

Covenant

Between United Methodist Women, National Office and National Mission Institutions

This covenant is designed to clarify the relationship between the United Methodist Women, national office (hereinafter referred to as the national office) and National Mission Institutions (hereinafter referred to as institutions).

In a covenant we become infused in one another's lives in order to achieve a common purpose. Our covenant with God brings us to abundant life. Our covenant with humanity is to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Approved February 2021
Amended January 2014
Approved April 2010



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Relationship of National Mission Institutions to the United Methodist Women, National Office

The relationship between the institution and the national office is based on the shared principles and values of promoting marginalized women, children and youth. This relationship does not preclude other organizational and funding relationships, such as the United Way, government sources, etc.

The national office is the administrative agency of United Methodist Women. United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for laywomen, whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice. United Methodist Women is an integral part of The United Methodist Church.

It is the specific responsibility of the institution's board of directors to design and establish policies and programs that advance the interests of women, children and youth in the local community and meet the Criteria for Determining Effectiveness of National Mission Institutions.

The national office is committed to supporting institutions that are in alignment with its mission priorities by:

1. Providing access to grants based on available financial resources, the institution's annual reporting and extent to which the institution is providing services to women, children and youth and aligns with UMW's current mission priorities; the quality of programs; the effectiveness of management; and the efficient use of resources.
2. Providing consultation regarding program alignment with the national offices' mission, and engagement of local United Methodist Women.
3. Providing technical resources, including training in nonprofit governance and resource development/fundraising.
4. Providing orientation for new Executive Directors.
5. Facilitating the connection with a nation-wide network of peers, supporters and volunteers.



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Institution's Responsibilities:

1. Understand itself to be a National Mission Institution that aligns with United Methodist Women's commitment to help marginalized women, children, and youth live as close to their unique potential as possible and advise the national office when the institution anticipates major shifts in program directions and/or management.
2. Uphold National Mission Institutions' Criteria for Determining Effectiveness.
3. Serve as a site for UMW members to be in mission as volunteers.
4. Serve as a resource for the national office's educational and mission programs and respond to invitations from UMW units to participate in events.
5. Attend or host orientation(s) facilitated by the national office, as needed, and take advantage of other training opportunities.
6. Actively participate in peer-to-peer consultations and resource the peer network when possible.
7. Establish, implement and maintain adequate, written policies and procedures to ensure that the institution or its representatives comply with regulatory requirement to prevent errors and counter risks relating to children and vulnerable adults, personnel, programs and business decisions.
8. Commit to implementing sustainable resource management to the best of their ability.
9. Comply with the national office's reporting requirements.

The national office recommends that the board composition consists of:

- One-third members of The United Methodist Church, with priority given to United Methodist Women members.
- One-third from the community at large, selected for specific leadership skills and experience needed.
- One-third from the constituencies served by the institution and/or from the community in which the institution is located.



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- The following ex-officio members with a vote:
 - District president of the United Methodist Women or her representative.
 - President of the conference United Methodist Women or her representative.
 - Director of the national organization of United Methodist Women living in the area.
 - District Superintendent of The United Methodist Church or her/his representative.

Signed: *Stacy Jones*
National Mission Institution Executive Director

Date: 6/7/21

Signed: *Rev Linda L Brinkworth*
National Mission Institution Board President

Date: 6-7-21

Signed: *[Signature]*
United Methodist Women, national office

Date: 06/08/2021

Date of approval by institution's board of directors: June 7th, 2021

Name and address of Institution: Neighborhood Services Org., Inc
431 SW 11th St.
OKC, OK 73109

