

Social Services

Human needs exist from conception to death. However, just as each individual differs from all others, so do one's needs vary from infancy through old age. To the sensitive observer, the presence within the community of many people having different needs is a reality that cannot be ignored.

The Social Services Committee:

- Studies needs of the community and what is being done to meet those needs.
- Proposes one or more service activities to the club board of directors.
- Assumes responsibility, as directed by the board, for performance of the activities adopted.
- Cooperates with other committees whose work might be closely related.

Organizational Meeting

- 1) Chairman checks first with the president about goals for the year and budget considerations and with the vice president, under whose responsibility the committee operates, about committee duties. An invitation to both officers is extended for all meetings.
- 2) Chairman sets date, time and place for meeting and notifies committee members at least one week in advance.
- 3) The first meeting is very important. Here achievements or any unfinished plans of the previous year's committee are discussed, ideas and goals for the year are revealed, and the ways of promoting and ensuring the success of these goals are discussed.
- 4) Chairman reads a list of suggested activities from this source and leads discussion of community needs, emphasizing the club's role.
- 5) Goes over those activities in which committee members have shown interest.
 - a) Type of activity.
 - b) What will be the reaction of the community to this activity?
 - c) What will be the reaction of club member?
 - d) How greatly will the community or the individual benefit?
 - e) How long will it take to complete this activity?
 - f) How much will it cost, and how will it be financed?
- 6) After thorough discussion, committee narrows choice to two or three activities, long-range or short-range as seem best for club plans.
- 7) With assistance of committee members, chairman prepares a written report for the board of directors. It should include project recommendations and project cost estimates.

Suggested Activities

- 1) Aid the physically and mentally handicapped.

- 2) Aid the ageing.
 - 3) Aid the needy.
 - 4) Contact appropriate local, state or national associations or governmental agencies for:
 - a) Information on speakers and films for meetings.
 - b) Information on existing community services and proposals to establish needed services.
 - c) Opportunities for volunteer service programs in hospitals, clinics, centers.
 - d) Information about health careers and programs designed to interest young people in entering health fields.
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1. Establish, improve or expand needed facilities and services, and/or support legislation designed to accomplish these goals.
 2. Provide equipment and supplies for hospitals, centers and clinics.
 3. Provide leadership, skills, volunteers and funds to help meet the special needs of individuals and their families.
 4. Investigate Boy and Girl Scout opportunities for the disabled.
 5. Establish a Lions loan service: canes, walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, special beds or other furniture.
 6. Conduct programs, especially during holiday seasons, for those people who are lonely and removed from community activities.