may set your own deadlines and fees for your group. NCYC is a ticketed event, not a registration, and tickets are limited! Once you purchase a ticket, it cannot be refunded. Therefore, cancellations are subject to the following fees:
  - On or before Aug. 1: \$50 cancellation fee
  - Aug. 2-Oct. 1: \$100 cancellation fee
  - Oct. 1-Nov. 14: \$350 cancellation fee
  - After November 14 there is no refund. At any time, however, you may find a substitute to take your place/ticket on the pilgrimage for no additional cost to you.

- **Behavior, Dress Code, & Responsibility:** You - the Group Leader/Chaperone - hold the primary responsibility for your youth and their behavior. As a group of adults, of course, we all work together to ensure a safe environment and will address issues as needed. OYYAM (Kevin) will be the final authority on serious issues. **We reserve the right to send anyone home at their expense** for any egregious behavior, including use of alcohol, being in a room of someone of the opposite sex, sneaking out after curfew, etc.

Our operating principle for the dress code is respect: respect for your own body and respect for others. Please dress comfortably; casual is fine (e.g. jeans, tennis shoes, and a tshirt). You are encouraged to look presentable and may not dress in a manner that is inconsistent with our Christian values. Some absolutes that will not be tolerated are: short skirts/pants, revealing or suggestive clothing, words/ads that promote tobacco, alcohol, use vulgar language, or promote values contrary to our faith.



## Group Leaders: Travel, Housing, & Misc.

- **Travel, Housing, Food, & Misc.:** Group Leaders will be responsible for planning travel arrangements for their group to/from their home location all the way to/from the hotel. OYYAM can provide suggestions or referrals to travel agents, but you have to decide what works best for your group. Most likely, though, you will fly.
- **Flights:** Make sure that you **arrive by 2pm on Thursday, Nov. 20 and leave after 11pm on Saturday, Nov. 22.** You are highly encouraged to travel on Weds. and Sun. The closing Mass will conclude on Saturday night at 10pm. Please plan accordingly. You should plan to **fly into Indianapolis International Airport (IND)** - Located about a 30-min. drive to Lucas Oil Stadium
- **Food:** OYYAM will provide breakfast items (think "continental," like muffins, fresh fruit, pastries, etc.), snacks, and one meal during each day (probably a late dinner after the general session). Otherwise, you will need to coordinate food on your own. There are plenty of options within and around the convention center.
- **Housing:** Your registration includes 4 nights in a hotel (check-in Weds.; check-out Sun.). Even if your flight is cancelled/delayed or if you choose to travel other than Weds./Sun., OYYAM will not offer discounts or make refunds if you arrive/depart early/late. The closing Mass will conclude on Saturday night about 10pm, which means you will likely have to fly out on Sunday. Please plan accordingly.



We will know our hotel assignment in late Summer. Housing will be assigned 4 to a room (dbl queen) for youth of the same sex. Adults will be assigned 2 to a room of the same sex - all adults get their own bed! (Spouses may stay in one room.) Roommate request forms will be sent in September, but we cannot guarantee all requests. Youth must never be in a room assigned to the opposite sex. Youth may not stay in the room of any adult who is not a parent/guardian.

**Extended Stay:** If you want to arrive early/stay late, then you assume all responsibility and liability. You will be expected to follow all diocesan Safe Environment policies, including that no youth may travel unaccompanied.





## Trip vs. Pilgrimage

Planning a great *trip* to see a concert is pretty easy: buy your ticket, book a flight, check Yelp for restaurants, and return home with some selfies and fun stories to brag to your friends.

Planning a great *pilgrimage* takes much, much more. NCYC is a transformative journey where young people can explore their faith, make choices aligned with their beliefs, and find support in the shared experience of fellow pilgrims. Embracing this ideas makes the entire experience a spiritual pilgrimage where young Catholics can feel the presence of God.

Make your experience at NCYC a truly transformative encounter with the Lord through intentional planning. Consider the following as you organize your group for this experience:

Pilgrims perceive an **internal dimension** to the pilgrimage, while tourists are concerned with the external journey alone

- Prayerfully consider if God is calling you to participate in this journey.
- Attend Mass and Reconciliation together
- Begin a Pilgrimage Journal - individually and one for the whole group

**Pilgrims invest themselves**, while tourists avoid a personal commitment

- Design a group logo, prayer, and motto (the entire Diocese of Helena group will also have one)
- Use social media to proclaim the Gospel: announce your plan to participate; share your group motto and any spiritual goals; share/re-post official NCYC posts; Share excitement for particular speakers or artists you are excited to see; on your social media accounts

The focus for **the pilgrim will be affected** by the pilgrimage, while tourists seek to remain untouched on a deep level by their experiences

- Seek some space and time for quiet, silent reflection
- Set spiritual goals and put them in writing
- Set times to *pray* together as a group (not to plan, fundraise, or anything other than praying)

**Community is formed** for pilgrims, while it is not a goal for tourists

- Seek out new people, friends, and experiences. Sit next to someone new during sessions
- Find an accountability partner to share your spiritual goals with and help keep you on track
- Set a date for a "reunion" dinner with your local parish
- Ask your pastor to share a brief (5 minutes or less) testimony after Mass with the congregation about your NCYC experience

Both **the journey and arrival are important** to the pilgrim, while only the arrival matters for a tourist

- Keep your journal going; write down one message from each session
- Study the schedule ahead of time, prayerfully consider which sessions God wants to invite you to attend. Pray for the presenters.
- Set a spiritual goals for each day of the event *and* that you want to continue after your NCYC experience (pro-tip: set calendar reminders on your phone to "check-in" on your progress once each month for 1 year)
- Send thank you cards to anyone who helped you (e.g. donors, youth minister, parents), to any presenter/musician whose message resonated with you, or other pilgrims you met



# How to fundraise for NCYC 2025

There are countless ideas and ways to fund raise. (A simple online search will give you thousands!) Work with your local parish to see what might work best in your community. Two tried and true fund raising ideas:



- 1) Ask family & Friends (see below)
- 2) Get a part-time job (at \$11 per hour, you need 134 hours, or 9, 15-hour work weeks)

## Asking Friends & Family:

**The first step is to set a goal. Example:**

Registration: \$675

Travel: \$600

Food: \$100

Misc.: \$100

Total: \$1,475

*goal!*

**Next, make a list of people to contact:**

- Family members, friends, priests, people from your parish, etc. Also, think of people whom you admire or who have invested in you in the past.

**Write a letter to send/give to your contacts**

- Make sure to personally sign and addressed each letter!
- See a sample on next page.
- In the letter describe why you want to go to NCYC and invite them to contribute to your pilgrimage by sending a check or money back to you. (Note: checks/donations made to you - as opposed to donating to a parish/school - are a gift to an individual and will not be tax deductible.)
- Include one small return envelope with a stamp and addressed as follows:

First and Last Name

Your Address

Your City, State and Zip

(For Example:)

John Thompson

1234 Main Street

Helena, MT 59601

- Put the letter and the smaller envelope with your address and a stamp into a larger envelope.
- Address the larger envelope to the person (make sure the large envelope matches the personal letter!), stamp it, and send it.

**Follow up!**

- Within 1-2 weeks of sending the letters, call (don't text!) everyone to whom you sent a letter.

**Keep Track and Write a Thank You!**

- Send thank you notes promptly (1-2 days) after someone agrees to sponsor your trip.

**After the Conference...**

- Send out a letter to everyone who sponsored you that shares about your experiences at NCYC. Thank them again for their generosity.

## Sample Phone Conversation

- "Hi Grandma, this is \_\_\_\_\_. How are you doing? (Allow a short time for small talk.) "I am glad you are doing well. I was wondering if you received my letter this week?...You have? GREAT! I am really excited about this opportunity and am calling to see if you would support me on my trip to NCYC."
- If YES (I would like to give): (Ask Grandma): "My goal is to raise \$XXX, and I'm keeping a record of the gifts I receive. Do you have an amount in mind today? ...Thank You! You can make the check payable to me and return it in the envelope I enclosed with the letter."
- If NO (I am unable to give): (Respond warmly and don't end the conversation abruptly): "Grandma, I appreciate your time and I look forward to seeing you at our family reunion this summer."
- \*\*Don't forget to send a thank you note within 24-48 hours of receiving a "yes" on the phone!\*\*

## \*Sample letter to contacts...

(HAND WRITE):

"Dear Grandma,"

As you may know, I am currently a [year in school - e.g. "Sophomore"] a [school name]. God has blessed my high school years, making them positive and truly enjoyable. In addition to all of my activities at school, I also participate in my youth group at [name of your parish] here in [name of home town/where your parish is located].

**You may type the body of the letter, but hand-written is better:**

At youth group I heard about the National Catholic Youth Conference happening in Indianapolis, IN, next November 20-22, 2025. NCYC is the largest gathering of Catholic high school youth in the country! In a distinctly Catholic setting, NCYC invites participants to encounter Christ, experience church, and be empowered for discipleship. NCYC is the largest gathering of Catholic high school youth in the country! In a distinctly Catholic setting, NCYC invites participants to encounter Christ, experience church, and be empowered for discipleship.

This three-day event features some of the best Catholic speakers in the nation, and it is designed to help high school youth like me who are seeking God's will in our lives.

NCYC will provide me with so many opportunities:

- To grow in my love for Jesus and the Catholic Church
- To spend time with many bishops, priests, religious, and thousands of other young people from around the country
- To hear from prominent Catholic speakers as they discuss issues pertinent to us high school students
- To learn how to live my Catholic faith

I am very excited about NCYC. To attend, I need [insert fundraising goal here] total (which includes my conference registration, hotel, food and transportation to and from Long Beach). I invite you to make a contribution to sponsor my pilgrimage to this event. Any amount you are able to give toward this cause is greatly appreciated. I am praying that 15 people will assist me with a gift between \$50 and \$100.

Please send your gift back to me using the envelope provided. Make checks payable to [Your Name]. I will be in contact with you soon to answer any questions! Of course, you can call me at [insert phone number here]. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely in Christ,

(HAND WRITE): [sign your name here]



# NCYC 2025



## Indianapolis, IN - November 20-22

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION ONLINE. This paper registration form is for Group Leaders to use as a way to gather all of the information needed in order to register participants online. (Do not submit a physical copy to OYYAM.)

First Name:		Last Name:			
(First) Name on Name Badge:	Status (Circle one):	Grade 9	Grade 11	Young Adult (18-20)	
		Grade 10	Grade 12	Adult (21+)	
Address:					
City/State/Zip:					
Email:			Phone:		
Sex (Male or Female):	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY):		Ethnicity:		
Shirt Size (All sizes "Adult):	Primary Language:		Parish Name:		
Emergency Contact First Name:			Emergency Contact Last Name:		
Emergency Contact Email:			Emergency Contact Phone:		
Emergency Contact Relationship (e.g. "Mom"):		Adult Chaperone Name (for those in grades 9-12):			

### Dietary Restrictions or Serious Medical Conditions:

Please describe any conditions that need special accommodation or should be known in case of emergency:

### Roommate Requests:

You will also have the option to make/update housing requests in September. We will do our best - *but cannot guarantee* - to accommodate all requests. See Handbook for more details.

# Code of Conduct, Medical Consent, & Media Release

## PARTICIPANT CONDUCT & MEDICAL CONSENT RELEASE STATEMENTS

I, the undersigned, hereby grant permission for me/my son/daughter (Participant) to attend and participate in the 2025 National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis, on November 20-22, 2025, which will require transportation away from my home church. As a legal adult myself or the parent/legal guardian of Participant, I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by Participant. I agree on behalf of myself/my child, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend my parish/school and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena, Diocese of Helena (Diocese), adult chaperones, and representatives associated with NCYC, arising from or in connection with me/my child attending NCYC or in connection with any illness, injury or cost of medical treatment in connection therewith, and I agree to compensate the parish, its directors and agents, and the Diocese, chaperones or its representatives for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses arising in connection therewith.

I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, Participant is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of me/my child. In the event of an emergency, I hereby give permission to transport me/my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by the hospital/doctor.

I/my child agrees to abide by all rules attached to NCYC. Specific behaviors that are not permitted include but are not limited to: fighting, obscene language, not adhering to housing guidelines or chaperone instructions, offensive or revealing clothing, and the use/possession of tobacco, vaping products, alcohol, illegal drugs, and weapons. I also understand that if Participant violates any of the rules, Participant may be required to leave the activity at his/her own expense, and Participant's parent/guardian will be notified of all violations and/or inappropriate or unsafe behavior.

Event directors and adult chaperones have the authority to prohibit video camera or other forms of image-recording devices, as appropriate, to prevent distractions or to protect against violating the privacy of participants. Violation of this policy may result in confiscation of such equipment for the duration of NCYC and/or dismissal from the event(s).

By signing this form I understand that a picture of myself/my child and/or work or projects created by myself/my child (e.g. still pictures, audio/video recording, etc.) may be published in print or online by my parish, school, Legendary Lodge, Diocese, The Foundation for the Diocese of Helena, Carroll College, the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM), or their agents to advance the mission and purpose of the Catholic Church. I also grant Diocese permission to share the information included on the registration form with these or other entities to advance the mission and purpose of the Catholic Church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant (Youth/Adult) Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature                                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)

## ADULT DIOCESAN POLICY STATEMENT (Required of all adult participants - 18 years of age or older):

I hereby attest that I have read or been informed of and agree to comply with the provisions of the Diocese of Helena's Policy Regarding Child Abuse, Sexual Misconduct, and Sexual Harassment (Policy). I am already compliant, or will be before November 1, 2025, and will remain compliant with the Policy through November 2025, including completing the Protecting God's Children Program (VIRTUS), or my home diocese's equivalent program, and submitting to a background check through my parish or Catholic school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Participant Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Participant Signature                                      Date