

Women's Ministry Facilitator – summary role statement

Background

The Women's Ministry Committee of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales (PCNSW) is currently employing a woman to support and encourage women in ministry roles within the church. This role will commence as a two day per week position for one year however it is hoped that with sufficient funds, to expand the role to three days per week for up to three years.

The role of the Women's Ministry Facilitator is to:

- ✓ Work within a Complementarian Model where women workers operate under the leadership of the male ministry leaders.
- ✓ Provide pastoral support and enable networking of Women employed in Ministry roles (WIMR) in churches and other organisations associated with the PCNSW, such as women and children's workers, pastoral assistants, Deaconesses and chaplains.
- ✓ Provide guidance, training and resourcing to women in ministry in local churches and to engage them in collaborative networks.
- ✓ Work with the PWA and other women's ministry groups in the PCNSW as a formal link to wider women's ministry.
- ✓ Liaise with the Dean of Women at Christ College to connect with women undertaking theological studies there. Liaise also with women studying at other colleges.
- ✓ Provide feedback to the PCNSW Assembly, on the ongoing growth and needs of women in ministry.

What's in this package?

- ✓ Position Description2
- ✓ Organisational Structures4

Position Description: Women's Ministry Facilitator

- a. This position exists to:
 - a. Provide pastoral support to women employed in ministry roles (WIMR) in churches or other organisations within the Presbyterian Church of NSW (PCNSW), including women's and children's workers, pastoral assistants, chaplains and deaconesses and facilitate networking amongst them.
 - b. Resource the training and networking of local women's ministry groups and Presbyterian Women's Association (PWA) branches in the PCNSW.
2. Employer:
 - a. The Women's Ministry Facilitator (WMF) will be employed by the Women's Ministry Committee (WMC) of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in NSW (PCNSW).
3. Time required:
 - a. The WMF will be employed on a part time basis for two days per week (0.4FTE) for an initial period of one year. If funds become available, it is the desire of the WMC to extend this position beyond the initial year and to increase the position to three days per week.
4. Responsibilities:
 1. Key Responsibilities
 - 1.1. Identify WIMR in churches or other organisations within the PCNSW and update the WMC database accordingly.
 - 1.2. Seek to make contact with each of these WIMR at least once per year, to offer pastoral support and prayer.
 - 1.3. Establish networks of WIMR for their mutual support and encouragement, sharing contact details within those networks where permission has been provided.
 - 1.4. Organise networking days for WIMR annually and on special occasions as needed to provide mutual encouragement and share ministry ideas and resources.
 - 1.5. Resource the training and networking of local women's ministry groups and Presbyterian Women's Association (PWA) branches in the PCNSW.
 2. Additional Responsibilities
 - 2.1. Seek to inform both men and women of the potential for women to serve in ministry roles in the PCNSW within a complementarian framework (e.g. through writing articles in the Pulse, visiting presbyteries and talking to ministers/sessions and church women).
 - 2.2. Inform WIMR of the training and ministry resources available through Christ College (including, Ministry Training for Women), and other training opportunities, (e.g., EQUIP Ministry Women, other theological colleges), and to be a link for women interested in training for ministry.
 - 2.3. Seek to meet with PCNSW women undertaking theological study at Christ College and other colleges and to develop communication channels with the Dean of Women at Christ College and similar facilities to build relationships that may enhance the work of the WMF and women in ministry.

- 2.4. Seek to make contact with PWA branches and ministry groups to encourage them spiritually and to inform them of resources available for ministry to and by women.
- 2.5. Provide training to local churches when requested and pending availability, on how to support and undertake women's ministry including, without exclusion, one to one discipleship, running evangelistic events, and leading bible studies/small groups.
- 2.6. Refer to the WMC requests for resourcing of congregations or presbyteries, in order that the focus of the WMF might remain on personal, pastoral support, resource provision and networking of WIMR.
- 2.7. Provide guidance to the PWA (upon request and as possible) in order that the PWA might connect with a wider range of PCNSW women.
- 2.8. Work with the WMC to make resources available on the WMC website.
- 2.9. Provide feedback to the WMC concerning overall issues, challenges and highlights of women's ministry being undertaken in PCNSW, with the aim of informing the wider church on ministry undertaken by women.
- 2.10. Assist the WMC to prepare its annual report to the Assembly.

Organisational Structures

1. The Women's Ministry Facilitator (WMF) will be employed by the Women's Ministry Committee with responsibility directly to the Convener of the committee. The WMF will have no authority over the women to whom she is providing support.
2. The Ministry and Mission Committee's (M&M) Associate Superintendents provide support and assistance to both men and women including pastoral support and employment related issues. While the role of AS-PCCM in 2015 to 2017 has included a significant commitment to pastoral care of ministerial families, the Women's Ministry Facilitator will have primary responsibility for providing pastoral support to employed women and also those undertaking recognized ministry roles within churches, either as part of a women's ministry team or PWA or within another organization within the PCNSW
3. The WMF will train women for, and support them in, local women's ministries activities. This is consistent with the aim of M&M which is to "promote the formation, development and staffing of healthy, multiplying Presbyterian churches."
4. The WMF will work alongside other existing groups within the PCNSW, including, but not limited to: the local churches employing (or responsible for) a women's ministry worker; local women's ministry teams; the Women's Ministry Task Force; the Dean of Women at Christ College; Presbyterian Youth; METRO; Ministry Wives and Deaconess's Association; PWA branches and committees. The role of the Women's Ministry Facilitator is to assist in connecting these groups with women in ministry and informing more women of their activities. The WMF will not become a replacement for any of these groups.
5. Being cognisant of the challenges faced by ministry workers, the WMF will seek to help women in ministry face such challenges by applying the scriptures appropriately and graciously resolve any conflicts in which they might be involved.