

Project Phoenix Pod: Volunteers Needed!

The Project Phoenix Pod (P2Pod) is a new initiative led by the [Lutheran Youth of North Seattle's Project Phoenix](#) member Lutheran churches (ELCA) to support middle and high school virtual learning, provide internet service and connect students with caring adults and peers during the current COVID19 situation. During this unprecedented time, the Project Phoenix Pod seeks to serve our congregations' teens by providing a safe place to pursue school work, to receive academic help, to safely socialize with peers, and to strengthen individual spiritual growth. Because local middle and high school youth are not attending school in person, the P2Pod seeks to fill an important need for families and youth by addressing school, social, and spiritual needs several days per week. Daily sessions will be hosted in Ballard First Lutheran's Haavik Hall following established COVID-19 safety protocols for numbers of students, spacing, masks, cleanliness. Health safety for all students, staff, and volunteers is a top priority.

The Project Phoenix (LYONS) Board has hired Kevin Peterson (podguide@roaringlyons.org) as our "Pod Guide" to fulfill the primary responsibility of managing and supervising the Pod.

Volunteer Needs:

The Project Phoenix Board seeks volunteers to assist the P2Pod Guide. Two types of volunteers are sought: those who can assist with all the normal daily activities of the Pod on site and those who would be willing to assist virtually with specific course material (for example, a math tutor).

Ideally volunteers offering to assist the Pod Guide onsite would be available for half a day during one of the planned three days per week when the P2Pod meets. (For example, from 8:30am to noon or from noon to 3:30pm). Pod meeting days are scheduled for Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Ballard First Lutheran Church. Type of support needed: helping keep track of student attendance at the Pod and at student online classes; help maintaining social distancing and cleanliness protocols; assist in supervising students participation in their online learning; and helping youth enhance faith and spirituality connections within the Lutheran church. If one of the onsite volunteers has specific subject matter expertise (see below), that's an added benefit. We would like a consistent (and small) cohort of onsite volunteers to keep our bubble small.

Volunteers assisting with specific academic issues and tutoring would help as "subject matter experts" who could offer assistance with course content and homework questions. These tutoring volunteers could provide virtual assistance, coordinating with students schedules as appropriate.

Expectations:

Enrollment for students into the Project Phoenix Pod is free of charge to families. Ideally, parents of enrolled students would be able to offer at least one half-day session per week to

volunteer. Consistency in support is also desired in order to keep the “bubble” small, and to ease planning and scheduling.

The Project Phoenix Board would like to maintain at least two adults with the Pod at all times: the staff Guide and one volunteer. So a cadre of 6 (minimum) to a maximum of 12 volunteer Guide assistants is anticipated.

If you are interested in supporting the Pod, or learning more, please email projectphoenixboard@gmail.com or inquire with your church’s Project Phoenix Board representative or Pastor.

Jeff Powers, Ballard First
Kirsten Erickson, Queen Anne
Brandon Hardenbrook & Brian Rulifson, Saint John United
Joel Maier, Phinney Ridge