

Hearts ON THE Go

www.HeartsatHome.org

FOR LEADERS



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A Quarterly Newsletter *Just For Leaders of Moms*

Winter 2012

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The start of the New Year finds ministry leaders with one eye on the next few months and one eye on the next ministry year.

With most ministry years running September through May, January finds most of us in the middle of this year's ministry opportunities.

Moms groups, Bible studies, and women's groups are all launched and enjoying the momentum of new studies and relationships.

However, the start of a new ministry year is just 9 months away, so it's time to start identifying new leaders, planning next year's events, and selecting new studies.

When planning for the next year, it's always helpful to identify major events that will affect moms in your ministry.

- * When are school holidays scheduled?
- * When are major school events scheduled like



homecoming, prom, or graduation?

* What other women's events are happening that you don't want to conflict with?

When I was leading a moms group, most of our childcare workers were college students, so I began to plan our meetings according to the college schedule, making sure our group didn't meet during spring break or finals week when the students were likely to be gone or have a different schedule.

Leadership requires us to keep one eye on what is and one eye on what's yet to come. May you and I grow in wisdom on how to do that well with every year we lead!

Joining you in the journey,

Jill

Mom to Anne, Evan, Erica, Kolya, & Austin
Nana to 20-month-old Rilyn

*Looking for a speaker for your next women's event?
Check out www.jillsavage.org to learn about bringing Jill
to your next women's event!*

Building Up Leaders

As a leader of your moms group, there will come a time when you'll be ready to hand over the leadership reins so that you can move on to another opportunity. It's important to make sure that those who will be in leadership after you are ready, too. Building up leaders is an important role for existing leaders.



It's good to start early when preparing someone to take over the primary leadership role, and preparing multiple leaders is wise. When new leaders are adequately prepared, transitions can operate smoothly and efficiently.

Here are some suggestions for building leaders in your mom's group:

-- **Establish a few standing leadership roles.** This can come in the form of officers or committee chairs. Create brief role descriptions for each of these positions. Established roles bring attention to opportunities to serve as well as make it easier to pass the baton.

-- **Identify opportunities within your group's activities where you can turn the reins over and give others the opportunity to lead.** It can be tempting to just lead an effort yourself rather than asking someone else to help. While this may seem easier in the short term, it doesn't help build future leaders in your group. Actively look for opportunities to let others take the lead. This doesn't mean simply delegating tasks. For it to be a leadership opportunity, the person must have the chance to plan and make decisions. For example, asking a group member to be in charge of organizing snacks for your bi-weekly meetings provides a leadership opportunity. Simply asking someone to bring cookies to a meeting does not.

-- **Actively encourage those who are taking leadership roles.** Unfortunately, leaders often hear criticism and complaints more than praise. Make a concerted effort to thank those who accept leadership roles, and be sure to compliment them on a job well done. To show your confidence in their abilities, ask them to consider taking on other leadership roles.

As a leader, it's your responsibility to prepare a replacement for your leadership. Effectively building up leaders within your group will ensure that your group will continue to thrive when you move on to your next challenge.



Hearts at Home helps you...

- Manage mommy anger with age-appropriate discipline that matures with your children.
- Gain more respect from your teenagers and remain in charge.
- Decrease financial stress by learning how to maximize your family budget.

- Prioritize time for yourself to better care for you family.
- Use positive words to make your home an emotionally-safe environment.

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What other leaders are saying...



"Being a mother is the single most rewarding and challenging experience of my life. How I wish I'd discovered Hearts at Home 15 years ago!

It only took me once to discover that Hearts at Home is not just another conference. It's both a classroom for moms hungry for practical and timely advice and a refuge of relationships and laughter for moms in need of a little inspiration. After two short days, I returned home both equipped and encouraged to be the best mom I can be. It doesn't matter your background, if you're a mom, you'll find a home at Hearts at Home."

Michelle Cushatt

Author, Speaker, and Mother of three teenage boys.

Register for the 2012 Hearts at Home Conferences



**Enjoy a weekend away with your group!
You and the moms in your group will be encouraged and refreshed
as you experience the energy, humor, and education present in the
main sessions and workshops.**

**[Click here](#) to see information about keynote speakers, workshops,
and registration for the 2012 conferences.**

**A registration discount is available when groups of 10 or more
register by the Best Value Registration deadline.**

[Click here](#) for details!

Hotel rooms are also available at a discount.

**Nothing brings a group closer together than a
"Girls-Only Weekend!"**

**Do you have a question for another mom or a friend? Are
you looking for healthy dinner ideas for your family?**

Maybe you have some great suggestions you would like to share with others. Just post your questions or comments on one of the Hearts at Home social media sites. This is a great resource to help you find your answers or share your own comments with others.



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