

Leadership Training

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Training plans will now be shared with all through KDCCW e-mails, website notes and opportunities to link in to NCCW monthly call sessions. Please share information from e-mails and the website with members not linked with computers so all will be informed and included.

NCCW Monthly Leadership Conference Call Sessions

The next NCCW call session is scheduled for April 24th and will cover the first chapter of the NCCW Resource Manual. Join other women from all parts of our nation to listen, to ask questions and give responses in discussions each month. Watch for upcoming NCCW announcements on how to register for each session. All participants must register monthly. Sessions last thirty minutes and start at 7 p.m. Eastern time. Use your long-distance call minutes or phone plan to connect with the call. The sessions have no cost.

KDCCW Leadership Notes

Now is the perfect time of year to look ahead and plan forward to programs and council activities throughout the summer and into the fall. Here are a few ideas to make planning forward interactive and beneficial for all.

1. How long has it been since you might have poled members on interests, review of current council programs, activities and goals for the future? Now is a great time to develop a simple form for people to easily complete and use in noting comments. List current full member or small group (guild) meeting times, time of day and frequency of meetings, focus of activities, need for transportation, best way to communicate (update all contact info), etc. Ask members if day or evening, week day or weekend, monthly or weekly would best work for them.

List a variety of interest areas, speaker subjects and possible ideas for people to check as those of most interest. Ask too for suggestions of speakers, programs, activities and special efforts. Add a place for women to share great ideas from experiences from other places lived, organizations, observations and from current happenings in the world.

Think outside the box in finding compatible solutions to meet needs. One group meets alternately day and nights. Another meets in day during winter months and evenings in other months. Consider a member child watch area adjacent to Moms and Tots meetings.

Evaluate and tabulate answers to present at the last meeting of the year in a *You Said... We Heard* report. End by attending Mass together or honor the Blessed Mother Mary with a May Crowning ceremony.

2. Communication is the needed link to keeping women informed, welcomed and in-tune with council messages. Development of communication links is an on-going must for success-oriented councils. Develop a bulletin board or parish newsletter article highlighting activities from throughout the year. Plan special ways to express thanks for member participation and service throughout the year. Add and edit contact information for women to continually connect with CCW. Set up a phone call greeting group for those making membership inquiries. Establish an e-mail tree for timely and easy communications. Partner e-mail receivers with a non-computer using member to include all and defray frustrations and missed-communications. Welcome and gratitude are key links to success in all CCW endeavors.
3. Read and use the NCCW Resource Manual for guidelines to support growing and vibrant councils. Each chapter has a different theme and might be used for group discussions (certainly leadership discussions) and planning forward. NCCW monthly phone calls will also be featuring one chapter at a time.
4. Over the summer plan a calendar of activities, programs and speakers for the next year. Set a date and plan some special publicity for a special kick-off gathering to invite and welcome all women to Council. Organize a special Council Activities Fair to feature activities and to provide welcoming member sign up information.
5. Summer travels can serve as great resources for new programs, ideas and leadership styles to bring back and share with your council. Pick up parish bulletins and newsletters as you travel. Observe displays in churches and while traveling for new ways to feature your own activities. Note bulletin announcements for CCW groups in parishes you visit and feel the bond of council unity with these women. Plan to have a special table at your first meeting for women to bring the bulletins, ideas, photos and more to share with all.

Have a great spring and summer. God bless all.