Women of Today Programming

Introduction

Programming is what makes the Women of Today organization unique. Our organization promotes several different organizations each year – so the programming areas offer a way to organize all that we do.

Minnesota Women of Today Programming Areas

Each Minnesota Programming Area has a State Program Manager that promotes the area. There may also be District and Local Program Managers for each area. There is also a Programming Vice

President (sometimes an Internal and External Programming Vice President) that oversees the Program Managers.

Internal Areas

Internal Programming Areas are things that chapters do for their own members. For example, Ways and Means raises funds to support the chapter and Living and Learning promotes the personal growth of chapter members. While sometimes these projects can benefit the community, their intent is to benefit the chapter and its members.

Living and Learning

This area promotes participation and provides information and project ideas in the areas of personal growth of members; intellectually, spiritually, civically, and through family. This area also promotes the Effective Writing, Speaking and Impromptu competitions as well as the Women Who Impact award. Invocations and benedictions at meetings will fall under this area.

NEWSLET

The official newspaper of the Minnesota Women of Today falls into this area. Every member is encouraged to submit an article to this newspaper by contacting the editor. Local and District newsletters would also fall into this area.

Public Relations

This programming area helps chapters utilize your community assets: the local paper, cable network, radio, TV, businesses, Facebook, Meetup, and more. Founder's Day is celebrated July 1 and Women of Today Week is celebrated the last full week in September.

Records and Recognition

This programming area is designed to help encourage good record keeping and recognition of chapter members. Some things that fall in this area include chapter histories, awards, incentive ideas, individual mid-year and year-end entries, and the SUCCESS system.

Ways and Means

This programming area supports fundraising for normal chapter operating expenses. The MNWT organization raises funds in several different ways, including the State Store where members can purchase items carrying the Women of Today logo, manuals and various other items of interest.

External Areas

External Programming Areas are those things that chapters do for their community. For example, projects that help young people would fall under the Youth of Today area. While these projects can also benefit chapter members, their intent is to benefit the community (either local or otherwise).

Community Connections

This programming area encourages involvement in the local community. At the state level this area promotes Friendship Ventures, the Outstanding Person with Developmental Challenges Award, the Community Connections Awards, and national programming areas that do not fall under any MN programming area. Each year the State Program Manager may select a community related organization that fits the criteria outlined in the state policies.

Priority Area

This area rotates every three years. Organizations bid to partner with the Minnesota Women of Today for a three year period as the priority area. All chapters vote on the nominated organizations at a Fall State meeting in the year prior to the new organization becoming the priority area.

Women's Wellness

This programming area focuses on providing and supporting women's health education through traditional and holistic medical practices, as well as balanced lifestyles. The March of Dimes March for Babies is promoted through this area. Each year the State Program Manager may select a women's health related organization that fits the criteria outlined in the state policies.

Youth of Today

This programming area promotes ideas and activities that allow youth to discover and experience the importance of volunteering. This area also promotes the Outstanding Young Adult program, Kids Week and foundations related to youth activities. Each year the State Program Manager may select a youth centered organization that fits the criteria outlined in the state policies.

United States Women of Today Programming Areas

The United States Women of Today offers slightly different programming than the Minnesota Women of Today. Each US programming area is aligned to a member of the MNWT Executive Council to ensure that this information is passed along to districts and chapters.

Health and Wellness

The Health and Wellness programming area is offered to help each individual member maintain their physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. This program is designed to inform, educate, and update members concerning a wide variety of topics. Benefits of this national program are that it is extremely flexible, it doesn't need to involve a lot of time, and it provides a multitude of information that will be carried with you throughout your lifetime.

Personal Development

The Personal Development programming area is offered to encourage members to continue learning, to hone their skills and to try something new. This area encompasses several areas of development including writing, speaking, leadership, team building, career development and more. This area does have a certification form that allows you to become certified in the area once each year.

Domestic Violence Awareness

The goal of the programming area is to provide information and educational programs to chapters and their communities. This will bring awareness of Domestic Abuse. The primary foundation supported by the United States Women of Today is the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, however anything related to domestic violence awareness can fall within this programming area.

Programming Resources

Manuals
Several programming areas do have a chapter manual available. Check with the Chapter Service Center or in the State Store for additional information about available manuals.

Programming Area Descriptions and Emphasis Months
http://www.mnwt.org/pdfs/officers/mnwt_programmingareas.pdf

State Program Manager Web Pages
http://www.mnwt.org/exec-council/spms/_spm.html

Sample Project Co-Chair Guidelines
http://www.mnwt.org/pdfs/state_info/mnwt_chairinfo.pdf

Project Ideas
Fundraising: http://www.mnwt.org/membership/projectideas_fundraising.html
Non-Fundraising: http://www.mnwt.org/membership/projectideas_non-fundraising.html
Socials and M-Events: http://www.mnwt.org/membership/projectideas_socials.html
Ways & Means: http://www.mnwt.org/membership/projectideas_ways-means.html

Project of the Trimester Winners
http://www.mnwt.org/pdfs/officers/pr_projectofthetrimester-winners.pdf

Glossary of Terms and Acronyms
http://www.mnwt.org/pdfs/state_info/mnwt_glossary.pdf