“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. so it is with Christ,” 1 Corinthians 12:12.

Young Life is but one small part of the body of Christ and consequently, we cannot function well without the involvement of other members of Christ’s body. The Lord has been at work long before our arrival in a community and will continue His work long after we are gone.

It is important that we make contact with other believers, ministers and “influencers” within the community to find out what the Lord is doing and how we can join Him.

One of the critical teams to help us with this is our local adult committee. To understand the importance of this specific faithful group of volunteers, we would direct you to Young Life’s Committee Handbook (available from Mission Assistance at the Service Center). Read the Committee Handbook before completing work on committee assignments. In addition, there are a couple of articles on committee in this section.

The larger the team we build, the deeper and wider our impact will be on kids.

SUGGESTED CONTRACTED LEARNING GOALS AND ASSIGNMENTS

☐ CLG 8.1 Determine who you want on your committee.
  • Build a covenant or volunteer job description for a committee member which defines the qualifications we seek.
  • List all the places you are most likely to find such people.
  • Invite at least two people (or couples) to join your committee this semester.

☐ CLG 8.2 Understand the different roles of the committee and staff in an area — who has authority over what and how decisions should be made.
  • Read page 5 of Committee Handbook then write your answer to this CLG.
  • Call, fax or e-mail your thoughts to your regional director for his or her input.

☐ CLG 8.3 Learn how to run a healthy committee meeting.
  • Before visiting a committee meeting, write down what ingredients you think should be a part of an effective meeting.
  • Sit in on a committee meeting and write down what they did, process why they did it and how effective it was.
  • Decide what you would do differently if you were running committee.
CLG 8.4 Understand what a committee needs and expects from the staff.
- Interview two committee chairpeople in other areas and ask this question.
- Prepare a survey for your committee members to fill out during your next committee meeting.
- Do contact work with a committee person, on their turf.

CLG 8.5 Create and use sub-committees to deal with the majority of area business outside of the full committee meetings.

CLG 8.6 Learn to communicate the mission, vision and principles of Young Life to an adult audience.
- Prepare a “parent information night” for parents of new Young Life kids. Determine what you would like to communicate, how you will communicate it and why it is important to communicate.
- Determine Young Life’s unique role in the church. How can we make our role clear to people?

CLG 8.7 Determine which key people in your town you want to have a clear understanding of Young Life.
- Build a list of “influencers” to visit and tell about what you are doing. Include pastors, business people, local government officials and school administrators.
- Develop a strategy for contacting these folks — what are your goals for the meeting?
- Try to get on the docket of a local civic association meeting (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.) to share about Young Life in the community.

CLG 8.8 Determine your strategy for plugging kids into local churches. We cannot say we are committed to this and do nothing.

CLG 8.9 Meet with other parachurch ministry leaders to strategize about how to collectively reach kids in the community
- Develop a plan for building a bridge to the Catholic churches in your area.
- Plan or participate in an ecumenical event involving churches and other parachurch ministries in the area. Process what you observe.

CLG 8.10 Develop a marketing strategy for the ministry in your community.
- Interview a marketing professional about how Young Life could be marketed.
- Talk to an area director who has been in an area for a few years. Ask how he or she has communicated his or her vision to the community.
- Develop a written marketing strategy with business professionals from your committee.

CLG 8.11 Understand the requirements of putting together a local newsletter.
- Collect newsletter from Young Life areas in your region. Review them closely. What do you like? What needs to be improved?
- Talk to the Communications Department at the Young Life Service Center about their ability to produce a newsletter for your area.
- Interview a communications or public relations professional about the needs and requirements of a non-profit newsletter.
- Develop a publication schedule for a local area newsletter. How often should it be published? What are the deadlines?
- Work with your area director to develop a local newsletter.
- Ensure that this newsletter is not the only one that is produced. Make your efforts reproducible.

CLG 8.12 Learn business etiquette and manners. Meet with a knowledgable adult committee member on this subject.