

thrive

Providing **PROACTIVE** rather
than **REACTIVE** member care.

The best way to prepare Global Women to thrive in the roles that God called them to is through proactive member care: identifying and preparing for the common needs and struggles of Global Women. This resource gives the tools to provide this essential care.

Top 5 Needs of Global Women

1. To be spiritually mentored
2. To feel connected
3. To be known, understood, and prayed for
4. To have close friends
5. Time away from ministry / responsibilities

Common Issues Experienced

- Team Conflict - Women in Leadership - Workaholism - Fatigue - Lacking Ministry Passion - Need for Self-care - Grief and Loss - Transition - Marital Stressors - Addictions - Loneliness - Isolation - Depression - Singleness - MK issues -

Simple Ways to Encourage

Reply to her newsletters - Let her know you're praying for her - Ask questions about her personal or spiritual life - Surprise her with a cash gift, night out, or weekend away - Send her a card via postal mail.

Member Care Questions for Reflection

- How do we validate and affirm their call?
- How do we help them strategically connect with women who "get their life"?
- How do we encourage them to cultivate their walk with the Lord? Are they asking for spiritual mentors?
- How do we help young women network with other seasoned workers (even in other agencies) who can mentor them in their region, being careful to not minimize their zeal but offer insight gained from experience?
- How do we verbalize that they are valued for "being" vs. "doing"?
- How do we model and teach them the disciplines of Rhythm and Rest?
- Do we recognize the continual need to process their "extreme" missions work by helping them clarify their thoughts and feelings?
- Do we provide opportunities for breaks—time to re-fuel and rest? This passionate generation tends to give selflessly and ignore their need for rest.
- How do we value and protect our single missionary women?
- How can we know each global woman well enough to recognize her individual needs?
- Have we become a student of each global woman's life and determined the most effective way to communicate our desire to encourage her?
- How do we come alongside her during a difficult emotional time of need?
- Are we listening and aware of their need for debriefing? Video Chats are wonderful for Member Care!
- What precautions are we taking to strengthen marriages and protect from the temptations of pornography?
- When church decisions are made that affect teams, how can we include them in the process and help with the transition?
- Are we persistent in visiting on-site as often as possible and practicing being present?

Questions to Ask a Cross-Cultural Worker

Sometimes it can be difficult to know what questions to ask a cross-cultural worker because their life experiences are so different from yours. Ask the following questions to get them talking about their world so that you can engage in a genuine dialogue and learn what God is doing globally.

1. What do you enjoy most about your work? What inspires you?
2. Tell me something about the people of your host country.
3. What is the economic situation of the people with whom you work?
4. What most encourages you in your work?
5. Are many people responsive to the gospel or just a few? Why?
6. Describe an experience you had on the field that impacted the way you do ministry.
7. Tell me about spiritual disciplines on the field. Are they difficult to maintain? How has God met your spiritual hunger?
8. What do you appreciate most about your host culture?
9. Tell me about a special friendship you have with a national. Who are some of your close friends?
10. Are there security concerns in your host country?
11. How are church services different or alike in your country of service?
12. Tell me about unique customs or cultural ways of life in your host country.
13. Are there any behaviors that are acceptable in America that are not acceptable in your country?
14. What are some specific prayer requests you have for your country?
15. Tell me about raising your children in a different culture. Advantages? Disadvantages?
16. What is the greatest spiritual need you notice in your ministry? Physical need? Emotional need?
17. How did you adapt to being in a different culture?
18. What has been the most challenging aspect of your living conditions?
19. What has been your most noticeable spiritual change since you began ministry overseas?
20. What is a typical day like for you? Your family?
21. Tell me about the roles of men and women in your host country.
22. What are some things you miss since leaving your home country?
23. Tell me of someone whose life was impacted with the gospel and the change you saw in his/her life. Is there someone I can be praying for?
24. Are you able to share the truth and disciple people freely in your country of service?
25. Tell me about your co-workers. What are their roles and how are they doing? Are they encouraged?
26. What are some of the strengths of your team? Challenges?
27. What are some ministry needs and opportunities that your team has?
28. Have you had any challenging transitions on your team?
29. What was your biggest surprise about the host country, the people, and yourself?
30. If you could share one tidbit about your time in this country, what would it be?
31. Are there some specific needs your children have that you are concerned about?
32. What would you do if you had \$5,000 more each year to fund a project on your heart?
33. What do you feel is the most common misperception of you or your work by members of your sending church?
34. How is your personal support level? If low, what have you cut back on to make ends meet?