

**St. Mary of the Lake
White Bear Lake, MN
Ministry Description**

POSITION TITLE: BeFriender

PURPOSE:

To carry out the vision of St. Mary of the Lake to make our large parish personal through connections and relationships

To be a companion on another's journey during life transitions, through listening, presence and compassion

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Visit BeFriendee weekly at a mutually agreed upon time

Be a non-judgmental presence and good listener

Maintain confidentiality of BeFriendee's name and story

Bring Eucharist if BeFriendee desires

Report any apparent abuse or neglect to Program Coordinator

Attend monthly support/learning/supervision process called "Making Meaning"

Reports significant changes and discusses difficulties with Program Coordinator

QUALIFICATIONS:

Understands ministry as a baptismal call to serve

Prayerful, reliable, open, flexible, positive, compassionate

Completed BeFriender training program

Passes a criminal background check

Signed Code of Conduct

AMOUNT OF TIME:

1 hour weekly visit (hospital or care center visits may be shorter)

2 hour monthly support/learning/supervision meetings (September-May)

WHEN AND WHERE THE MINISTRY IS PERFORMED:

At a mutually agreed upon time

Where the person resides, at a neutral setting, parish center, hospital or care center

LENGTH:

Undetermined. Commitment is evaluated each fall.

TRAINING:

20 hours over a 10 week period, provided at the parish with materials from the National Office for BeFrienders, facilitated by a number of parishioners

RESPONSIBLE TO:

Program Coordinator of BeFriender Ministry

Director of Outreach Ministries

5/11/07