



## Ministry Module

Ministry Modules are intended for use with the Leader's Guide. Appendices and Resources referenced in modules can be found within the Guide.

# Youth Handy Man Ministry



This Mission Module is provided through a Partnership Connections Handyman Services, of the Council of the Churches of the Ozarks; and Caregiving Ministries, a division of FamilyCare America, Inc.





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### Purpose

The mission of the Youth Handyman Team teaches youth to use tools and make basic home repairs to assist low income seniors in maintaining their independence in their homes. This is an excellent ministry model for a summer youth camp.

### Goals

- To enable members to remain in their homes independently as long as possible and to teach youth basic home repair and instruct youth on the usage of power tools.
- This ministry is a very successful summer youth program. Youth may be hosted within the church or may come in for the day. An important aspect of the work camp is the interaction between the youth campers and the elderly. The campers get a sense of satisfaction and achievement in helping arrest the deterioration of neighborhoods where many low income elderly and disabled reside. (From: <http://www.ccozarks.org/connections.htm>)
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### Objectives

- Establish a ministry with a leader trained in home repairs.
- Determine elders within the congregation in need of home repair.
- Screen elders for financial eligibility
- Determine youth available to conduct home repair.
- Determine what adult leaders trained in home repair can instruct youth during repair sessions.
- Pay for materials and make necessary home repairs.

### Parameters and Limitations

This module may involve fees or cost, depending on the funds available. Before beginning this ministry, the church should determine how to handle costs. The financial ability to pay for services should be considered in determining what help is given. The ability of family members to assist should be considered. However, this module can become an effective opportunity for ministry for those with skills such as carpentry, architecture, design or contracting. Do not attempt projects that require meeting city/ county codes unless they are licensed to do so. It is advised that any repairs requiring a local permit be conducted by paid trained professionals. Youth should not perform work requiring licensed professional training or permits. Aging, declining health, and disabilities should be determining factors for recipients of this ministry. Youth may not be able to perform work during the school day. This is an excellent ministry model for a summer youth camp.



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### SUGGESTED PROCESS FOR THIS MINISTRY

1. Survey the church for people who are able and willing to work with this ministry (see Appendix A). Trained adults should instruct youth on general repair and power tool usage/ safety.
2. Educate the church family as to what can and cannot be expected from this ministry.
3. Evaluate recipient's financial situation to determine financial ability to pay.
4. Investigate local funding opportunities, or create a fund raising opportunity to pay for materials/ professional labor.
5. Make home repairs as needed and appropriate. Some suggestions to improve accessibility to an aging or disabled adult include:
  - Replace burned out light bulbs and check or install smoke detectors, replace broken fixtures.
  - Rearrange and/ or discard furniture to make living areas safer and user-friendly.
  - Arrange clothing closets to make dressing easier.
  - Change doorknobs to lever types.
  - Increase widths of doorways to accommodate a wheelchair.
  - Build a wheelchair ramp to specifications.
  - Install grab bars in bathrooms.
  - Secure handrails on stairs.
  - Repair plumbing problems.
  - Perform light yard work.



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4. Prepare a list of people to call as resources to meet specific needs. Include in the resource information whether these people are licensed or insured. Determine also whether their charges are reasonable and fair.
5. Provide training to volunteers.
6. Using the Handy Helpers Assessment Tool, determine members with needs.
7. Locate individuals who have interest and/ or skills to meet discovered needs.
8. Determine what services can be provided. Avoid taking on a project that requires more than your team can accomplish.
9. Determine from city or county officials if licensing or bonding is required.
10. Schedule regular meetings for volunteers to increase knowledge of aging issues and disease processes through in service training. Allow for opportunities to discuss and solve problems.
11. Periodically evaluate the ministry. (See Evaluation Tool, Administrative Guide.)

## RESOURCES

- Department for Social Services emergency heating/air conditioning programs
- Local weatherization and home repair agencies
- Cooperative Extension System for budgeting
- Local property tax office for reduced rates for senior citizens and the disabled
- Cooperative Extension Services
- List of licensed, bonded workmen with excellent reputations for reasonable charges and dependability
- Habitat for Humanity (some affiliates provide renovations)
- Elder Homes, or similar organization
- World Changers
- Area church youth groups offering home repairs, yard work, housekeeping, etc



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## Handy Helpers NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### Basic Information

Name:

Phone:

Address :

County:

Directions to Home:

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### 1. Circle your age group:

- a. under 60      b. 60-64      c. 65-69      d. 70-74      e. 75-80      f. 80-above

### Living Arrangements and Household Needs

### 2. Check all choices which describe your current living arrangements:

- I live in my home with my spouse
- I live in my home alone
- I live in my home with a relative
- I live in my home with a friend
- I own my home
- I rent my home

### 3. I cannot enter/ exit my home independently because I use

- a wheel chair       crutches





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4. **Primary Source of Income** (employer, SSI) \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Secondary Sources of Income** \_\_\_\_\_

6. **Total Gross Monthly Income** \_\_\_\_\_

7. **Are you a Veteran?**

Yes  No

8. **Do you receive assistance from Social Services or any Federal, State, or Local Agency?**

Yes  No

9. **Do you have your own transportation?**

Yes  No

If no, how do you get to your appointments, grocery store, church, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. **Are you able to enter/ exit your home?**

Yes  No

If no, how long have you been unable to enter/ exit your home?

\_\_\_\_\_

11. **If you rent your home, do you give us permission to contact your landlord on your behalf in regards to obtaining permission to construct a ramp?**

Yes  No

12. **Please provide your landlord's contact information below:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_





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# HANDY HELPERS NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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Name:

Phone:

Address :

Directions to Home:

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### 1. Circle your age group:

- a. under 60      b. 60-64      c. 65-69      d. 70-74      e. 75-80      f. 80-above

## Living Arrangements and Household Needs

### 2. Check all choices which describe your current living arrangements:

I live in my home/apartment with my spouse

I live in my home/apartment alone

I live in my home/apartment with a relative

I live in my home/apartment with a friend

I own my home

I rent my home

I live in a retirement community

I live in an assisted- living setting

I live in a nursing home



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### 3. Circle all areas where you may need assistance

Gardening and landscaping

House cleaning and window washing

Minor Home Repairs

Hard to turn door knobs

Bathroom safety grab bar

Unsanitary conditions

Poor bathing facilities

Lack of, or broken stove, refrigerator, or freezer

Painting

Wheel chair ramp

Hand rails

Smoke alarms

Plumbing

No water or hot water

Electrical problems

Air conditioning/heating

Unsafe or poor lighting

Rearranging furniture, kitchen cabinets, or closets for easier access

Fire hazards

Other (Explain)