



# Guide to a successful Widows Committee

(888) 466-3642 | [masonichome.org](http://masonichome.org)

## Starting a Widows Committee

- Include seasoned Masons, new Masons, and lodge ladies on the committee.
- Assign each committee member a set number of widows to call and visit, and ask him 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 update the secretary and master monthly on their outreach efforts, and to share appropriate announcements at the stated meeting or in the Trestleboard.
- Refer the committee to Member Resources on [freemason.org](http://freemason.org) for resources such as an FAQ about Masonic Senior Outreach and Sweetheart Survey.

## Outreach ideas and tips

The Widows Committee should consider these simple gestures to engage lodge widows.

- Send flowers or candy at holidays.
- Send birthday cards.
- Call as a reminder of important events, such as Daylight Savings time and voting days.
- Extend a special invitation to stated meeting dinners.
- Provide rides to lodge events.
- Introduce widows to other lodge ladies.
- Encourage widows to form their own sweethearts social group with the support of the lodge.
- Host sweetheart events: Invite interesting speakers; offer favorite activities such as bingo, games, and crafts; or simply provide breakfast or another meal.
- Offer handyman services, such as yard clean-ups and household repairs. Encourage Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts to help, and invite youth orders when appropriate.
- Educate widows about the support services of the Masonic Homes and Masonic Outreach Services.
- Make sure widows have the lodge's contact information handy, and remind them that they can call with any needs.

Call (888)466-3642 for information on all of the support services of Masonic Assistance.

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Call 888/466-3642 for information about all our support services.