# ON BEHALF OF ALL



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https://tinyurl.com/FHOBOA

# **OVERVIEW**

The On Behalf of All project seeks to nurture the worship and prayer of young children ages 0 - 12 years with disabilities.

12 parishes across the nation will be supported to become models in accessible worship.

In turn, each of these parishes will then adopt and model their efforts and outcomes for a local, sister Orthodox parish by the end of the 5-year grant period.

# **FACTS**

An estimated 20% of children in the U.S. have a disability.

If 2 of every 10 young people in Sunday Liturgy do not look like they have a disability, they may have invisible disabilities; additionally, there are likely seen and/or unseen barriers that are keeping families with special needs away.



### **ACCESSIBILITY**



An accessible parish begins with the awareness and attitude of its leadership. Priests and parish leaders must be supportive of taking measures to make worship fully accessible for children and their families who have unique needs.

### A SPECIAL CALL

A pilot parish liaison will be called upon as a dedicated, volunteer ministry leader who can advocate on behalf of families with disabilities to priests and parish councils.

Liaisons will commit to 2-4 hours of monthly training/collaboration and 2 multi-day training workshops (travel and expenses covered by the grant).

Assessment tools, training, parish-wide retreats, ongoing coaching, problem-solving, and resource creation will be provided by the *On Behalf of All* grant.

Families will be interviewed by an independent consultant to help identify needs and follow the progression of accessibility in their communities over the 5-year grant period.