

**DIOCESE OF EL CAMINO REAL  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSIONS**

Vision

- That a rich variety of congregations be developed to include diversity in language and culture
- That congregations will intentionally worship and work across cultural lines, listening to and learning from each other, collaborating and working to fulfill the Great Commission.
- That the diocese will encourage and support the spiritual and organizational growth of its new and existing mission congregations while respecting the need for good stewardship of both the mission and diocesan resources.
- That mission congregations will be encouraged and supported to grow toward parish status to the greatest extent possible.

Mission

We seek to serve and equip the people of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real for ministry in our multi-ethnic society, by providing:

- Oversight of missions, including financial and organizational management
- Resources and financial accountability for missions (including distribution of budgeted diocesan funding for operations)
- Practical ideas and information for missions, especially for those sharing a campus with another congregation
- Help to plant new congregations and develop existing missions
- Assistance in developing partnerships between congregations of different ethnicities and among individuals and churches ministering to specific groups
- Awareness and proposals for response to demographic patterns and shifts within our diocese (racial, ethnic, language, and other patterns)
- Visibility for missions and promotion of their wider participation in diocesan convention and operations.
- Support for verbal and written translation services to communicate with diocesan congregations in their primary language (as needed) and avoid barriers to participation.

What does the Department of Missions do?

The Department of Missions provides administrative and financial oversight, planning, and goal-setting with mission congregations in the Diocese of El Camino Real. This means that the Department of Mission meetings balance a sense of celebration with the hard work of addressing the challenges all new organizations face.

Most of the Department of Missions' time, money, and energy is devoted to working with the missions, bishop's congregations, and new church plants. Currently, the Department of Missions is not financially or organizationally responsible for parochial missions. Once a congregation is welcomed into union by the convention as a parish, it becomes independent of

the Department of Missions' financial and organizational oversight. However, the Department of Missions does work on behalf of evangelism, church growth, and advocacy for intercultural ministry throughout the diocese.

The Department of Missions reports to the ecclesiastical authority monthly and has regular interactions with many other diocesan groups. The Department of Missions, from time to time, publishes internal management documents. These will be available for review in the Department of Missions' section of the diocesan web site in the "Resources" section.