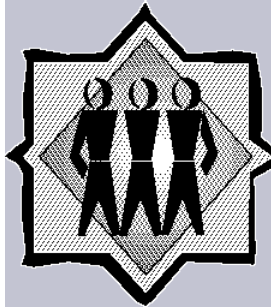


Single Adult Ministries

Handbook for Leaders



Church of the Nazarene



Single Adult Ministries

Handbook for Leaders



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www.nazarene.org/ssm/adult/singles

From the Director

You probably chose to read this Single Adult Ministries Handbook since you are involved in some aspect of Single Adult Ministries (SAM). This will be a challenging and rewarding experience as well as an exhausting and time consuming ministry. However, the benefits will far outweigh the challenges. SAM plays a vital role in helping churches meet the needs and expectations of single adults as they live the Christian single adult lifestyle and adjust to new roles following death or divorce. Single Adult Ministries is one of many entry points into local churches.

Any handbook that attempts to cover the unique nature of churches soon realizes the impossibility of that task. Therefore, we have attempted to provide general principles and concepts. The reader and ministry leaders must then tailor them to fit individual churches. Most ministries and programs need some adjustments as they are implemented from one church to another.

This Handbook contains a wealth of information. You are encouraged to skim through it before reading specific sections. You may want to prioritize your reading to avoid feeling inundated with information. If you are beginning Single Adult Ministries, remember you cannot start everything at once. Start with small and simple programs and ministries. This does not mean, however, they are insignificant. As your support and leadership base grows, expand as needs and interests dictate.

The Handbook was also designed to be user-friendly. Unless otherwise noted, all materials are reproducible for use in your ministry and leadership training.

Population statistics regarding single adults continue to change. Remember that the number of single adults is between forty and fifty percent of the adult population in the United States and over fifty percent in Canada. One church growth researcher states that over fifty percent of the unchurched population are single adults. All churches need to be aware of the single adult population in their communities and develop strategies to welcome single adults.



Contents

Local Director	1
Single Adult Ministries Philosophy	
Single Adult Ministries Purpose	
Single Adult Ministries Mission	
Single Adult Ministries Core Values	
Single Adult Ministries Logo	
What Is Single Adult Ministries?	
District Single Adult Ministries Director Job Description	
Making Single Adult Ministries Work on your District	
Single Adult Ministries District Council	
Can Every Church on My District Have Single Adult Ministries?	
Common Myths about Single Adults	
Realities about Single Adult Ministries	
Ministry to Single-parent Families	
How to Approach a Potential Volunteer	
Analysis of Your District	
Leadership Team Brainstorming Session	
Brainstorming Sessions Results	
Quality Program Checklist	
District Director	23
Single Adult Ministries Philosophy	
Single Adult Ministries Purpose	
Single Adult Ministries Mission	
Single Adult Ministries Core Values	
Single Adult Ministries Logo	
Local Director of Single Adult Ministries Job Description	
What Is Single Adult Ministries?	
Insights into Single Adult Ministries	
How to Begin Single Adult Ministries in Your Congregation	
A Single Adult Ministries Council	
Single Adult Ministries Treasurer	
How to Approach a Potential Volunteer	
We Want to Know You Better	
Does Our Church Need a Single Adult Ministry?	
Leadership Team Brainstorming Session	
Brainstorming Session Results	
Quality Program Checklist	

Single Adult Ministries Handbook for Leaders

Entry Event Worksheet	
All About Single Adult Ministries	
ABC's of Single Adult Ministries41
Leadership Skills53
Leadership Is a Process	
Characteristics of a Leader	
Foundations of Leadership	
Key Functions of a Leader	
Leadership Gifts	
Working with Volunteers	
How to Approach a Potential Volunteer	
Delegating Responsibilities	
Resolving Conflicts	
Mentoring69
What Is Role Modeling?	
What Is Mentoring?	
Need for Mentors	
Characteristics of a Mentor	
Beginning a Mentoring Relationship	
Identifying a Mentor or Mentoree	
Implications of Single Adult Ministries	
Helpful Insights81
Holidays and Single Adults	
A Historical View of Singleness	
Image, Image, Image	
Keys to an Effective Single Adult Ministry	
Single Parents—A Vital Part of the Church	
10 Things Any Church Can Do to Become Single Adult Friendly	
