



New Horizons is a Christian Ecumenical Human Services organization that is multicultural, diverse, and welcoming to all. New Horizons is a place for everyone, regardless of denominational background, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, accessibility needs, and socioeconomic status. We hope to exemplify the open table that Jesus set for all people, centering a community where it is safe to explore the relationships that exist between joy and pain and blessing and loss. Part of preparing an open table, to us, looks like actively confronting oppressive systems that create inequality by centering the work of racial equity while resolutely standing against systems of injustice.

We serve young people who experience trauma and believe that there is a spiritual impact to this. We are grateful to lean into the reality that all people are imperfect and loved, chosen and accepted. We want to host a community where we can build diverse, deep relationships and experience shared spiritual practices such as celebration, prayer, lament, and service in order to gain greater connection to God and each other.

Integration Practices:

We actualize our identity in practice by creating the following opportunities for young people and staff to engage if so desired. The practices include, but are not limited to, the following.

- We employ an ecumenical Chaplain who holds weekly 'optional' Christocentric service, outings, and mentoring for young people.
- The chaplain leads a weekly prayer for staff.
- Centering prayer before services: This work is difficult, so we offer an optional time to center ourselves before program. This is led by willing staff or the Chaplain.
- Table Sharing: We practice sharing a table monthly, guided by the chaplain, to tell stories, pray and celebrate young people.
- We practice staff rhythms that promote spiritual health through intentional times of reflection.

New Horizons is a place for all people regardless of denominational background, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, accessibility needs, and socioeconomic status.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- New Horizons is a Human Services organization that recognizes that this work requires more than good intentions, but requires us to be informed and implement best practices of trauma informed care, positive youth development, and proven interventions to help vulnerable youth find stability.
- New Horizons does not restrict in hiring practices.
- New Horizons does not mandate YYA or staff participation in spiritual activities.
- We define Ecumenical as the universal Christian tradition.
- New Horizons takes a whole person approach to its work, recognizing that spirituality can be a support for YYA experiencing trauma.