

GNVDC Sponsorship

Responsible

- **Talk to God about man before talking to man about God**
- **Pray**
- **Evaluate your Fourth Day.**

Sponsorship

- **Study the environments around you.**
- **Identify the natural leaders in the environment.**
- **Make a friend and pray for clear guidance.**
- **Participants should be baptized Christians, reasonably stable and mature.**
- **Talk to their Pastor about the weekend.**

Values and Invitation

- **Does your life reflect Christian values?**
- **Evaluate your Fourth Day and the example you provide.**
- **Be a Friend and tell your story.**
- **Extend the invitation and let the Holy Spirit work.**

Participants

- **Pray for your Participant.**
- **Be aware of your responsibilities before the weekend, during and after the weekend.**

Responsible

- **Talk to God about man before man about God**
- **Pray**
- **Evaluate your Fourth Day.**

- Via de Cristo is not a fix it experience! Prayer and talking to God about the person will identify who you should invite and “raise your antennas” as to others who God may place in your path.

Be reluctant to invite:

- People experiencing or who have recently experienced a life crisis
- For example, weekend is not designed to deal with things such as recent divorces, deaths, and alcohol or drug problems.

Because:

- When people are dealing with emotional problems or life crisis, an emotional weekend may be risking their emotional health.
- Negative impact on others attending the weekend especially those at that person’s table.
- So much energy (Pastors, Team, Other participants) is spent “care taking” thereby short changing others.

Best Course of Action:

- Delay inviting such a person until the crisis has passed
- Pray for them and lend support in other ways as appropriate. Do not use a VDC weekend as the “treatment”!

- Self Examination. Evaluate your Fourth Day. What example are you setting?
 - Are you in reunion?
 - Do you attend ultreyas?
 - Do you seek spiritual direction?
 - Do you support the weekends?

Sponsorship

- **Study the environments around you.**
- **Identify the natural leaders in the environment.**
- **Make a friend and pray for clear guidance**
- **Participants should be baptized Christians, reasonably stable and mature.**
- **Talk to their Pastor about the weekend**

- Study the environments around you. Via de Cristo is meant to be tool for transforming environments for Christ:
 - Church, work, family, leisure, social gatherings, etc.
 - Where can we have the most impact on the largest number of people?
- Identify the natural leaders in the environment.
 - Natural leaders can have a profound impact on the environment after the weekend
 - Notice who seems to alter the environment most when they arrive.
 - Who seems to carry the most influence when they speak or take a position?
- Make a friend and pray for clear guidance.
 - We learned on our Via de Cristo weekend that the best method for evangelizing environments is to Make a Friend, Be a Friend and Bring that Friend to Christ.
 - Get to know your friend emotionally and spiritually so that you might properly discern the best time for extending an invitation to a Via de Cristo weekend.
- Participants should be baptized Christians, reasonably stable and mature, with a desire for God's love and longing to be set on fire with zeal to do God's work.
 - Via de Cristo is for the development of Christian leaders.
 - It is not a method of conversion or avenue for getting people back to church. The participant needs to return to a Christian community after the weekend (An isolated Christian is a paralyzed Christian; A log removed from a fire quickly dies out).
 - The weekend can be an important catalyst for Christian growth. It is not designed to be a "quick fix" for the problems in a person's life.
- Talk to their Pastor about the weekend.
 - It is important to have the support of the participant's Pastor.
 - Before inviting a person, talk to their Pastor. Their Pastor may be aware of reasons why attending at this time may not be in the best interests of the person, the church and/or Via de Cristo.
 - The excitement and enthusiasm of a VDC participant after a weekend can and has unknowingly disrupted the ministry of the congregations.
 - Having a receptive and supportive pastor after the weekend is in the best interests of the participant, the church and ultimately the future receptiveness of Via de Cristo within their church.

Values and Invitation

- **Does your life reflect Christian values?**
- **Evaluate your Fourth Day and the example you provide.**
- **Be a Friend and tell your story.**
- **Extend the invitation and let the Holy Spirit work.**

- Does your life reflect Christian values?
- Evaluate your Fourth Day and the example you provide.
 - Are you active in your church?
 - Are you active in Via de Cristo?
 - Are you in reunion?
 - Do you attend ultreyas?
 - Do seek spiritual direction?
 - Do you support the weekends?
- Be a Friend and tell your Story.
 - Be a genuine Christian friend.
 - Tell them about your relationship with Christ.
 - Explain how your relationship has grown as a result of Via de Cristo.
 - Explain the method learned (small group reunion, ultreyas, spiritual direction, piety, study, action).
- Extend the invitation and let the Holy Spirit work!

Participants

- **Pray for your Participant**
- **Be aware of your responsibilities before the weekend, during and after the weekend.**

- Be aware of your responsibilities before the weekend.
 - Pray for them
 - Help them fill out the application. Make sure the Pastor signs it.
 - Send in the completed application.
 - Tell the prospective participant everything he/she needs to know
 - Tell them there will be worship services with communion
 - There are no secrets. Answer all questions honestly. Don't assume they will have less of a weekend if they know in advance about the serenade etc.
 - Remind them that all will be provided and that attendance the entire weekend is required. If this is not possible, then suggest waiting for a future weekend
 - Let them know there will be talks by lay persons and Pastors
 - Explain the costs. Weekend costs should never be as a perceived barrier by the participant. Let them know that their weekend has already be been paid for by prior participants and there will be an opportunity sponsor a future participant.
 - Assist in the removal of barriers to a participant's attendance at a weekend (pick up mail, child care, feed pets, cook a meal for the family, etc.).
 - Take the participant to the weekend.

- Be aware of your responsibilities for the weekend.
 - Pray for them.
 - Get spouse, family and friend letters. Write one yourself.
 - Let family members know what time they will return.
 - Attend the serenade and encourage others in the community to attend.
 - Help in the kitchen washing dishes or in other ways.
 - Attend the Closures and transport them home

- Be aware of your responsibilities after the weekend.
 - Pray for them.
 - Answer any questions they might have.
 - Assist in finding or forming a reunion group.
 - Encourage them to meet with their Pastor.
 - Bring them to the first Ultreya after the weekend.
 - Bring them to the next leaders training session.
 - Continue to be there for them.