

PD-CARE Executive Board Committee Donna Heeney: Nominee for Treasurer



Donna is married to Dan for 42 years, parents of 2 daughters (both have been actively involved with PREP) and members of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Horsham. She holds a B.S. in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Cabrini University as well as an MA in Theology from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Donna was a Early Childhood/elementary teacher for 12 years before becoming a Director of Religious Education for the past 25 years. She has served as a DRE at St. Katharine of Siena, Philadelphia; Epiphany of Our Lord, Plymouth Meeting; St. Catherine of Siena, Horsham; and presently at St. Robert Bellarmine in Warrington.

Experience in Parish Religious Education

I have been a DRE for 25 years serving parishes in the city as well as the suburbs. Throughout my years as a DRE, I have had many different pastoral and educational experiences. In several parishes, I have established various religious education models such as a Traditional model, Summer Session, Family Catechesis and a Summer Confirmation Camp. We also incorporate family involvement in parish activities as part of all our programs.

Experience as a PD/C/ARE Member

I have been involved in the PD/CARE Association for the past 25 years. I have served on the Executive Board as the Philadelphia County Rep for 4 years and as President for 4 years. I have also chaired the Avalon Gathering and been involved in some aspect of the gathering. I find that attending county meetings as well as the other offerings have been a lifeline for me. They have been a source of not only professional updating but also, spiritual growth and enrichment. My connection with our fellow DREs has been a source of encouragement and a sharing of a wealth of knowledge.

Reflection

If elected to the position of treasurer, I would use my gifts and talents to continue the mission of the Church as well as the PD/CARE Board. My 25 years of involvement in this ministry have given me many experiences to help my colleagues to grow both professionally and spiritually. Being a good listener would assist me in listening to the needs of our DREs and finding ways to help them in our shared ministry. It would be an honor to work with the other members of the executive board as well as all the DREs in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.