

Module Two:

The Steering Committee

LESSON ONE: PURPOSE, GOALS, AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose

It is not uncommon at the inception of a pregnancy care centre for one person to spearhead the project. However, in the preliminary phase of development, a steering committee will need to be formed to provide a broad base of leadership to the project. Ideally, several individuals from different churches, with varied giftings, education, experience, and personalities, will work together until a board of directors is in place. A steering committee is limited in its purpose and should be dissolved as soon as its goals are accomplished. Some members of the steering committee might feel called to serve on the board of directors, but often the board of directors will include several new individuals with whom the steering committee has made contact.





Goals and Activities

The steering committee activities are vitally important but limited to a few key steps. Upon completion of these preliminary steps, the board of directors will assume the leadership for the developing pregnancy care centre. These activities will be started once Module Three is completed. This list of activities is included here for your education to provide an overview of what the steering committee will be involved with in the coming months.

- Complete the Community Survey to measure the need for a local pregnancy care centre.
- Make initial contact with pastors and churches to introduce the vision and to gauge support.
- Organize a community meeting to introduce the vision to the local community to gauge support.
- Find well known, local, key persons to endorse the centre: a pro-life physician, a pastor, social worker, nurse, client with experience at a pregnancy centre and/or an executive director from a nearby centre.



- Start collecting names, phone numbers, and email addresses (with permission) of people interested in supporting the pregnancy care centre. Give regular email updates to keep people informed of the process and what is needed to start a centre.
- Determine the start-up costs to prepare for a centre and open the doors:

- Cost of community evening (refreshments, posters, etc.)
- First and last month's rent
- Basic furniture
- Costs to cover possible renovations
- Logo design, website, and outside signage
- Initial supplies, including computer and phones
- Cost of Director Accreditation Training for centre director
- First 3 months of operating costs (including wages)
- Pregnancy Care Canada manuals and documents

- Start collecting donations to cover the start-up costs from the beginning. This gives an indication of the financial support in your community and sustainability of a possible centre.
- Nominate and elect a board of directors.
- Dissolve Steering Committee.

