



Affiliated with **Lewis University**

*A Lasallian institution
training leaders for ministry
with Latino youth and young adults
since 1994*

LEADERSHIP TRAINING SYSTEM



Catalogue of Programs

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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LEADERSHIP TRAINING SYSTEM

Catalogue of Programs

- Pastoral Juvenil
- Biblical Pastoral Ministry
- Family Ministry
- Hispanic Ministry and Catechesis

Instituto Fe y Vida is a Lasallian institution founded in 1994 to offer faith formation and leadership training to Hispanic Catholic young people nationwide in the United States. Currently, formation is also offered to Latino parents in the U.S. focused on their adolescent children. Since 2008, biblical ministry has been extended to Latin America with a spirit of missionary discipleship.

The **Leadership Formation System (LFS)** offered by Instituto Fe y Vida consists of more than 30 programs across four levels: foundational, intermediate, advanced, and training of trainers. Some programs focus exclusively on *Pastoral Juvenil* (Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry); the majority are suitable as well for Hispanic Ministry, Family Ministry, and Catechesis. In all of its programs, Fe y Vida emphasizes the empowerment of *jóvenes* (single young people ages 16 to 29) as leaders in the Church and society, a priority of the *V Encuentro*.

The LFS is a flexible system and occurs in two main contexts:

- **Local programs are contracted by dioceses, parishes, and other institutions** in response to their needs. The selection of programs is made by the representative of the organization in dialog with the Director of Leadership Training. Several programs are suitable and useful for more than one ministry as indicated by the following initials: *Pastoral Juvenil* (PJ), Family Ministry (FM), Hispanic Ministry (HM), and Catechesis (CAT).
- **The National Catholic Leadership Program (NLP)**, has been offered every summer since 1995. It offers five program options geared to young adults 18 and older, pastoral agents and advisers, parents and ecclesial ministers. The participant chooses the program based on experience and interest. Fe y Vida recommends that participants first experience the Leadership Symposium before taking intermediate-level seminars.

This catalogue organizes the programs into four training levels as presented in the diagram, with a brief description of each program, including its prerequisites. A person starts at the foundational level and continues through the intermediate and advanced levels. Some may then be trained as a trainer.

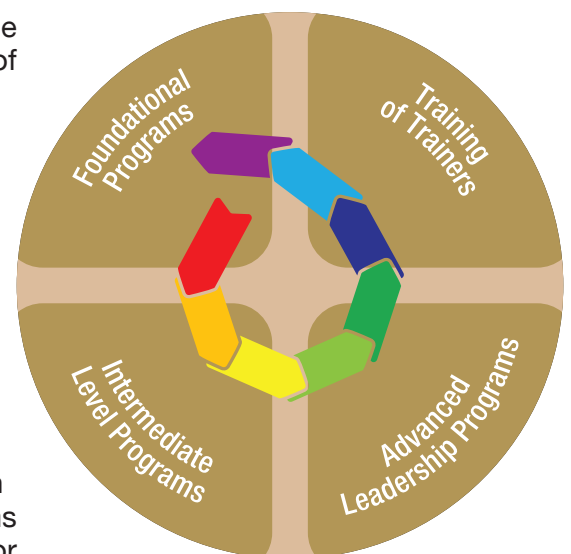
All programs are intensive. They include presentations of both theory and practice. Participants must apply the theory to personal, community, and pastoral life through exercises and sharing reflection processes. These activities are required to complete the assigned number of class hours.

Local programs require weekends of 14 hours, in addition to the time for Sunday Mass. In the NLP, attendance at all components of the intensive weeklong programs is required.

Usually programs are offered in Spanish; participants form small communities according to language preference and assist one another as the need arises. Some programs and manuals are bilingual. In local contexts, programs could be offered bilingually. The organization makes this decision in dialogue with the Director of Leadership Training. [See: Programswithbilingualormixedgroups.](#)

Instituto Fe y Vida offers a Certification in Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry. The description and requirements are listed on pp. 7-8.

Dioceses and other institutions may obtain a license to offer certain programs with local instructors trained by Fe y Vida. These programs are marked in the table on p. 8 as “X-Lic.” Please consult the Director of Leadership Training for further information.





FOUNDATIONAL LEVEL

At this level, participants affirm the principles of their faith, their origin, and purpose as sons and daughters of God, and their vocation and mission as disciples of Jesus. By putting the Prophets of Hope Model into practice, they acquire a holistic vision to live their faith and carry out a ministry that is evangelizing, communitarian, and missionary.

Introductory Workshops

1. Youth/Young Adults Day: Jesus invites you to be a prophet of hope

A day with eight hours of interactive group activities, prayer, music, and presentations to begin or revitalize Pastoral Juvenil in a diocese or parish through a large gathering of young people aged 16 and over. —PJ

2. Seven leadership workshops on vital issues

One weekend per workshop at the local level. Designed for preteens, teenagers, young adults, and parents, in Spanish, English or bilingually in dialogue with the local coordinator. Available topics: (1) Responsible freedom and self-determination; (2) The gift of my life and my body; (3) Financial peace; (4) Role models, admired characters, and idols; (5) Listening and communicating with friends and family; (6) Culture clashes in the family and between generations; (7) Gender identity and complementarity. —PJ

Programs and Courses

3. Prophets of Hope: Training Young Leaders to Be Evangelizing, Communitarian, and Missionary

The program consists of two weekends of presentations and activities with pastoral practice between sessions. The focus is on Pastoral Juvenil, but the training is also useful for adults. This program may be reproduced locally. —PJ, HM, CAT

4. Symposium on Leadership for a Comprehensive Pastoral Juvenil

The symposium is a weeklong intensive experience that includes discussion of theories, methodologies, and practical pastoral practices. It is offered during the National Catholic Leadership Program. —PJ, HM, CAT

5. Foundational Course for Pastoral Juvenil (CPJ)

Over four weekends at the local level, participants will address eight fundamental catechetical and pastoral topics. —PJ, CAT

6. Engaging Stories —A Youth Theology Summer Institute in Collaboration with Lewis University [in English]

Intended for adolescents who are junior and senior high school students, the Institute is a weeklong experience offered at the national level. It includes theological and vocational reflections, prayer, and pastoral practice in local social agencies. —PJ-adolescents

Biblical Pastoral Ministry

7. Workshop: Introduction to the Bible

During one weekend at the local level, participants learn how to treat the Bible as the Word of God, including how to apply the biblical message to daily life with verses, interpretative tools, and commentaries from La Biblia Católica para Jóvenes or La Biblia para la Fe y la Vida. For young people, advisers, and catechists —PJ, CAT

8. Workshop: Lectio Divina and the Sunday Mass through the Series Diálogos Semanales con Jesús

The workshop consists of one weekend to develop and deepen knowledge of and relationship with Jesus through meditation on the Sunday scriptures. The workshop is based on six participant books and a facilitator manual. It may be reproduced locally. —PJ, HM, CAT

9. Training Youth and Young Adults for the Biblical Mission

Young people over 16 years of age take a leading role in carrying out the Biblical Mission. May require one or two weekends depending upon local preference. —PJ, HM, CAT

10. Retreat: Leadership as Missionary Disciples Inspired by the Beatitudes

A one weekend exercise addressing catechesis and spiritual reflection from different methodological perspectives. It may be reproduced locally. —PJ, HM, CAT





INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

The programs at the intermediate level help participants to grow in different areas of their lives, enlightened by the Word of God and the teachings of the Church. The programs provide a comprehensive theological pastoral vision, methods, and techniques that equip participants to lead in Church and society as prophets of hope.

Programs and Courses

11. Program: Practical Theology and Social Action

There are two modules one of which is offered each year at the national level, or during six weekends at the local level. For young adult leaders and advisers. Completion of both modules is required to earn the diploma. Prerequisite: Foundational Course for Pastoral Juvenil (CPJ) or equivalent. —PJ, HM, CAT

12. Course: Formation for a Christian Integration of Sexuality

The course is offered at the national level or for four weekends in dioceses or parishes for parents, catechists, and young people. It offers a holistic perspective on sexuality, drawing on Hispanic cultural realities, biblical principles and spirituality, human sciences, and teachings from Catholic Tradition. —PJ, FM, HM, CAT

Pastoral-Theological Seminars

Seminars are offered during the weeklong National Catholic Leadership Program. Some may also be offered at a local level and will require between two and four weekends.

13. Ministry with Adolescents and Peer Counseling in Pastoral Juvenil —PJ

14. Christian Spirituality, Discernment, and the Life Project —PJ

15. Pastoral *dinámicas* and Music in Worship and Ministry —PJ, HM, CAT

16. Evangelization and Catechesis with Adolescents and Jóvenes —PJ, CAT

17. Intercultural Relations and Skills for Personal, Pastoral, and Civic Life —PJ, FM, HM, CAT

18. Financial Education for Personal, Family, and Pastoral Life —PJ, FM, HM, CAT

19. Training Young People as Missionary Disciples —PJ, CAT

20. Public Speaking and Communication Skills in Pastoral Ministry — PJ, FM, HM, CAT

Biblical Pastoral Ministry

21. Course: The Bible and Our Salvation History

The course covers 24 biblical topics exegetically analyzed and reflected upon for relevance to life today. It consists of four weekends for young people 18 and older or for a mixed audience of young people and adults. —PJ, FM, HM, CAT

22. Seminar: Biblical Pastoral Ministry and Biblical Inspiration in Ministry

The seminar is offered during the National Catholic Leadership Program. It offers theoretical and practical training to help incarnate God's Word in people's lives and in ministry. It includes training on the three biblical programs at the foundational level. —PJ, FM, HM, CAT

23. Training for *Lectio Divina* and Biblical Circles with *La Biblia Católica para la Fe y la Vida*

Over two weekends, participants learn the two different methods for reading and reflecting on the Word of God, discerning the community's needs and developing a plan to implement the program. —PJ-with young adults, FM, HM, CAT





ADVANCED LEVEL

Instituto Fe y Vida offers one program at the advanced level. It consists of two modules that complement each other and may be taken in either order. Participants in the advanced program already have an intermediate level knowledge of theological and pastoral formation as well as leadership experience within the Church's structure.

In the first module they delve more deeply into the study of effective pastoral leadership in the areas of spirituality, theology, and administration. The second module provides participants with skills that will help them develop and manage programs in parish or diocesan settings, and ministry by staff or by volunteers.

The program is designed to assist young adult leaders as well as advisers and other pastoral agents. Participants will be prepared to conduct effective ministry at the institutional level and to carry out a *pastoral de conjunto* capable of collaborating with other specialized ministries and ethnic groups.

Program

24. Pastoral Leadership at the Institutional Level

There are two modules, one of which is offered each year at the National Catholic Leadership Program, or over six weekends at the local level. Completion of both modules is required to earn credit for the course. Module 1: Practical Theology and Pastoral Action for Young Adult Leaders and Advisers. Module 2: Skills for Administration, Finance, Strategic Planning, and Managing Human Resources. —PJ-advanced, HM, CAT



TRAINING OF TRAINERS

The training of trainers supports the mission of Instituto Fe y Vida by multiplying its educational impact through training people to offer some of its programs locally. There are three prerequisites to participation in training of trainers programs.

Prerrequisitos

- Know, value, and have implemented the Prophets of Hope Model at the local level or work regularly with a similar focus and methodology.
- Have received a diploma for Fe y Vida's Program: Practical Theology and Pastoral Action for Young Adult Leaders and Advisers as well as completed four seminars at the intermediate level or equivalent studies.
- Possess a charism for teaching and have teaching experience with the relevant age and educational level for each program.

Some programs have additional prerequisites. For example, a diocese must acquire a license to offer a program locally; elect the trainers who will facilitate it; and seek approval by the Director of Leadership Training.

Training of Trainers

25. Training to Prepare Leaders in Pastoral Juvenil with Adolescents and Jóvenes

To be designed according to the needs of the interested institution. Prerequisites: (a) be a youth minister coordinator with adolescents or an adviser in Pastoral Juvenil; (b) have completed the Leadership Symposium or applied the Prophets of Hope Model. —PJ-advanced level



26. Training for the Foundational Course for Pastoral Juvenil

When offered at the National Catholic Leadership Program, there are two modules, one of which is offered each year; supervised teaching practice takes place during the year in between. When offered locally, the training consists of three weekends with the teaching practice taking place between weekends two and three. Completion of all coursework and successful supervised teaching are required to earn the diploma. [See flyer: TrainingForCPJ.](#) —PJ-advanced level

Requisites for the diocese or sponsoring institution: (a) have a license to offer the course locally using Instituto Fe y Vida resources; (b) select trainers who have completed the Symposium on Leadership or the Foundational Course for Pastoral Juvenil, and have pastoral-theological training at the intermediate level; (c) organize the training program and supervise the teaching practice; (d) offer one or several local courses during the year.

Prerequisites for the trainees: (a) Programs at the foundational level: Leadership Symposium or Foundational Course for Pastoral Juvenil; (b) Programs at the intermediate level: Practical Theology and Pastoral Action for Young Adult Leaders and Advisers or equivalent; three pastoral-theological seminars; (c) General: three years as a leader in Pastoral Juvenil; key teaching, coordinating, and facilitation skills; practical application of the Prophets of Hope Model.

27. Training for Biblical Pastoral Ministry with Young People and Adults

To be designed according to the needs of the interested institution. Prerequisites: (a) complete biblical formation at the intermediate level; (b) have teaching experience in adult catechesis or working with the Prophets of Hope Model. —PJ-advanced level, HM, CAT

28. Training for the Course: Formation for a Christian Integration of Sexuality

To be designed according to the needs of the interested institution. Prerequisite: (a) completed the course: Formation for a Christian Integration of Sexuality, or be an instructor in similar courses on this topic. —PJ-advanced level, FM, HM, CAT

29. Training Parents as Educators of Their Children, Focusing on Adolescence

To be designed according to the needs of the interested institution. Prerequisites: (a) have teaching skills and experience facilitating adult learning; (b) be endorsed by the diocese or parish. —PJ-advanced level, FM, HM, CAT

30. Training for Pastoral Leadership at the Institutional Level

Requisites for the diocese or sponsoring institution: (a) establish a local team of at least three trainers who completed the program during the National Catholic Leadership Program and have applied the Prophets of Hope Model; (b) have a license to conduct the program using Fe y Vida's Manual; (c) assign local trainers with a Masters degree or equivalent to teach each subject; (d) provide a program planning outline and timeline, along with the trainers' resúmenes for approval by the Director of Leadership Training. The local team must complete the one weekend training offered by the instructors of Fe y Vida. —HM, CAT

31. Spiritual Retreat: Toward a Personal and Pastoral Metanoia

A weeklong retreat offered at the national level for trainers and ministers in Pastoral Juvenil. An experience of individually guided prayer in which the retreatant listens to God through Sacred Scriptures following the theological-pastoral framework of the Prophets of Hope Model. Each participant is assigned an acompañante with whom the retreatant meets daily for spiritual reflection and discernment in a setting of rest, quiet, and solitude in addition to the Mass and Reconciliation. —PJ, FM, HM, CAT



CERTIFICATION IN HISPANIC YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

A Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Minister (*Agente de Pastoral Juvenil*) is a person who nourishes and inspires the life and mission of the Church by working with Latino youth and *jóvenes* at the institutional level. It could be a lay person, religious brother or sister, deacon or priest, and serve as salaried staff or as a volunteer.

Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministers promote the participation of young people in the threefold mission of Jesus as *prophet*, with their evangelizing action; as *priest*, with their praying and participation in the sacraments; and as *king-shepherd*, through servant, shared, and co-responsible leadership. Their role is founded on Sacred Scriptures and the criteria for their action are reflected in Second Vatican Council documents and in the Magisterium that inspires their vision and spirit to respond to the signs of the times.

Goal of the Certification

The Leadership Formation System allows a person to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become an effective Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Minister. Throughout the years, a large number of people have been trained pastorally through Fe y Vida programs at different levels. Based on this experience, Instituto Fe y Vida as of 2020 offers a Certificate as *Agentes de Pastoral Juvenil* (Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministers).

The goal of this certification is to make available to the Catholic Church in the United States *Agentes de Pastoral Juvenil* who:

- Show awareness of their apostolic vocation and commitment as co-responsible leaders, and persons willing to bear witness from their lives in the key environments where youth and *jóvenes* are found.
- Draw on solid theological and pastoral foundations, wholesome human development, and a mature spirituality that allows them to accompany and train youth and *jóvenes* in their own faith formation and evangelizing and missionary actions among their peers.
- Are prepared to serve Latino youth and *jóvenes* according to their sociocultural reality and pastoral needs, while developing collaboration among ministries with an intercultural awareness that ministry promotes unity in the Church.
- Demonstrate the ability to create and implement short- and medium-term pastoral plans and programs with youth and *jóvenes*, including their parents and the adult community to encourage intergenerational ministries that help them mature in the faith and live out the social doctrine of the Church.
- Are willing to motivate and encourage the Church community at its different levels—parish, deaneries, dioceses, nation—to foster a *pastoral de conjunto* with the purpose of integrating *Pastoral Juvenil* in the life and mission of the Church, together with other models of pastoral action.

Requirements for the Certification

1. Obtain a diploma for each of the Required and Elective Programs indicated in the following table, during a 5 to 8-year timeframe. Some programs are offered only at the national level once a year.
2. Present two letters of recommendation from a pastor, a diocesan director, or an apostolic movement. Both letters must mention the personal qualities of the candidate, the application of his/her theological and pastoral knowledge; and the quality of his/her pastoral work.
3. Show evidence of having conducted successfully a leadership training program for young people at a local level.
4. Submit a written project plan demonstrating the ability to plan programs. The plan will be evaluated by a member of Fe y Vida's Pastoral Team as part of the application process.
5. Upon meeting the above requirements, pay the associated fee.

The following table presents the programs required for Certification in Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry. **Eight required programs plus three elective programs are necessary to earn the certification.** Participants choose the elective ones in dialogue with the Director of Leadership Training.



REQUIRED AND ELECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE CERTIFICATION IN HISPANIC YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Programs	Class Hours	Eight Required Programs	Three Elective Programs	Total Required Hours
Foundational Level				
# 4 – Symposium on Leadership	56	X		
# 5 – Foundational Course for <i>Pastoral Juvenil (CPJ)</i>	56		X-Lic.	
Intermediate Level				
# 11 – Practical Theology and Social Action: 2 modules (*) (**)	84	X-Lic.		
# 12 – Formation for a Christian Integration of Sexuality (**)	56	X-Lic.		
# 13 – Ministry with Adolescents and Peer Counseling in <i>Pastoral Juvenil</i>	56	X		
# 14 – Christian Spirituality, Discernment, and the Life Project	56	X		
# 15 – Pastoral <i>dinámicas</i> and Music in Worship and Ministry	56		X	
# 16 – Evangelization and Catechesis with Adolescents and <i>Jóvenes</i>	56		X	
# 17 – Intercultural Relations and Skills	56		X	
# 21 – The Bible and Our Salvation History or equivalent	56	X		
# 22 – Biblical Pastoral Ministry and Biblical Inspiration in Ministry	56		X	
Advanced Level				
# 24 – Pastoral Leadership at the Institutional Level: 2 modules (**)	84	X-Lic.		
Training of Trainers				
# 26 – Training for the Foundational Course for <i>Pastoral Juvenil (CPJ)</i> (**)	56	X		
NUMBER OF REQUIRED PROGRAMS		8	3	
TOTAL HOURS OF REQUIRED STUDY		504	168	672

(*) Grace period for alumni. As of January 2020, a three-year grace period will be granted, so that Instituto Fe y Vida alumni who studied before this certification was granted and who have taken at least 70% of the required and elective programs can complete their certification. The *Programa de Certificación para Asesores y Líderes en Pastoral Juvenil* offered in the past is equivalent.

(**) Possibility of obtaining academic credits at the institution where the participant is studying, if its requirements are met.

(X-Lic.) Programs that may be taken at Instituto Fe y Vida or in a diocese or institution that has a license to teach them.

