**2024 Participant Application**

The FRPA Young Professionals Workgroup has identified mentorship as something they would like to prioritize for the next few years. Creating and cultivating relationships with those further along in their careers help young professionals grow. FRPA PODS are intended to be a way to connect these two groups for the outcome of connection, mentorship, fellowship, and guidance. Each POD will be a small group, no more than six people, and will consist of one or two ‘leaders’ and the rest of the group will be made up of young professionals.

* Applications will be taken from all interested. You are not required to be an FRPA member to participate in the PODs. Efforts will be made to make each POD diverse in age, race, and geographic location.
* PODS have the opportunity to create their own eConnect group and will be encouraged to set up other ways of connecting with the others in their group.
* The PODS will run November 2023 – August 2024 to conclude at conference.
* If your schedule does not work with what the majority of your POD has decided on for meetings, please let the FRPA Executive Office know and we will try and find you an alternate group.

POD Participants are:

Recreation and Park professionals who have been in the field of parks and recreation for less than ten years or have recently been promoted to a position of management not previously held. POD Participants will be expected to commit to the following:

* Participate in conversation and connection among members;
* Share experiences in a warm and inviting way;
* Attend phone calls or online meetings with the POD on a regular basis;
* Be encouraging to other POD members;
* Possibly meet up at Conference with your POD, if allowable, and attend some classes together.
* Contribute to a safe atmosphere where what is discussed stays within the group. Use discretion when discussing their POD with others outside the group.

**Participant Application**

Please fill out the following information below. If there is a section you would prefer not to fill out, simply leave it blank. This will not disqualify you from participating.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Agency** |  |
| **Title** |  |
| **Email**  |  |
| **Preferred Phone #** |  |
| **Is this your first time participating in the PODS Program?** |  |
| **# of years employed full time in the field of parks and recreation** |  |
| **Race** |  |
| **Gender** |  |
| **Professional Area(s) of Interest** (Aquatics, Parks, Programming, etc.) |  |
| **Why do you want to be in an FRPA POD?** |  |
| **Can you commit to the expectations outlined in the description?** |  |
| **Where do you see yourself heading in the profession?** |  |
| **What kind of time commitment can you realistically give to a POD?** (circle one) | Meet once per month for an hour | Meet twice per month for an hour |
| **What is an area of your professional life you’d like to improve in?** |  |