



## Supporting Companions

HAYWOOD ST

Supporting Companions at Haywood Street Congregation are those who have the time, energy, and a sense of call to take a step deeper into Haywood Street's ministries. In addition to being a regular and consistent participant in the life of Haywood Street, Supporting Companions will help nurture and support the community (including friends and other companions) by providing emotional and spiritual care, fostering connection, and helping all to discover a sense of home in our community.

### Supporting Companions will strive to:

- Embody our core values:
  - Being with, not doing for
  - Starting from a place of "Yes!"
  - Embracing the holy chaos
  - Meeting others with grace and kindness
  - Ministry of abundance
  - Here to receive Jesus, not be Jesus
  - Everyone has worth and value
  - Prioritize faithfulness over "success"
- Offer support and care in difficult situations
  - Step in to help Companion Coordinator when needed.
  - Be willing to remind others of our core values.
- Welcome new companions
  - Help first time companions get involved.
  - Show the "how-tos" of the ministry areas.
  - Meet with visiting groups.
- Be in-tune to companion needs
  - Some companions need extra care and reflection.
  - Help Companion Coordinator identify needs of companions.
  - Be aware of points of conflict and struggle and share that with staff.
- Communication
  - Help communicate announcements and events of the church.



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- Read the weekly newsletter and stay up to date.
- Be aware of the strategic plan and the future of the church.
- Express gratitude for companions and help Companion Coordinator with appreciation events.
- Use respectful communication with friends and companions.
- Be present
  - Weekly contact with the community
  - Attend quarterly “Companion Reflect” gatherings
- Give to ministry area without a sense of ownership or control

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**What we hope to offer:**

- A life-giving experience that will feed your spiritual journey and growth
- Quarterly reflections/conversations with all companions - every 3 months on the 3rd Monday of the month
- Relationships of support, humility and honesty
- An awareness of Haywood Street’s goals and plans
- Regular communication regarding ministry areas
- Trainings and information sessions relevant to the community

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**How is this different than our previous team leader model?**

- The primary intention is that this is life-giving/Spirit-filling for you!
- You will not be limited to a specific ministry area.
- There will be more consistent communication and community.
- We will formally bless and commission you into this role.
- Every year, you will have the opportunity to reflect and decide whether or not to renew your commitment.
- The hope is that this offers a deeper experience of ministry.
- We don’t expect ministry areas to meet on their own.

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**Blessing of Supporting Companions in Worship  
Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM**

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