

How to Organise My Church for Social Service and Support



Journey of Hope Series #2 of 6

A SUPPORT GROUP IS -

a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other so that they may solve common problems and help others in the community both inside and outside the church (such as elderly people, people with debilitating chronic diseases, people who have cancer, HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancies, job loss, any other social service issues in the community).

(Part 1)

*We must change
our attitude...*



STEP 1

Select a group of committed lay-members and organise sessions of prayer and study. Group made up of 6 - 12 people.



STEP 2

Present current social support and service needs in your church and local community. (Refer to AAIM training programme.)



*...inside and outside
the church...*



*...toward the infected
and affected..*



STEP 3

Help to create understanding of the impact of social problems including HIV/AIDS affecting your community, church, its members, and in particular the youth.

STEP 4

Allow and promote interaction and co-operation between church members. Hold enrichment and training seminars to develop the members to assist others in the community. Each trainee to train 10 others.

...toward each other!




THERE IS HOPE
FOR THOSE
LIVING
WITH HIV

REMEMBER - emphasize JESUS' method to approach the sick, as a MODEL for ACTION.

AAIM
Adventist AIDS International Ministry
www.aidsministry.com

This material is designed to facilitate the implementation of the AAIM Training Programme to establish Church Based Support Groups. It serves as a summary of the content of Section 7 - "The Action Plan" in the AAIM Training Manual.

A Service to the Community from the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Preparation for Support Groups Work

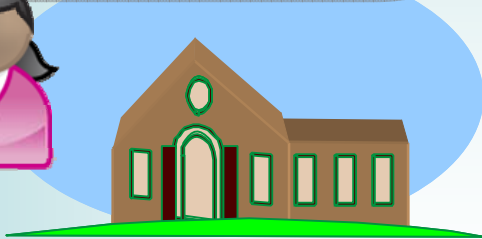
(Part 2)

KNOW
YOUR
STATUS

STEP 2

Establish Strategies

- select a group of people according to their participation, choices and gifts
- determine strategy for group activities



STEP 1

Assessment of Capacity

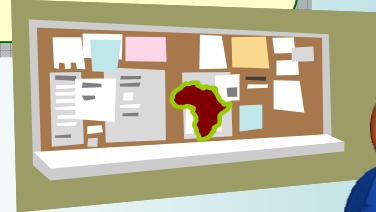
- list the human resources available to organise the group
- list material resources



STEP 3

Assess Church/Community Needs

- Name of community and location
- Characteristics
- Demographics (age, gender, etc)
- PLWHA



STEP 4

Mapping/Zoning Area

- For initial outreach by groups
- To indicate where the schools, public offices and other places of interest are



STEP 5

Identify Referral Institutions

- List the places/institutions of interest in the local community, i.e. Hospitals, VCTs, counselling centres, etc



STEP 6

Execution of Strategy and Follow-up

- Service and support of those in need
- Document actions, statistics, pictures, stories
- Monthly and quarterly reports



STEP 7

Public Relations

- Promotions, publications, church visibility, fundraising, media liaison, etc

REMEMBER – as Christians we have a commitment before God and a social responsibility towards our communities