January 2, 2014

Ministers know that church elders are vital partners.

The Ministerial Department has the responsibility of providing quality material and training to elders. We are embarking on a major project of providing such materials, but we want to be certain that what we produce is what elders need. We are asking our ministry colleagues to provide their input. We want to know what you believe elders need. Thank you for taking the time to give your input. (We will be also sending a survey to elders).

We have asked Nikolaus Satelmajer, an experienced pastor, conference administrator, guest lecturer and most recently editor of Ministry to coordinate the development of these vital resources for elders. If you have questions please contact him at 301 879-8933 or email him at NSatelmajer@gmail.com.

Please take a few moments and take the survey. To take the survey click here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GDGX86Q. Thank you very much.

Ivan Williams, Sr.
Ministerial Director
North American Division
of Seventh-day Adventists

PS: The survey will take ten minutes or less. Thanks for doing it.
FOR MINISTERS
What Do Local Elders Need to be Effective - A Quick Survey

EVERYONE needs tools, resources, and training: Doctors, electricians, nurses, architects, and local elders! The NAD Church headquarters wants to make SURE they're developing top resources for elders.

Take a moment to respond. If you wish to remain anonymous, do not sign your name.

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FOR MINISTERS
What Do Local Elders Need to be Effective - A Quick Survey

1. Do Elders need excellent resources on HOW TO PREPARE OR OBTAIN EFFECTIVE SERMONS?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

2. Do Elders need excellent resources on DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES EXPECTED OF AN ELDER?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

3. Do Elders need excellent resources on HOW TO WORK MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH THE PASTOR?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

4. Do Elders need excellent resources on DISCIPLESHIP AND OUTREACH?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:
5. Do Elders need excellent resources on HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

6. Do Elders need excellent resources on HELPING CHURCH MEMBERS BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN MINISTRY?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

7. Do Elders need excellent resources on LEADERSHIP such as CHAIRING BOARDS, WORKING WITH COMMITTEES, ETC.?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

8. Do Elders need excellent resources on EFFECTIVE WAYS TO VISIT AND NURTURE MEMBERS?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:

9. Is there a need for resources on DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF A HEAD ELDER?
Answer on a scale from “0” NO (No, not at all!) to “10” YES (Yes, definitely needed!)

Any specific comments or suggestions about this:
10. What other topics, other than the ones mentioned above, do you feel local elders need?
A. 
B. 
C. 
D. 

11. Do you distribute or sponsor the following?

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<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
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<td>Elder's Guide</td>
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<td>Elder's Retreats/Seminars</td>
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12. If yes, how would you rate the following resources in terms of their usefulness to elders?

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<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
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FOR MINISTERS

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13. What are the best ways for elders to receive resources and training?

I like this method best
Workshops; seminars
Webinars
Social media
Apps for mobile devices
On-line learning; web instruction
Pocket guide to resources

This method is ok

I don't care for this

14. How would you feel about an Elders Certification Program?

Great idea!

Seems ok

Not a good idea

15. I am a...

Church Pastor
Conference President
Conference Secretary
Conference Ministerial Director
Union President
Union Secretary
Union Ministerial Director

Other (please specify)

16. My gender is...

Male
Female

17. My ethnicity is...

Asian
Black non-Hispanic
Hispanic
White non-Hispanic

Other (please specify)
18. My age category is...

- Under 25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- 56-65
- Over 66

19. Any other ideas regarding the making of an effective church elder?


20. If you wish to remain anonymous, do not sign your name. But if you'd be willing to discuss this issue with us, please fill out the information in the space below:

- Name
- E-mail
- Phone #

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Thanks so much for your participation!

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