

The Salvation Army USA Western Territory

GUIDELINES FOR WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



AIM

To celebrate the uniqueness of women; to lead women to Christ; to inspire a faith that is bold and intentional, and to develop women of Godly character.

MISSION STATEMENT

2 Peter 3:18 "To grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Celebrate diversity. Inspire faith. Equip generations.

EXPECTATION

Women's Ministries groups includes any type of ministry by women, for women and their families. 44 total women's ministries group meetings per program year is our Territorial standard.

Women's Ministries Groups provide the opportunity to have specific ministry focus based on the current needs of women in the corps and the community. There is flexibility in program content, schedule, duration of program, and leadership. Every WM meeting should have a spiritual aspect to it. The ultimate goal is to win women for Christ and encourage spiritual growth.

ADMINISTRATION

Administration of Women's Ministries comes under the following leadership:

1. International
 - a) World President/World Secretary for Women's Ministries
 - b) Zonal Secretary for Women's Ministries (Africa, Americas and Caribbean, Europe, South Asia, South Pacific and East Asia)

2. National

National President/National Secretary, Women's Ministries

3. Territorial

Territorial President/Territorial Secretary, Women's Ministries/Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

4. Divisional

a) Divisional Director of Women's Ministries/ Divisional Women's Ministries Secretary

b) Corps Officer – Among other officer-related duties, the corps officer takes responsibility for Women's Ministries. Duties may be delegated to assistant officers as needed, but ultimately the Corps Officer is responsible.

c) Corps Women's Ministries Leader is a Christian woman who may be one of the leaders of the Women's Ministries groups in the corps. She is appointed for a limited period (one or two years) as the coordinator of these groups with the understanding that she can be re-appointed if this is desired. Although this position is optional, it is greatly encouraged.

NAME

The local corps may choose a name for the program that will identify it to the local congregation and community.

PROGRAMMING

The sky is the limit! It's up to you and the women of your corps to decide what inspires and meets the needs of women in your community. Need help? Contact your Divisional Women's Ministries Secretary for inspiration and support.

Women's Ministries Group Ideas

- Adult Literacy
- Baby Song/Parents & Toddlers
- Bible Study
- Cooking/Baking Classes
- Crafts
- Coffee Mornings
- Discipleship
- Drama
- Evening Fellowship/Outings
- Family Life
- Group Exercise/Weight Loss
- Home League (Membership)
- Health/Nutrition
- Hobbies
- Home Management/Budgeting
- Leadership Training/Development
- Life Skills (Parents, Self-Defense)
- Literacy/Language Classes
- Moral Issues Action Groups
- Prayer Fellowship/Prayer Partners for ARC Women
- Redwood Groups
- Social Activity Groups (theatre, dining out, shopping, etc.)
- Support Groups
- Vocational Training

PLANNING

A planning committee should meet on a regular basis to plan and coordinate program activities. The purpose of the planning is to inspire the women and develop program for each women's ministries group. The planning meeting should include the corps officer as well as representatives from the various Women's Ministries groups. All commissioned/warranted leaders should be included.

Some areas of discussion should be program, finance, visitation and publicity. Development and evaluation of the ongoing program should be based on the objectives and guidelines for Women's Ministries.

LEADERSHIP

A leader or, where feasible, a leadership committee should be developed for each Women's Ministries Group. A job description should be written for each leadership position. The Corps Women's Ministries Secretary must be a Salvationist. However, the group leader(s) may be a uniformed Salvationist, a non-uniformed Salvationist or a Christian laywoman.

It is not always possible to fill all responsibilities with local officers/leaders. Ultimately the Corps Officer is responsible for Women's Ministries programming. Not having leaders is not an excuse to not have Women's Ministries.

FINANCE

The Corps officer and leaders of groups are together responsible to ensure that accounting for group finances is carried out strictly in accordance with Salvation Army policy.

Every Women's Ministries Group is expected to participate in the annual Territorial and Divisional projects.

REPORTING

Women's Ministries reports include quarterly narrative information and photos and monthly statistics to DHQ.

1. The quarterly narrative describes Women's Ministries group highlights. This will be done through a unified Divisional Quarterly Narrative Report form.
2. Monthly statistics includes your corps management update.
 - a) Statistic lines include Women's Ministries – Home League, Women's Ministries – Corps Special Events and Women's Ministries Group/ Participants.
 - b) The following must be recorded for each of these categories: Meetings, Attendance, Seekers, Volunteers and Hours, Families Linked, Adherents and Soldiers Enrolled.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES SUNDAY

It is encouraged that every corps feature a Women's Ministries Sunday within a program year (October-September). The purpose of the day is to inspire and celebrate the women in your women's ministries groups.

RESOURCES

THQ Women's Ministries website: <http://usw-womensministries.org>

Women's Ministries Annual Resource Book (Online): <https://wmresources.org/>

Program Toolkit available via USA West: <https://www.programtoolkit.org>

Women's Ministry Resource Share Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/Salvation-Army-Womens-Ministries-Western-Territory-105695599495273/>

Trade resource items (mugs, WM membership cards, pins, Home League flags, etc.): <https://www.tradewest.com/>

Inspire Logo in other languages is available through THQ. Corps Officers contact the DWMS.