



BEGINNING EXPERIENCE OF (TEAM NAME)

Team Address • Team phone

(Date)

Dear (Family Life Director's name),

As you know, Beginning Experience of (your team's name) ministers with those in the (arch) diocese who are suffering from the loss of a marriage relationship. Marriage is a sacred union and when death occurs, the remaining spouse grieves deeply. In other instances, people expect the marriage to last a lifetime, but in spite of the efforts put forth, the relationship dies and both persons grieve.

Acting from Christian compassion and from the pain of our own losses, our invitational program helps those suffering these losses through the grieving process, enabling them to look to the future with renewed hope and deepened faith.

In this past year, we have held (number) Beginning Experience weekends at (name of retreat center or centers used). Here is a summary:

Date of weekend	# of persons served (count both participants and team)
Date of weekend	# of persons served (count both participants and team)
Date of weekend	# of persons served (count both participants and team)

In addition, we held the following weekly support programs for those for whom the loss is too fresh for the weekend:

Date of program	# of persons served
Date of program	# of persons served
Date of program	# of persons served

For those who need support after the Beginning Experience weekend, we held these support programs:

Date of program	# of persons served
Date of program	# of persons served
Date of program	# of persons served

The people we served came from (name parishes in the diocese that participants and team belong to):
(Names of parishes)

We are grateful for the help of (names of the priests) who made the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist possible during our weekend programs. We're grateful, too, for your support and the support of your office in (spreading the word, referring people, etc.) We look forward to continuing to work with you in this important ministry. OR We hope to enlist your support in spreading the word about our upcoming weekends planned for (dates). A couple of us from the Local Board would like to meet with you to explain more of what we do in Beginning Experience and how we might work more closely with you in the future. I will call you early next week to set up an appointment.

Sincerely,

(Local board president)

Cc: Bishop
International Ministry Center