

Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis

Founded: ca. 1912

Location: Downtown YMCA; 1100 W 42nd Street Suite 345

On May 6, 1912, a committee of 100, chaired by Dr. Frederick E. Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church and a former YMCA secretary, approved a report which recommended the formation of an interdenominational organization to foster church cooperation and outreach separate from the Ministerial Association at Robert's Park United Methodist Church. The Church Federation of Indianapolis was one of the first half dozen church federations in the United States. Its purpose was to keep the city's white Protestant clergy aware of the intellectual and social issues of the day and focus attention on moral and religious issues affecting the growing city of Indianapolis. In 1954, The Church Federation of Indianapolis changed its name to The Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis, which recognized the expanding city boundaries of churches and community life. Over the next 100 years, the Church Federation expanded its membership to include religiously, racially and ethnically diverse groups.