



# Guide to a successful Outreach Committee

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## Starting an Outreach Committee

***Outreach Committees can focus on different needs, such as visiting sick or ill members; supporting sweethearts; helping retain members; or connecting brothers and widows with outreach services. Here are tips to get started:***

- Include seasoned Masons and new members on the committee. Consider requiring Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts to participate to build relationships and teach them early on about the importance of relief.
- Identify and contact members who don't attend lodge regularly or at all, especially those who are older or who may be isolated and at risk.
- Assign each committee member a set number of brothers to call and visit, and ask each to establish a monthly or quarterly call schedule.
- Have committee members keep a log of their phone calls and visits, including notes about follow-up tasks and any concerns.
- Instruct committee members to give a monthly update to the secretary and master on their outreach efforts, and to share appropriate announcements at the stated meeting or in the Trestleboard.
- Refer the committee to [Member Resources](http://freemason.org) on [freemason.org](http://freemason.org) for resources such as an [FAQ about Masonic Senior Outreach](#).

## Additional tactics and tips

- **Ask an older member to meet with a younger Mason to share his Masonic journey.** Besides being a learning opportunity, it is an opportunity for a home visit. The relationship can be nurtured as a means to reconnect an older Mason with his lodge.
- **"No one sits alone"** is a lodge philosophy that says that no member who attends a dinner or a stated meeting should ever sit alone. This sends a strong message to your members and widows that everyone is valued and included.
- **"Your presence matters"** is a lodge philosophy that carries the message, "When you don't come to a stated meeting you are missed" and, "Your participation matters." The Outreach Committee should call members when they don't attend stated meetings to check on them and let them know they were missed.

Educate members about the support services available to them. **Call (888)466-3642** for information on all of the support services of Masonic Assistance.

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