

Please review these Sponsor Responsibilities so that you know the best way to support your candidate throughout their Cursillo experience.

Before talking to someone about attending a Cursillo, talk to God about the individual. "Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring that friend to Christ."

Don't be totally secretive; tell the potential candidate as much as you can without revealing any of the surprises. Use the brochure you received in the packet at your Cursillo to help explain what the weekend is like.

Meet with your candidate and try to answer his or her questions about all aspects of the weekend that you are free to discuss. Reassure him or her, telling the candidate how you felt as you began your Cursillo weekend. Were you scared, apprehensive, angry, bull-headed, curious?

MAKE SURE THE CANDIDATE UNDERSTANDS THAT CURSILLO IS A CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE! Be a friend to this candidate. Make sure you know what health issues this individual may have. The Cursillo Board and the team for this candidate need to know they are ready to deal with whatever issues they may have before this candidate can be accepted to make a weekend. You, as a sponsor, may need to be responsible to help meet their health needs. If you are a friend, you will want to be a part of this. Highlight this area when you fill out the sponsor's part of the application so the application committee can contact the board to review the issue. Examples of issues could be medication, mobility, sleep disorders, food issues, or mental comprehension.

Once Your Candidate is Accepted

If your candidate is unable to attend the weekend for which he or she has been accepted, you must see to it that the Applications Committee is notified. **Send an email to: quincycursillonfp@gmail.com** This should be done as soon as possible so that another candidate can be notified to fill that space. If the committee is not notified, or your candidate cancels three times, the application will be placed in a "space available file".

Plan the Palanca you will do both before and during the Cursillo weekend for your candidate. Begin doing your Palanca as soon as your candidate decides to attend a weekend. You can sign up for an hour to pray through a link found on the home page of the Quincy Cursillo website: quincycursillo.com. You may pray from home, your church, or the Retreat Center Palanca Chapel is open from 7 am – 9 pm.

Some Palanca suggestions are: attending an extra Mass each week; visits to the Blessed Sacrament; special prayers or meditation time; avoidance of sweets, beer, coffee, smoking, television, movies; fasting; reaching out to and helping others or volunteering for committees.

On the Candidate's Weekend

Bring the candidate to the Renewal Center yourself or at the very least arrange for someone else to bring him or her. Take them to dinner before arriving if they have not eaten. Offer to carry the candidate's bags and assist them at the registration table. Once your candidate is with a team member that will escort them to their room, attend the Sponsor's Hour (8:15 PM on Thursday night) in the North Chapel.

Alert the team to any medical or dietary needs of your candidate! This should be done as a follow up to what was provided on the application so as to remind everyone of these health issues.

Do not plan on serving meals during your candidate's weekend. If you really want to help, you are free to come and wash dishes in the kitchen, but you should not have any contact with your candidate, such as in the dining room. Consider this lack of contact with him or her as a form of Palanca. Sign up online through the Cursillo website: www.quincycursillo.com if you want to help in the kitchen/dishwasher area.

Write your candidate a Palanca letter letting them know what you are offering up for Palanca for them. Write "Sponsor" on the envelope. Bring the Palanca Letter with you on Thursday evening – a box is provided where you can drop it off. Encourage other Cursillistas to offer palanca and write letters for your candidate. If letters cannot be delivered to the Retreat Center personally, letters can also be emailed to: palancaletters@quincycursillo.com.

Attend the Apostolic Hour (Mass & candlelight at 8:00 pm) in the Main Chapel on Saturday evening. Remember, no children are allowed; Cursillistas or Emmaus Pilgrims only.

Attend the Closing and Mass on Sunday evening in the Main Chapel at 4:00 PM SHARP!

If your candidate is a married man, contact his wife during the weekend to make sure that she is doing okay. Offer to help her in any way that you can. Do not mention that you will be seeing him over the weekend.

It is part of your duty to help the family resolve problems that may come up. You should give your candidate's family a number where they can reach you. If it is a real emergency you may contact the Lay Director, Pat Holbrook at 217-257-2570; or the Assistant Lay Director, Ed Holthaus at 217-430-9536 and they will get the message to the candidate. Please use these numbers only in a real emergency.

After Your Candidate's Weekend

To help your candidate re-enter "the real world" after the closing:

- 1) Be there to take him or her home.
- 2) Pick up their luggage from outside their room. This can be done any time after 3:15 pm Sunday. Check to be sure that the candidate has removed all personal belongings. Turn off the air conditioner, if necessary.
- 3) Help the candidate to pack his or her bags if not already done.
- 4) Carry the bags out to the car.
- 5) Stop for coffee or supper on the way home to allow the candidate to settle down and answer any questions he or she might have.

Call or visit your candidate on Monday to wish him or her a Happy 4th Day and to see how he or she is doing. Reassure the candidate again by answering any questions.

Encourage the candidate all you can and reinforce the need to get into a Group Reunion, and help him or her to find a group. Check back periodically to see if the new Cursillista is satisfied with the group he or she is attending. Bring to an Ultreya if there is one in your area. Ultreya's are listed in The Fourth Day newsletter and on the Cursillo website calendar at: quincycursillo.com
Invite your new Cursillista to future Cursillo functions, including Buddy Mass, Saturday Mass and Sunday closings. Keep him or her in your prayers.

THIS PAGE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSOR

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

The Quincy Cursillo Board wishes to Thank You for sponsoring a candidate on a Cursillo weekend. Remember, as a sponsor, you are making a big commitment to your candidate. Being actively involved in your parish, a group reunion, and the Cursillo movement will be an asset for you and your candidate.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail Address _____

Name & Denomination of the Church you are now attending _____

When and where did you make your Cursillo? _____

Why do you feel that this person would be a good candidate? _____

The Quincy Cursillo Board would like to make Cursillo available to everyone. However, in some cases, the Cursillo program and the facilities that we use may not be suited to handle some physical and/or mental challenges. The Board's intent is not to turn anyone away, but to insure that the special needs of a candidate can be met, which will allow them to have the fullest experience possible.

Does the candidate have the physical and/or mental health needed for a Cursillo weekend? _____

If no, please explain why he/she should be considered. _____

Any candidate requiring a personal caregiver will need approval from the Board before they can be accepted. You, as the sponsor, are responsible for helping to find a personal caregiver, who must be a Cursillista. The sponsor and the caregiver will need to come before the Board and present the candidate and his/her needs. The Board will make the final decision as to whether or not your candidate may attend the weekend. The caregiver will be required to accompany the candidate the entire weekend. Please contact the Cursillo Lay Director to present the background and his/her needs, or any other concerns, immediately.

Will you have a Palanca Letter for your candidate on Thursday evening? ____ Are you prepared to attend to the needs of the candidate's family should they arise? ____

Are you aware of:

- The importance of minimal contact with your candidate during the weekend? This means you are not eligible to serve meals during your candidate's weekend!
- It is your responsibility to provide the opportunity for your candidate to be in a Group Reunion!

NOTES: We will make every effort to get your candidate on the next scheduled weekend that has space available. His or her church affiliation may have an effect on which weekend the candidate is placed due to our limit of 20% non-Catholic Christians on one weekend.

If the candidate is a married man we encourage you to send his wife's application in at the same time, since all applications are accepted on a first come first served basis. If the candidate is a married woman, it must be verified that her husband has already made a Cursillo or Walk to Emmaus. If not, the woman's application MUST be brought to the attention of the Cursillo board for approval.

As the sponsor, YOU will receive a letter of acceptance for your candidate, which YOU are to DELIVER to him or her, then arrange to BRING the candidate to the Cursillo weekend and back home.

If the candidate application is being submitted within three weeks of the Cursillo weekend to which they are applying, scan and email the application and sponsor form to quincycursillonfp@gmail.com or fax to 217-978-4133. Then mail the original signed candidate application, sponsor form and deposit, as indicated below.

Sponsor's Signature _____

PLEASE MAIL THIS SPONSOR FORM, ALONG WITH THE CANDIDATE APPLICATION AND THE DEPOSIT, PAYABLE TO "QUINCY CURSILLO" TO: P.O. Box 3153, Quincy, IL 62305-3153