



## SESSION K

### Where Do We Go From Here?

#### **RATIONALE/GOAL:**

We ask that support people and volunteers make a commitment to meet together every other week for eight sessions. After that time we suggest that support people and community members discuss this commitment and relationship. Some communities and support people may decide to continue the relationship every other week, while other communities and support people will agree to monthly visits based on everyone's schedules and desires. It is expected that the group will continue to meet for the rest of the year. The process will be re-evaluated after January, so this is the time to try different approaches to the support process. One possibility is for the volunteers to facilitate the sessions (if they haven't already). Another option is to use the community night activities that are included in the monthly *Ragweed*. (Support People already have a complete set of these in their Extra Resources guide.)

Now that you have lived in community for a few months, you have a clearer sense of your needs and the expectations of support people. Tonight is an opportunity for community members and support people to engage in a dialogue to both define and evaluate their relationship.

#### **OPENING PRAYER:**

*It helps now and then, to step back and take the long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.*

*We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is the Lord's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.*

*No statement says all that should be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection, no pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.*

*This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.*

*We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.*

*We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.*

*We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future that is not our own.*

Archbishop Oscar Romero

## **REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION:**

Use the following questions for reflection and discussion. Note that there are two sets of questions (one for community members, **C**, and one for support people, **S**).

**C** What have I appreciated about our support people thus far?

**S** What have I appreciated about the community thus far?

**All** What has been helpful and unhelpful in how the support people have been included in the life of the community (support meetings, hang out time, one-on-one time, sharing planning responsibilities)?  
What else might be done that would be helpful in this?

**C** What would I like to ask of our support people to further help our community develop in the months to come?

**S** What would I like to be able to contribute to further help the community develop in the months to come?

**C** What do I want my relationship with the support people to be in the months to come?

**S** What do I want my relationship with the community to be in the months to come?

**All** How often will support people meet with the community for the rest of the year?

## **CLOSING PRAYER:**

*God alone can shape our clay into wholeness,  
into community.  
We remain on the potter's wheel  
never quite finished,  
in a growing awareness  
that if we remove ourselves from God's guiding hands  
we will fly in all directions,  
if we fail to respond to the touch of God's creative Spirit,  
we will spin lopsided, formless.*

Edward J. Farrell