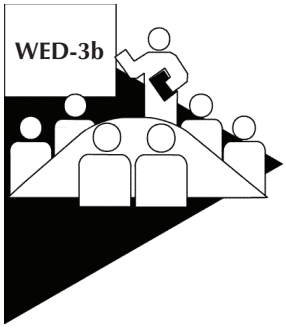
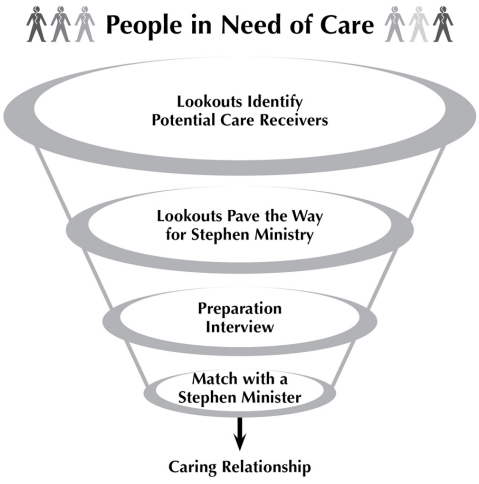


The Stephen Ministry Referrals Funnel

Presentation Handout **Wednesday, 1:30 P.M.**

This resource document will help you explain the Stephen Ministry referrals process to pastors, church staff, Stephen Leaders, Stephen Ministers, and other key lookouts. You can make copies of the attached diagram to share with them as you explain the process of finding care receivers.



Here are some key points you may want to cover.

First Oval: Identify Potential Care Receivers. Congregations and communities are filled with hurting people who could benefit from Stephen Ministry, so it's good to have many different people on the lookout for potential care receivers. The result will be many more people receiving care during times of need.

Second Oval: Pave the Way for Stephen Ministry. After someone on your Care Receiver Finding Team identifies a potential care receiver, he or she tells that person about Stephen Ministry and gets permission to connect the person with the pastor or Referrals Coordinator.

Third Oval: Preparation Interview (or "Preparing the Person to Receive Stephen Ministry"). The pastor, the Referrals Coordinator, or another Stephen Leader meets with the potential care receiver to assess the person's needs and, if appropriate, assertively recommend Stephen Ministry.

Fourth Oval: Match the Person with a Stephen Minister. If Stephen Ministry is appropriate for the situation and the person agrees to receiving care, the Referrals Coordinator prayerfully assigns the Stephen Minister who best fits that person's situation. If necessary, a referral is made to a more appropriate type of care.

The Caring Relationship. The Stephen Minister meets regularly with the care receiver to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care for as long as needed.

Related documents:

- "Overview: Make Referrals to Stephen Ministers," S-7(1)
- "How to Pave the Way for Stephen Ministry," S-7B(15)
- *Preparing Care Receivers for Stephen Ministry* booklet

Download additional copies of this document at stephenministries.org/LTCdocs.

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The Stephen Ministry Referrals Funnel

A Multitude of People Who Need Care
in the congregation and community

Lookouts on the Care Receiver Finding Team

Pastors | Other church staff | Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers | Specific congregation members | All other congregation members | Contacts in the community

Identify People Who Need Care

Lookouts
Pave the Way for Stephen Ministry
and connect the person with the Referrals Coordinator or pastor

Referrals Coordinator or pastor
meets with the potential care receiver for a
Preparation Interview

Referrals Coordinator
Matches the Care Receiver with a Stephen Minister — OR → Referral is made to a different type of caregiver

Stephen Minister
Meets with the Care Receiver
to provide Christ-centered care
for as long as needed

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