



**ASSOCIATION FOR  
EPISCOPAL DEACONS**  
ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

## **2022 Archdeacon & Deacon Directors Conference March 10-12, 2022**

### **Open Space Report: Deacon Competencies**

Tim Spannaus

Aaron Perkins

Connie Campbell-Pearson

Dennis Taylor

Kyn Barker

Laura Orcutt

Tracie Middleton

Carter Hawley

Margaret Grayden

Kate Harrigan

Linda Brown

Rod Dugliss

Roxanne Klingensmith

Nadine Pope

Linda Brown

Jen Grewell

Tim shared a document that helped flesh out their competencies in Michigan. Rod shared that the competencies have become the standard. Connie shared that she uses the competencies as a living document and added to it. When the COM received in CA and MT, it was received very well.

Jen commented that they use the competencies and it works in conjunction with their IONA school. The students prepare documents that become a portfolio and that is what is reviewed by their board of examining chaplains. One problem is that students from different cultural backgrounds have difficulty compiling the portfolio.

Roxy reminded us that the purpose of the competencies was to provide consistency across the board. Is there any sense that this is being accomplished? It was helpful to some to help evaluate their curriculum. Some have not tried them. The Deacon's Council has just recently gotten connected with AED. They are considering IONA. They believe that the current competencies would need more revision to include people on the margins.

In Toronto, the parishes are involved in the selection of deacons and when they received them they were not well received.

Province 1 does use the competencies. They have been helpful but would like to see church polity and organization spoken to. How to navigate general convention and diocesan convention?

Utah used the competencies with IONA and then were able to note their deficiencies.

Carter talked about the Doctrine of Discovery. It's not in the competencies, but should be part of "other". We need to be able to answer "Why do I need to know this?" Rod asked if anyone was requiring Sacred Ground. It's about becoming beloved community. Several recommended the circle.

Rod suggested that it would be helpful to not only list the competencies but to also give an example of what it looks like.

Tim asked for assistance to work on the committee. Tracy suggested that we have a form that help a deacon assess where they are based on the competencies. This could fit into a mentorship model. Perhaps a few stories could be gathered on how people used the competencies.