

A Covenant Between the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (USA),
And Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc.
Monticello, Arkansas and
Little Rock, Arkansas

I

THE COVENANT

This Covenant is a reaffirmation of the relationship which has existed between predecessor institutions and governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The informal relationship began in 1910 when Presbyterians aided Mrs. Lulu Williamson of Monticello in caring for abandoned and neglected children. The formal relationship began in November, 1920, with the founding of Caddo Valley Academy as an institution of the Synod of Arkansas, and in 1923 when the Synod of Arkansas accepted management of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home, the outgrowth of Mrs. Williamson's ministry to children. After several consolidations, the Agency became part of the Synod of the Red River, PCUS in 1969, and continues as a service agency in the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

In 1993, the Board of Directors of the Agency affirmed that the mission of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. (VLPHFS) is to "share Christ's healing love with children, youth, and families in crisis." Although this ministry is most visible in the human arena, it is basically concerned with one's fundamental relation to God, which often manifests itself in relationships between persons. The means whereby this ministry is ordinarily expressed is by service to people in crisis. Our purpose is to help people achieve and maintain wholeness through such services as residential care for children and youth; individual and group therapy; counseling for pastors and families; and services which prevent family breakdown.

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. was incorporated in Arkansas in 1969 as a not-for-profit organization and in that same year was granted 501(c)(3) not-for-profit status by the Internal Revenue Service. Subsequently, the Articles of Incorporation were amended to change the name of the agency to Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home is licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services of the State of Arkansas.

This covenant between the Synod of the Sun and Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. shall define the relationship between these two groups. It is an expression of trust, hope, and mission shared by both, reflecting the promises and the hopes of historic covenants made between God and God's people over many centuries. Its spirit is one of opportunity and flexibility offering opportunities for Christian mission among children and families in crisis.

II

Affirmation of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home and Family Services

In reaffirming our commitment to the mission of Jesus Christ and to the Synod of the Sun, Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. covenants:

1. To share Christ's healing love with children, youth, and families in crisis. The Vera Lloyd program will include emergency and longer term care for children and youth at VLPHFS, therapy for families in crisis, education and advocacy for preventing family breakdown, consulting services to churches and communities addressing youth issues, programs aimed at preventing some of the major crises which affect children and youth, and other programs and services consistent with our mission statement which might be developed in response to other needs;

2. To provide appropriate and responsible financial management and planning, and to ensure the Agency's property and other assets are used wisely and kept in good repair;
3. To use and invest gifts which are given us in a manner which reflects good stewardship and which respects the intentions of the donors;
4. To inform and educate the Synod on issues and concerns affecting children, youth, and families, to provide leadership, planning, and advocacy in services of reconciliation and prevention, and to work positively with others within the Synod who share similar concerns;
5. To report annually to the Synod about the vitality of the Agency's programs and finances.

III

Affirmation of Synod of the Sun

In reaffirming its commitment to Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. the Synod of the Sun covenants:

1. To recognize the Agency as a Service Agency of the Synod, affirming and celebrating the Agency's ministry of reconciliation as a valid, vital Christian ministry within the Synod;
2. To affirm and interpret the mission of the Agency to the different governing bodies and individuals within the Synod;
3. To encourage Presbyterians within the Synod to support this ministry with their financial gifts;

4. To review annually the programs and finances of the Agency, focusing on the faithfulness of the Agency to its mission, its financial responsibilities, and the significant highlights of its ministry during the year;
5. To report annually to the Board of Directors of Vera Lloyd concerning the various ministries of the Synod of the Sun;
6. To appoint a Synod staff person as a liaison with VLPHFS Board. This staff person will be in regular contact with the VLPHFS board and staff and will communicate the goals and concerns of each group to the other.

IV

The Separate and Corporate Integrity of Each Party

1. In the increasingly complex legal regulatory framework in which Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. and the Synod must operate, the covenant is binding on each and helps to clarify the true separate, legally independent and mutually responsible entities in striving for the goals and purposes of this covenant. It is expressly agreed that the Synod of the Sun or any of its trustees, officers, agents or employees shall not be liable for any of the debts or other liabilities whatsoever of the Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. Likewise, the Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc., or any of its directors, officers, agents, servants, or employees shall not be liable for any of the debts of the Synod of the Sun or any other obligations or liabilities whatsoever of the Synod.
2. The Synod has delegated to the Board of Directors of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. the responsibility for nominating and electing new directors. A majority of the Board of Directors shall be members of the PC(USA) residing within the boundaries of the

- Synod of the Sun. A current copy of the charter and by-laws which includes procedures for director selection shall be on file with the Synod of the Sun. The Synod shall receive in writing the names of the entire Board annually. The Synod may suggest and submit names of prospective directors to VLPHFS Board of Directors.
3. Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, Inc. is a self-perpetuating corporation, governed in all of its affairs by the Board of Directors. The Board's obligation and commitment is two-fold: one is to the corporation and the accompanying legal and corporate responsibilities, and the other is to this covenant with all of its understandings and responsibilities. The selection process for board membership shall include establishment of standards for the competencies needed on the board. The general concern is for inclusiveness and a personal confirmation by each new board member to the mission, commitments and responsibilities the person will assume.

V
Review

To ensure the vitality of the covenant relationship between the Synod and Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services, both parties agree to a complete review of this Covenant five years after its adoption, with the understanding that partial, interim changes agreeable to both parties may be made as conditions require before that Covenant review.

Synod of the Sun
Moderator

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian
Home & Family Services
Chair of the Board

Synod of the Sun
Executive

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian
Home & Family Services
CEO

October 20, 2010

Date

Date