

Hands of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center

Making Life Disciples Program

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in the Making Life Disciples. The desire of Hands of Hope is to connect our clients with the body of Christ in a life-on-life discipleship opportunity. Titus 2 talks about the older women teaching the younger women and the older men encouraging the younger men (see Titus 2:2-6). We invite you to explore the possibility of partnering with Hands of Hope as we seek to enable you to embark on a journey to disciple young women and men learning to raise their children in Rutherford County.

All throughout the Bible we see examples of the great value that God places on relationships, specifically within the body of Christ. This passage is no different: a direct challenge is issued to women to share life experiences, wisdom, and godly direction with younger women, so that one generation is directly impacting and pouring into the next. Along with younger women, younger men need encouraging to be self-controlled in everything. Making Life Disciples will partner women with women, men with men, and couples with couples to help young families grow to become Christ centered.

At Hands of Hope we meet young women and men every day who are searching for help physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Many are familiar with God and the concepts of Christianity, but few have received biblical instruction or discipleship on what it means to be a follower of Christ. Many of these young people acknowledge what the Bible says about God, but struggle with the lifestyle changes that the Bible says are characteristic of a believer.

Our desire is for our clients to be given the opportunity to connect with the body of Christ if they desire. Our purpose for providing this challenge is three-fold:

1. To connect clients with a local church
2. To provide clients with biblical direction and a long-term healthy support network
3. To empower clients and Christians to fulfill the Great Commission

In the pages that follow, you will see a simple model for establishing these relationships. We have tried to keep the concepts of this program as simple as possible, because we want you as our partner to have the freedom to pursue these relationships in the ways that work best for you. Our desire is merely to enable you with the contacts and ideas needed in order to begin discipleship.

We are so excited to partner with you as we seek to build bridges to young families in our community. We cannot wait to see the work that God will accomplish through you!

In Christ,

Hands of Hope Staff

Hands of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center

Making Life Disciples Program Outline

This program is a partnership between Hands of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center and local churches that connects clients with the church in order to build a long-term healthy support network.

Mission: The purpose of connecting clients with mentors is three-fold:

1. To connect clients with a local church
2. To provide clients with biblical direction and a long-term healthy support network
3. To empower clients and Christians to fulfill the Great Commission

The purpose of this opportunity is not to create a "checklist" for mentors to go through with each client, but rather to provide opportunities for believers in the church who sincerely want to invest in and build relationships.

Who are the Participants? This opportunity is available to any of our clients who express an interest in connecting with individuals within a local church and developing a long-term healthy support network. Participants vary. Clients may be pregnant, pregnant with children, single, married, Christian, or non-religious.

Who are the Makers? Women, men, or couples at local churches who commit to pursuing discipleship relationships with the clients to whom they are connected.

Who are the Ambassadors? The contact person between a participating church's disciple makers and Hands of Hope. The Ambassador is responsible for recruiting disciple makers, connecting disciple makers with clients, and following up on client connections.

Hands of Hope's Commitment and Responsibility:

- To share the program opportunity with clients.
- To obtain the client's permission to pass along their contact information to a designated church ambassador.
- To give the client's contact information to the appropriate church ambassador.
- To follow up with the church ambassadors about clients that have been referred to them.
- To offer help and support (advice, financially, etc.) to all disciple makers in a discipleship relationship, as needed

The Church's Commitment and Responsibility:

1. To have one ambassador who serves as the contact person between Hands of Hope and participating disciple makers.

2. To allow the church ambassador to recruit women and men within the church who would like to be disciple makers. This person also keeps a list of all disciple makers and their contact information
3. To receive client information from Hands of Hope and distribute it to mentors.
4. To initiate contact with clients and begin a relationship (the type of relationship can vary).
5. To seek opportunities to continue meeting with the client (take to lunch, meet for coffee, run errands together, invite over for dinner, etc.)
6. To host a baby shower for clients who are pregnant. *

**If a church is unable to provide this, the ambassador should tell Hands of Hope so arrangements can be made.*

Accountability: The church ambassador will be responsible for ensuring that disciple makers are pursuing a relationship with the clients they are paired with. For example, the ambassador may contact disciple makers every two weeks to ask how things are going with the relationship. It is up to the ambassador to determine how often this follow-up would take place.

Duration: There is no limit on the amount of time that a disciple maker can invest in a client. Ideally, these connections would develop into long-term relationships. However, it is entirely possible that clients will "lose interest" or choose not to respond to contact attempts from disciple makers. We ask that disciple makers use discretion when determining whether to continue pursuing the client if the client is not responsive.

Examples and Ideas for Disciple Makers: Below are suggestions for ways to connect and build relationships. This can be done in a multitude of ways. Ministry happens best in the context of relationships, so look for ways to live life together in everyday tasks.

1. Sit together at church/during small group
2. Invite out to lunch after church or during the week
3. Meet for coffee
4. Offer to run errands together
5. Arrange playdates together
6. Arrange a baby shower within small group
7. Invite over for dinner
8. Read through a book of the Bible together, do Bible study, devotional, etc.

Discipleship Resources: The goal for disciple makers is that the relationships built with clients would go beyond just "hanging out" and extend to a focus on spiritual growth and biblical discipleship. We encourage disciple makers to make scripture a regular part of the discipleship relationship, as well as other resources you may have available to you through your church or through your own personal study. Some ideas for discipleship content are listed below. These are only suggestions, so feel free to use other resources that you know of as well.

The Search for Significance Workbook by Robert S McGee. This workbook builds self-worth on God's truth helping the study to discover their significance in Christ. It helps us look at Satan's lies and replaces them with God's truth. It can be used with both women and men.

Lies Women Believe - This book addresses 40 common lies Christian women believe and how to walk in freedom from those lies. Also comes as small group study.

Proverbs 31 Ministries - www.proverbs31.org. This resource provides daily devotionals, online Bible studies, and blogs specifically for women seeking to grow in their relationships with God.

Attitudes of the Heart - <http://calvarybaptistwindsor.com/?p=2068>. This downloadable Bible study is provided by Calvary Baptist Church in Windsor Ontario Canada. It has 14 lessons that look at God's transformation of the heart.

The Family Project from Focus on the Family. This is a video-based study on God's design for the family. It looks at the individuals of the family as the image of God and how each member makes up the family. Great to go through with couples

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Making Life Disciples Program

Church Ambassador Agreement

By signing this agreement, the church ambassador agrees to enter into a partnership with Hands of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center.

The ambassador agrees to:

- Complete Hands of Hope's volunteer application and confidentiality agreement.
- Be interviewed by a staff member at Hands of Hope
- Participate for a minimum of 1 year
- Find a replacement Ambassador if and when one is needed.
- Maintain a relationship with Hands of Hope for the purpose of following up on client contacts at least once a month
- Attend at least 1 informational training session at Hands of Hope over the course of the year for the purpose of connecting with other ambassadors and sharing successes with one another
- Share client information with only the disciple maker(s) who will be contacting the client(s)
- Prayerfully recruit and select disciple makers within his/her church who have a relationship with Christ and desire to pursue a discipleship relationship with clients from Hands of Hope.
- Hold disciple makers accountable for reaching out to clients by regularly checking in with disciple makers (we ask that all disciple makers make initial contact with clients within 2 weeks of receiving client contact information).
- Serve as a disciple maker him/herself in the event that there are no disciple makers signed up at that time.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

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Disciple Maker Agreement

By signing this agreement, the church disciple maker agrees to enter into a partnership with their Church Ambassador and Hands of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center.

The disciple maker agrees to:

- Be interviewed by the Church Ambassador or a staff member at Hands of Hope.
- Fill out Hands of Hope's volunteer application and confidentiality agreement.
- Participate for a minimum of 1 year.
- Maintain a relationship with the Church Ambassador for the purpose of giving updates on client contacts and client relationship status at least once a month.
- Attend at least 1 informational training session at Hands of Hope over the course of the year for the purpose of connecting with other disciple makers and sharing successes with one another.
- Share client information with only the Church Ambassador or Hands of Hope staff.
- Reach out to a mentee at least 3 times (through different methods, if possible) before considering mentee inactive.
- Pursue and maintain an appropriate relationship with all mentees, setting personal boundaries for the relationship.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

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Making Life Disciples Program
Disciple Maker Application

This questionnaire must be completed in order to participate in the Making Life Disciples program. By completing this form, you understand that this information will be passed along to Hands of Hope staff and your church Ambassador to give them a better understanding of your background and interest in this program.

Name (please print clearly): _____

Date: _____

1. Why are you interested in this disciple making opportunity?

2. Are there any other topics/issues that you are interested in exploring further or receiving guidance on? Check all that apply:

Parenting Relationships Christian Living Study of the Bible Abortion

Other:

3. Do you have a relationship with God? Yes No

4. If "Yes", what does it look like?

5. Do you wish for this relation to be different in any way? Please explain.

6. If your answer in 3 was "No", do you want to learn about having a relationship with God?

Please explain:

7. If you have had any previous experience with God, church, or religion, what has it been like?

8. What are your feelings on birth control and teenagers or adults who are single and sexually active?

9. How do you feel about a single woman parenting her child?

10. Are there any comments you want to add that might be beneficial for us to know about you when connecting you with a client?

Frequently Asked Questions

I am interested in being a Making Life Disciple Maker, but my church does not currently have an ambassador. Can I still get involved? Absolutely! If your church does not have an ambassador, we would have you serve as the ambassador until you are able to recruit someone else to serve in that role. See "Ambassador Agreement for the requirements of the ambassador and "Program Outline" for expectations of the church representative.

How many clients will I be asked to connect with at a time? Your church ambassador will contact you about connecting with a mentee. While there is no "cap" on the number of individuals that you can meet with at a time, we do ask that you prayerfully consider what kind of time commitment you are able to make in order to properly invest time and energy into each relationship. You will not be asked to meet with more than one mentee at a time. Discussions about meeting with more than one would be between you and your church ambassador.

What if I realize that I cannot make the time commitment that this program will require after I've already started? We ask that you prayerfully consider what kind of commitment you can make prior to becoming involved in the program. Our hope is that these mentee/mentor connections will blossom into long-term relationships. For that to happen, dedication on the part of the mentor is vital. We encourage you to count the cost prior to making any kind of commitment.

Can I serve as a disciple maker if I am already volunteering at Hands of Hope? Absolutely! What better way to get connected with clients than by continuing to invest in the relationships you have already started? We say, "Go for it!"

How soon will I be connected with a client after I sign up? This depends entirely on our clients. Each client will be presented with the opportunity, but their participation is completely voluntary. If you plan to serve as a disciple maker, we ask that you begin praying now that God would open up the hearts of our clients to this opportunity.

What are the requirements to be a disciple maker? All disciple makers must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Other minimum requirements are that disciple makers reach out to their mentees within two weeks of receiving their contact information. They must also commit to pouring time and energy into these relationships. Any other additional requirements will be determined by the church ambassador, who oversees, manages and "recruits" disciple makers. See the program packet for an outline of expectations of participants.

Will Hands of Hope provide training on how to be an ambassador and/or disciple maker? If you feel you need some extra guidance, we encourage you to reach out to your church ambassador or to another leader within your church. We will provide a quarterly meeting for the purpose of sharing stories, encouragement, insights into the program, and how to disciple well.

Email info@hh4life.org for more information or details about getting started!