

LOCAL SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUPS 'HOW TO' GUIDE

29-03-2017



SOCIAL ACTION TOOLKIT FOR GROUPS

"NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS." — MARGARET MEAD

Our mission is to see families strengthened; young people pursue their dreams and vulnerable people connected into a community. Our Groups focus on mobilising our Church to foster social inclusion and place value on people living in our community. This toolkit will touch on what is expected of you or your group. It will also help identify social action needs and give ideas for initiatives or fundraising.

HOW TO START

1. Training

Firstly, contact your Group Coach. Discuss your idea with them and they can come along side you and do some training. This is a necessary process as we want you to be safe. The training will go over safeguarding policies and reporting.

2. What is your passion?

The key is to build your small group around your gifts, passions and what God has put on your heart to do. You can begin by asking yourself the following questions. Hopefully, the answers will help you launch your small group around your God-given purpose.

- What are you good at doing and love to do?
- What individual, ministries or organisations could benefit from your skills?
- What need in your community seem to stand out to you, above others?

3. Define the Need

Draw the following chart onto a large sheet of paper and fill in the boxes. You will probably need to do some research before you complete the chart below.

Social action issue:	People affected:
Decision-makers:	Suppliers of information and advice:

It is helpful to do some research before you start your social action group to find out:

- whether the social action is necessary
- what the people affected by the action think about it
- what suggestions they can make to help you carry out the action effectively
- who the key people are – you are going to need their help.



Below are some ideas to get you started:

Here are a number of different ways you can make a difference in your community through your Social Action group:

- Visiting the elderly
- Teaching language classes
- Youth outreach
- Mentorship
- Fostering or support families fostering
- Arts or music classes
- DIY or community gardening
- Knitting for the homeless
- Buying and making packs for single mothers

Fundraising or raising awareness ideas

Sports event ideas:

- bike-a-thon
- marathon or a fun run
- Yoga-thon
- Tough-mudder entires
- Triathlon
- football match
- games nights

- Film Screening events
- Bake Sale
- Auction
- Dinner Parties - have a themed dinner parties
- Raffles
- Exhibition
- Lobby groups
- Beard/head Shaving
- Girls night in – pampering
- Create a fundraising page: justgiving.com or uk.virginmoneygiving.com/



4. Gather People

Your best bet may be to first find one other person who shares your commitment to abolition work. Get together and discuss who else might want to join you. Start spreading the word in among your circle of friends. Ask your Groups Coach to set your group up on MyHillsong.

Now you have enough people to schedule your first meeting. What next? What should the first meeting look like? How should you prepare?

5. Decide on a consistent meeting time/place

Whether you meet once a week or once a month, having a consistent meeting time and location will help encourage group members to be consistent.

If it is a one off event/fundraiser decide on a location, date and a time and research it. Keep in mind to check community calendars so that you're not scheduling against another major local event.

6. Get the word out there:

- Use social media:
- Create a Facebook event page - The page would need to include the event information, date and time, links to registration and donation links and/or forms, promotional videos and materials, and contact info.
- Use your own network on Instagram or Twitter and ask your network to share
- Flyers or posters: print some invitation flyers or posters to hand out
- Create an invitation -either print or digital
- Get corporate sponsors (remember to always thank them / advertise for them)

7. Reporting

Each time you meet it is essential that you will fill in a - this help us direct our efforts for social action needs and also helps us be able to forecast and with our year end reports. Please follow this link to access the report form hillsong.co.uk/socialaction/toolkit

8. Group Leader Requirements

- Invite people to the Group and facilitates the Group meeting
- Ensures that the Group is healthy and growing
- Helps to identify a 'next step' for each Group member, and supports each member in taking that step
- Prays for the Group regularly
- Deals with any basic pastoral issues within the Group
- Refers major pastoral issues to your Groups Coach, Hub Leader or Groups Pastor
- Feeds back to their Coach or Hub Leader on any engagements and births etc. from the Group
- Ensures all Group members are registered on MyHillsong and added to the Group
- Plays an active role in church life: attending Sundays, LDN meetings, Heart and Soul Nights, Group Leaders Meetings and Conferences
- Attends LDN4
- Meet new people and invite New People at Engage 1



RESOURCE

Here you will find useful resource to download; there is a toolkit that includes images, predesigned templates for flyers and other useful items such as an FAQ list.

hillsong.co.uk/socialaction/toolkit

- FAQs
- Training Manual
- Incident / Abuse reports
- DBS check requirements
- Reporting link to Google form
- Resources

