

District Structure for a Special Ministries Task Force with Liaisons

District Guidelines:

- 1. Chairman of the Task Force whose duties may include:
 - a. Report to (specify officer for the individual district).
 - b. Coordinate the work of the liaisons.
 - c. Keep accurate files and records of the work done by the task force and the individual liaisons.
 - d. Encourage the team of liaisons by uplifting them in prayer, encouraging them in their work, and providing direction for their endeavors.
- 2. Members of the Task Force may include:
 - a. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Liaison
 - b. Blind and Visually Challenged Liaison
 - c. Intellectually and Developmentally Challenged Liaison

District Position Descriptions:

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Liaison

The purpose of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Liaison is to welcome deaf and hard of hearing sisters into loving fellowship, active participation, and committed involvement with other Lutheran Women in Mission.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Liaison may:

- 1. Actively promote participation of deaf and hard of hearing women in the LWML by working with the district leadership to:
 - a. Develop connections with the various deaf and hard of hearing communities in the district.
 - b. Provide for interpreter service at district events.
 - c. Maintain an up-to-date list of all deaf and hard of hearing LCMS congregations in the district.
 - d. Assist district members by connecting them to resources that may be used in local group meetings, zone rallies, retreats, workshops, training events, and district conventions.
- Promote the Special Ministries Task Force webpage on *lwml.org* that provides links to resources which will assist hearing Lutheran Women in Mission to communicate and work together with the deaf and hard of hearing women in the district.
- 3. Network with LCMS Deaf Ministry organizations to learn and share information on deaf outreach in the district.

Blind and Visually Challenged Liaison

The purpose of the Blind and Visually Challenged Liaison is to be a caring and loving cheerleader for women who are blind and visually challenged.

The Blind and Visually Challenged Liaison may:

- Actively seek inclusion of all LWML women who may be blind and visually challenged by encouraging the district to engage and invite attendance at district events.
- 2. Promote the resources on the Special Ministries Task Force webpage at *lwml.org* that provides multiple links to other resources to assist Lutheran Women in Mission. The links will assist the blind and visually challenged and sighted women to work together.
- 3. Share information pertinent to the blind and visually challenged.
- 4. Encourage LWML leaders to provide accommodations at district, zone, and local events to aid blind and visually challenged sisters to fully participate in the event.

Intellectually and Developmentally Challenged Liaison

The purpose of the Intellectually and Developmentally Challenged Liaison is to actively promote the participation of intellectually and developmentally challenged women in the District.

The Intellectually and Developmentally Challenged Liaison may:

- 1. Work to engage and invite attendance of women with intellectual and developmental challenges at district events.
- 2. Assist the district by connecting them to resources from the Special Ministries Task Force found on the LWML website at *lwml.org* that may be used to welcome women with these challenges at local group meetings, zone rallies, retreats, workshops, training events, and district conventions.
- 3. Network with LCMS organizations to learn and share information on working with people who have intellectual and developmental challenges.
- 4. Encourage participation of women with intellectual and developmental challenges by:
 - a. Creating direct outreach to parents of women with intellectual and developmental challenges.
 - b. Developing connections with the various communities in the district for people with intellectual and developmental challenges.
 - c. Seeking funding to provide caregivers and other necessary assistance for attendance at events.
- 5. Invite women with intellectual and developmental challenges to share their faith at LWML events.

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