PWOC BOARD POSITION RESOURCES
PRESIDENT: Leading

LEADING: OTHERS ARE CALLED

God will call others to join you in service of the ministry of PWOC through either the Executive Board or Ministry Team Leaders. See the Women's Ministry Manual Local section for a list of suggested board positions and their descriptions.

The appointing of board members (AKA "Ministry Team Leaders") is ultimately the responsibility of the President. However, it is advisable to seek the agreement of the other women who are serving in the executive (selected) positions. Seek the Lord together in prayer, asking Him to guide you in filling the Ministry Team Leader positions.

EQUIPPING AND ENCOURAGING THOSE WHO SERVE

As you ask women to serve, keep in mind their various giftings and provide them with a clear understanding of the position in which you are asking them to serve. Share with them the job description from the Women's Ministry Manual as they prayerfully consider taking the position. Let them know if there are any modifications based on your local PWOC constitution or Standard Operating Procedures. Be willing to accept the answer "no," trusting that God will provide for His PWOC ministry.

As women come forward to fill various positions, be willing to invest your time in them. Encourage them in their personal relationship with the Lord. Help them to see their value in the Body of Christ within PWOC. Allow them to use and develop their unique gifts and to share as an integral part of the workings of the ministry of PWOC. Train and equip them to work together as a board. Be sure that each board member understands her own role and her area of responsibility as it fits into the overall ministry team.

God will use you to give these women courage to be all that He has called them to be. As Beth Moore says in To Live Is Christ, "We all need encouragement -- a courage transplant from another believer -- so that we can continue to pursue the abundant life of the Lord Jesus." Choose to be that encourager.

SOME WAYS TO ENCOURAGE

- Remember to speak the five most encouraging words in an organization: "It will make a difference." (John Maxwell)
- Pray for them. Pray for their personal spiritual growth, pray for their husbands and children, and pray for their service to PWOC.
- Send personal notes with encouraging messages. Occasionally, small, inexpensive gifts may be appropriate.
- Spend time with them getting to know the ideas and plans God has given them for their particular job within PWOC. Ask yourself, "How can I help them accomplish their goals?"
- Encourage them to get help whenever possible through committees.
- Love them the way Jesus does, "…always protecting, always trusting, always hoping, and always persevering." 1 Corinthians 13:7

PWOC BOARD POSITION RESOURCES
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CONFLICT AND FORGIVENESS

As the year goes by, conflict is inevitable. Basically, conflict is a clash between two wills and usually results from a difference of opinion or purpose. The conflicts can be between board members or might involve members of the body. In any case, conflicts will eventually be sensed by the body and affect the ministry. The challenge is to handle effectively the conflict, looking at it as an opportunity for individual spiritual growth and not just as a major irritation. The Bible provides a method for resolving conflict, and we as sisters in Christ must choose to care enough about each other and the ministry of Christ to come to resolution in the face of disagreements. See Matthew 18:15-17 and the Matthew 18 Code under the President's resources in the Women's Ministry Manual.

Conflicts should be resolved by those involved and should never be topics of gossip. As President, you may need to mediate between the two with differing opinions, or you yourself might need to confront someone over an issue. This is not easy to do but is sometimes necessary. At times it might be necessary to seek the counsel of your PWOC Chaplain. Don't ignore the problem; seek solutions. As you speak to individuals regarding sensitive issues, may the time be bathed in prayer. May your own heart have the attitude of personal repentance. May your words be spoken in love. Remember the words of the Apostle Paul to the Colossians:

> *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:12-14*

ENCOURAGING GROWTH

"Where two or more are gathered in my name . . ."

Remember, PWOCs come in all shapes and sizes, and there is not a set picture of what a PWOC must look like. Our goal is to glorify the Lord and to join Him in the work of His kingdom. However, there are some things you can do as a leader to help bring growth to your PWOC.

- Pray by yourself and with others that God would bring women to your PWOC -- women who are willing workers for Christ.
- Pray that God would bring women who need to know Christ as Savior and Lord.
- Be willing to do less: Sometimes it is not necessary to do quite so many activities. Start with an emphasis on Bible study and prayer and build from there. Pray for guidance as you grow and continue to reevaluate the ministry. God will direct.
- Hand out your monthly newsletter at chapel services and post it in the women's restrooms at the chapel. Make announcements through your post/base newspaper (with PWOC Chaplain approval). These are great ways to get publicity.
- Publicize around installation neighborhoods and through wives' coffee groups or family support groups.
- Ask your Chaplain to allow the PWOC to lead the worship service on PWOC Sunday.

PWOC BOARD POSITION RESOURCES
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From John Maxwell's Developing the Leader Within You:

- Believe in them --- that will encourage risk.
- Show them --- that will build respect.
- Love them --- that will strengthen relationships.
- Know them --- that will personalize development.
- Teach them --- that will enhance growth.
- Trust them --- that will develop loyalty.
- Expand them --- that will provide challenges.
- Lift them --- that will insure results.

Remember, working for Christ is a great privilege – and it can be fun! Do all you do with an attitude of joy -- lifting up the name of Christ -- and He will draw women to Himself.

PASSING IT ON

As you lead PWOC, keep in mind that others coming after you may not know what you know. It is vital that you keep detailed records concerning your board's activities within PWOC and that you highly encourage other board members to do the same. After-action reports are a good way to record details that may later be forgotten. Do not make the next board reinvent the wheel! Give them the blessing of this year's written history. You might consider providing each board member with their own notebook for organizing this information.

Things for the Out-going Board to give to the In-coming Board:

- Budget
- Minutes from board meetings
- The Women's Ministry Manual
- A copy of your local PWOC's constitution or by-laws (if applicable)
- Policy letters (Any letters/publications that outline policies and procedures that may have been established in the PWOC regarding how business should be conducted)
- Ministry Team reports and/or after action reports
- Key letters that will help the new officers get a feel for what has gone on
- Forms (quarterly reports to the Regional board, after-action reports, etc.)
- Roster of local PWOC members
- Suggestions on how they can improve the local PWOC ministry
- Your blessing