POSITION TRAINING

PWOC LDP

Leadership Development Program

Praise & Worship

Welcome Leader,

Working on a PWOC Board can be such a delight!

This training is designed to set the correct trajectory for your position to set you up for success. Take the time to think through each element. Consider how the information applies to you and to your military installation. Ask questions! Track down answers. Be proactive.

As you are making plans for the year, be sure to include self-care. Put God and your health first—take care of yourself and your family! Your service in PWOC should be a blessing to your other areas of responsibility—if it is not, step back and make adjustments. Course corrections will be needed throughout the year.

May God bless you and direct your steps,

Your PWOC Sisters in Christ

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Summer Homework

READ **the PWOC Ministry Manual:** This will give you a great overview of the ministry of PWOC along with helpful tools and information.

CHECK OUT **theHubPWOC.net** for great resources and specifics for your position.

ASSEMBLE **a support team:** Ask 1-2 women to cover you in prayer throughout the year. It is helpful to ask non-local women so they can be objective in giving advice as needed.

COMPLETE **task items such as:** 1) Registering in a volunteer hours system, 2) Completing a Background Check for working with children, or 3) Taking a Food Handler's Course.

WATCH **the Personality Module** in this Leadership Development Program, unless your Board plans to do this training together.

A note about your Board Position Notebook:

In an ideal PWOC world, you were handed a super helpful position notebook (sometimes called a “continuity binder”) filled with everything you need to know, specific to your Board position, at your local installation. If you are one of the lucky ones, make your notebook even better by including all you learn this year. Add your own notes and resources to those of your predecessor.

If you do not have a position notebook, begin creating what you wish you would have received. Collect contact information for your key people. Record local protocol. Create event AARs. Write great Board Reports. Give the advice you wish you would have had. At the end of your term, you will have a valuable resource to hand over to your successor.

Position notebooks can be hardcopy, digital, or a hybrid. For more information and a list of items to consider including, see the section: **Keeping a Position Notebook** in Chapter 1 of the PWOC Ministry Manual.

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Praise & Worship

The Praise & Worship position has the distinct honor of leading the PWOC body in corporate worship that exalts God and helps women in the PWOC body connect meaningfully with Him. Music speaks a language that mere words cannot. Worship has a way of opening closed doors—penetrating the heart and preparing women to receive what God has for them. Of course, the priority is to simply to worship Him, but He so graciously meets us in our worship and ministers His love and healing to our souls. Your ministry is powerful. God bless you as you lead the body to His great heart!

The following slides will help you "unpack" your position. The first line item on each slide comes directly from your position description in the PWOC Ministry Manual, followed by suggestions, questions, and comments to help you see how each element may play out at your installation. Text that appears in gold refers to resources in the PWOC Ministry Manual (PWOC MM) or the PWOC Leadership Development Program (PWOC LDP).

Praise & Worship

1. **Assembles a Worship Team to accomplish her position responsibilities—involving and developing women from the PWOC body who have a heart for worship.**
   - The Worship Team is typically one of the largest position ministry teams in PWOC. You will need instrumentalists, vocalists, people to create and run slides, and those who are knowledgeable or can learn the A/V equipment.
   - Focus on the heart of worship more than the product of worship. It is far more important to model true worship than it is to master your sound. Excellence is important, but resist the urge to let it be your primary focus.
   - Take the time to invest in your team spiritually. Let them see your relationship with God. Model a heart of worship that goes beyond music.

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2. Prayerfully selects music, and perhaps related Scriptures, for weekly PWOC meetings.

- Find out what your time allotment is for worship so that you can determine how many songs you will lead. Time your worship set to make sure you stay within your given timeframe.
- Pay attention to songs that are often "playing" in your mind. What is God working in your own heart? How can you share that with your team and the PWOC body?
- Does your PWOC have an annual vision/theme? Is there a "theme song" that could go with it? Talk to your President and Board about using it regularly. Are there other songs that are also related to the theme?
- Occasionally reading Scripture—or having one of your Worship Team members read Scripture—can be a powerful addition but avoid reading or talking between every song.

Praise & Worship

3. Uses a variety of music styles that represent the various Protestant Chapel services and denominational backgrounds of women in the body (i.e., Gospel, traditional, contemporary).

- It might be beneficial for you to visit the various Chapel services at least once. What do they sing? What style is it? What could you incorporate at PWOC? If you are weak in a particular style, rely on members of your team to take the lead.
- You will encounter people who know "the right way to worship" whether that means hymns only, no drums, hands raised, or no songs by _____ band/group. Gently press against this mindset. Provide a variety of styles, but keep the focus on the worship, not the style. Help the PWOC body broaden their perspective.
- As a general guideline, try to choose a majority of songs that use the names of God, or the pronoun "You" (rather than "I" or "me") to encourage the PWOC body to focus their worship on their Savior.

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4. Considers using a variety of ways to express worship (e.g., dance, sign language, drama).

- Just as you enlist a variety of styles of worship songs, also consider using a variety of styles of worship that go beyond vocalization.

- Sign language can be deeply moving and can inspire worship in those who observe an individual signing/worshipping. There may even be the time and place to teach the PWOC body how to sign a song.
- Likewise, dance or drama can move the heart to worship in ways that are different than singing. See what skills and abilities your teammates bring to the table. Give them some creative license, so long as their hearts are set on worship and not performance.

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5. Gives opportunities for Worship Team members to lead—perhaps leading a single song—to grow in their own worship leading abilities.

- Part of your job as the Praise & Worship leader is to help your Worship Team members grow in their ability to lead. Some of the women may think they are incapable of leading. Coax out the ability you see; coax out their heart of worship. Help them keep their focus on worshipping over performing.

- As you allow others to lead, be mindful of keeping a sense of cohesion to the worship set—perhaps filling in instrumentally between songs so there are no abrupt starts and stops as you shift the lead from a team member back to yourself.

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6. Coordinates with the President and the PWOC Chaplain Sponsor to ensure copyright compliance for music and lyrics (slides) by following CCLI license protocol.

- Find out who is in charge of renewing the CCLI license for your Chapel or Chapel Community to make sure it is up to date.

- Find out what you are allowed or not allowed to do based on your license. Do you need to include your CCLI license number on lyric slides or hard copies of music?

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7. Makes sure slides are carefully previewed for spelling and grammatical errors.

- Typos on lyric slides can be a distraction that interrupts worship for some people. Take the time to proof your slides, then proof them again.

- Who is the English major on your team? Have them review the slides for any misspellings.

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8. Coordinates with Chapel staff for use of A/V equipment. If locally appropriate, ensures there are Worship Team members trained in how to use A/V equipment.

- A/V equipment is very expensive. It is imperative that you use the sound system, computers, and all other A/V property correctly. Can you request to be trained? Who from your team is willing to learn the system?

- You may need to depend on a service member or other Chapel staff to run the system for you—if so, be understanding and gracious as they may be personally responsible for that equipment.
- Your team will likely end up helping with A/V for all aspects of the PWOC meeting since they will have the needed expertise.

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9. Coordinates with the 2VP Programs to provide worship for Program Days, if requested.

- Check in with your 2VP to see what her plans are for the next Program. Be flexible; she may have an alternate idea for worship or a completely different format that does not include worship. Refuse to take offense. Support her plans. If you are not leading worship on Program Day, you will get to relax and enjoy!

- What is the theme of the Program? Does your 2VP want songs that center around the theme?
- How much time will you have? Where does worship fall in the schedule?
- Is there another element your 2VP would like to include? Dance? Sign language? Drama? What skills can your team offer?

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10. Coordinates with Retreats & Events to provide worship for other events, if requested.

- Watch the PWOC Calendar for upcoming events that may include worship. Check with the event leader to see how your team can support her.
- Just as with Programs, be flexible and refuse offense if the Retreats & Events position has other plans for worship. Allow yourself to enjoy worshipping freely at the event, since you get to be a participant and do not have to be mindful of leading while worshipping. It's possible that other elements of your team, such as A/V, might be needed for the event.

Some final thoughts...

Fix your eyes on Jesus. Lead your women to Him.
He is their Savior, their Healer, the One
who can satisfy their souls.
Set the right environment for your people to encounter Him.
As you lead the PWOC body in worship,
may the Lord restore your own soul.
Blessings on you, Sister.

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