 Minnesota Women of Today

**Healthy Chapter Support and Resources**

**#1 How to build a network of resources outside your chapter.** Looking outside your chapter helps with new ideas and new energy.

* Attend State and District meetings for support, training and networking. After attending a state sponsored event you will leave feeling recharged and better prepared to go home and support your community.
* Contact the MNWT staff for personalized support and training. The State President and Chapter Management VP are great resources for help with planning for your chapter, improving your meetings and overall chapter improvements. The Membership VP can help with recruiting and retention ideas. Need help in other specific areas, contact the state counterpart such as Treasurer or Parliamentarian. And your District Director is always a good local resource to help!
* Make connections with other organizations in your community. Consider co-sponsoring an event or project to increase its positive impact.
* Apply for chapter grants to help ease the cost of a large chapter event. The MNWT foundation has many opportunities for members and chapters.
  + For Chapter Grant Application information look here:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/found_ChapterGrantApplication-2020.pdf>

* + For Matching Marketing Grant Application Information look here:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/found_matchingmarketinggrantapplication-2015.pdf>

**#2 Recruitment Help.** New members add energy and new connections within your chapter.

* Hosting a Membership social does not have to be difficult or scary. It does however need to be open to the public and publicized.
  + For everything you need to host a Membership Social, including flyers, press releases, event ideas, signup sheets, and lots of tips and tricks, check out the project library on the MNWT website.
* What happens after the membership social? First, plan your next social. Second, personally contact your newly found prospective members (the names on your list). Avoid emails and texts. Pick up the phone and personally call each of your prospective members and invite them to join you at an upcoming event. Below are two handouts to help.
  + Cold calling:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/membership_phonescript.pdf>

* + How to answer Women of Today questions:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/membership_chapterfatigue-2018.pdf>

* You should never feel alone when it comes to finding new members. Contact mvp@mnwt.org when you need assistance.

**#3 Retention Help.** All of your chapter’s members are important. Take time to listen to them, encourage them, and appreciate them.

* Create a Big Sis/Little Sis program within your chapter. This can help activate new members, reenergize members and build new friendships.
  + For ideas on how to create a program look here:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/secretary_big_sis.pdf>

* Take time to recognize members for what they do for your chapter and community. Recognition can be as simple as a thank you note or member of the month recognition. Take recognition one step further and nominate them for a state award. Nominations can be sent in each trimester.
  + If your chapter has an outstanding program manager, consider this nomination: <https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/mnwt_outstandingpmnomination-2016.pdf>
  + Consider a Presidential Pin Nomination for members that go above and beyond. The form can be found here:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/mnwt_presidentialpinnomination-2020.pdf>

* Use the information from your state nominations to create chapter spotlights (small articles that focus on the gifts specific members offer your chapter and community) and share them in your chapter newsletter and social media.
* Don’t be afraid to reevaluate your chapter’s projects and events.
  + Have your members fill out this membership survey (<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/cmvp_MembershipSurveyMid-Year.pdf>) as a starting point to honestly look at what your chapter does and how you can make changes to better serve your community and members.
  + See if your chapter is well rounded by completing the Success Program each trimester.
    - The Form:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/form_success-2023.pdf>

* + - Guidelines:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/membership_successguidelines-2023.pdf>

* + - Tips and Tricks:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/membership_successtrainingwinterstate-2024.pdf>

* Keep your meetings organized, fun and timely.
  + For board meeting tips see

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/chapter_boardmeetingtips.pdf>

* + For help on how to be a successful co-chair go here:

<https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/mnwt_chairinfo.pdf>