

## \* FINAL VERSION - Concurred

*Resolution:*               **A105**  
*Title:*                       **Fresh Start**  
*Topic:*                      **Ministry**  
*Committee:*               **14 - Ministry**  
*House of Initial Action:* **Bishops**  
*Proposer:*                 **Standing Commission on Ministry Development**

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*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 76th General Convention commend the Fresh Start program as a resource for clergy and congregations in transition in The Episcopal Church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention affirm both the office of Ordained Ministry and CDO: the Office for Transitions Ministry within the Mission Leadership Center of The Episcopal Church Center, The Episcopal Church Foundation, CREDO Institute, Inc., and the fifty-nine dioceses currently engaged in Fresh Start programs as an outstanding model of collaborative partnerships within The Episcopal Church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention affirm and commend the nationwide Fresh Start staff, coordinators and faculty for their contributions to the dioceses of The Episcopal Church in the form of exceptional facilitator training and curriculum; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention continue to fund the nationwide Fresh Start program in the next triennium in the amount of \$225,000 (\$75,000 per year); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Fresh Start partners report back to the 77th General Convention regarding the program's continued positive impact upon clergy, congregations and dioceses; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$225,000 for the implementation of this Resolution.

### EXPLANATION

- " Is a diocesan-led program for clergy and congregations in transition, with training and resources provided by a national-level support staff.
- " Is a transformational program that is systemic in nature addressing the church system, as well as the clergy and lay individuals involved with the program
- " Has completed two extensive evaluations since the program began on a national level in 2000. Both evaluations confirmed the validity of the program, indicating that the trust level among the dioceses, clergy and congregations has improved in dioceses who have implemented the program.
- " Continues to expand into more dioceses-there are now 59 dioceses with active programs, six more than in 2007.
- " Continues to respond to the needs of the dioceses-revising training and curriculum several times since its inception. The latest versions of the training and curriculum (Version 3.0) have received high praise, averaging 6.425 on a 7.0 scale at training events
- " Is a successful collaborative venture in funding, administration and implementation and a model of how collaboration among several agencies can result in outstanding programs that can benefit the entire church.
- " Collaborative partners include the General Convention, Episcopal Church Foundation, CREDO Institute, Inc. and the dioceses running programs

Without the necessary support from General Convention, the future of Fresh Start would be in jeopardy.

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*\* Note: The final language, as well as the final status of each resolution, is being reviewed by the General Convention office. The Journal of the 76th General Convention and the Constitution and Canons will be published once the review process has been completed.*

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