



Sisters Who Care

A Ministry of WMU of Texas

WMU contextualized for the African American Church

Our **MISSION**

OUR MISSION is to make disciples of Jesus who live on mission. Woman's Missionary Union of TX started in 1880 to support missionaries, the work of the denomination and to provide missions education and involvement opportunities for the entire church. Sisters Who Care is a ministry of the Woman's Missionary Union that aims to reach women in African American churches for cooperative missions. Sisters Who Care seeks to involve individuals in responding to God as they learn about missions, pray for missions' efforts, support missions work, and do missions themselves. As Baptist churches are autonomous and therefore led by the local congregation, Sisters Who Care groups can organize as the local church deems most appropriate for that congregation.

What are some of things **We** do?

Sisters Who Care groups in the church:

- Meet regularly
- Pray for missionaries
- Pray, Promote & Give to Mary Hill Davis our state missions' offering.
www.iamtexasmissions.org
- Organize to teach missions to children
- Offer missions involvement opportunities for the congregation

ACCOUNTABILITY

THE LOCAL CHURCH The local church can begin a Sisters Who Care group that is focused on missions' education and involvement.

MAKE IT PLAIN! Identify a SWC Coordinator in your local church. Her team should mobilize the entire church to be involved in missions discipleship.

THE ASSOCIATION Contact your Baptist Association or Network of Churches to ask about starting a Sisters Who Care group. Volunteers would be recruited from the churches in that association or network.
www.txb.org

MAKE IT PLAIN! Who is the SWC Coordinator for your Baptist Association? She leads women to meet human needs and she also calls sisters together in prayer.

THE WMU STATE OFFICE Frankeya L. Riley-Tucker is the state consultant for WMU of Texas. The accountability structure of a Sisters Who Care group depends on the conditions in which the group was started. Remember that the Baptist church is autonomous and not top-down but bottom-up! Working together in missions' partnerships though is a hallmark of Baptist churches. www.wmutx.org

CONTACT INFO

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HOW ARE GROUPS ORGANIZED?

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Steps to Starting Sisters Who Care

1 PRAY!

2 DO YOUR RESEARCH LOCAL CHURCH Check out what is already happening in your church missions’ program. Are the deaconess’ functioning as missionaries? Is there a missionary auxiliary? **ASSOCIATION** Contact your association to see if there is a Sisters Who Care group meeting comprised of women on mission. If not, inquire about starting one. **STATE WMU** Contact WMU of Texas office to inquire if Sisters Who Care is already active in your area. If not, inquire about starting one. For assistance, contact Frankeya Tucker or national WMU.

3 ORGANIZE A LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Get to know the passions, gifts, skills, and abilities of your members.
- Become acquainted with WMU as an organization focusing on its core values and practices.
- Meet with your state WMU staff or officers and make acquaintance. Learn when there are special missions events such as the state WMU annual meetings.
- Gather the Leadership Team for a retreat to pray and outline the focus of your ministry in your church, associational or state context.

Pay special attention to the needs of African American churches and communities:

- Missions Conferences
- Feeding the hungry
- Clothing the naked
- Visiting those in prison
- Mentoring
- Job Training
- Addressing social issues

HOW ARE GROUPS ORGANIZED? (cont'd)

4 LAUNCH YOUR SISTERS WHO CARE MINISTRY

- Decide when you will meet.
- Develop a recruitment plan to involve others
- Determine an initial project that will raise awareness and mobilize involvement

5 ENGAGE IN THE WORK

- Engage in the work of the Great Commission and the Great Commandment, meeting needs and sharing Christ at home around the world as the Lord leads.

6 SHARE YOUR STORY

Make every opportunity to share testimonies of the work of Sisters Who Care:

- In the local church
- At associational meetings
- At state meetings
- In writing
- On social media platforms

7 EVALUATE REGULARLY

- Is what we're doing helping others?
- Is there growth?
- Is life-change happening?
- What are our opportunities?



JUMP-START RESOURCES

Missions Leader:

WMU Planning Guide at wmustore.com

Missions Mosaic: Missions magazine for women,
available at wmustore.com or 1-800-968-7301

Be Restored! God's Power for African American Women
by Debra Berry, newhopepublishers.com

Sistahs:

Stories of African American Women's Lives and of Finding
Place in Christian Missions by Valerie Carter Smith,
wmuv.org/resources

Sistahs Study Guide:

Access free downloadable pdf at wmuv.org/resources