

Caribbean Wesleyan Holiness Church



GENERAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT

HANDBOOK



GBA Approved June 2013

TIPS TO YOUTH LEADERS

1. Share your personal experiences
2. Don't be afraid to admit failure
3. Incorporate appropriate technology
4. Communicate, Communicate - Communication is Vital
5. Befriend your youths, but set boundaries
6. Praise your youths publicly!
7. Always take time to talk to your youths
8. Be a good and GODLY example
9. Focus on people – Not on numbers!
10. Always show appreciation!
11. Be wise & be fair!
12. Show respect to your youths and other youth leaders
13. Be innovative and creative
14. Know the Word!
15. Prepare to deal with challenging youths
16. Get Online! – use the internet to your advantage
17. Involve Fellow Leaders in Decision Making!
18. Use Youth Ministry As a Training Ground for further Ministry
19. Be sensitive and serious
20. Include your youth group in planning
21. Assess your youth department regularly
22. Show your youths you really care

Acknowledgement

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- Rev. Calvin Brown, General Secretary of Youth
- Ms. Denise Knight, Central Area Chair (Antigua)
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- Ms. Cecily Tyson, (Northern Jamaica)

***Leadership is lifting a person's vision to higher sights,
the raising of a person's performance to a higher
standard, the building of a personality beyond its normal
limitations.***

(Peter F. Drucker)

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Foreword

In the Apostle Paul's second letter to Timothy, he urged the young Christian leader to "stir up" the gift of God that was in him. This, in many ways is what the ministry of Wesleyan Youth (WY) is all about. WY is predicated on the conviction that in each youth, lie the seeds of God's gifting for future life and service, or at least the capacity for it. However, a special effort is needed to ensure that these seeds are harnessed and nurtured early and provided with the appropriate 'husbandry' and 'environmental' support.

Wesleyan Youth is the organizational machinery or ministry arm of the Wesleyan Holiness Church, designed to provide such a ministry to youths. It will serve the purpose of reaching youths with the Gospel and winning them to Christ; and providing for them a Christian context and opportunity for holistic development as whole and holy human persons. WY ministry should therefore provide a youth- development experience which ensures that young people discover their God-given giftings and their capacity for usefulness to God; that they are developed, preserved and put to God-glorifying use, in human society.

This handbook is being provided as a guide to aid in the establishment of properly organized local WY chapters, the efficient running of district WY departments, and to improve the overall cohesiveness of the General Department of Wesleyan Youth. In outlining the mission of Wesleyan Youth, a philosophy of youth ministry, the roles and functions of the various officers and workers in the WY department, and suggestions for programming strategies, it is hoped that this handbook will serve to enhance the work and ministry of Wesleyan Youth at all levels of the Church so that WY can become of greater ministry impact and greater glory to God.

Calvin Brown (Rev.) General Secretary of Wesleyan Youth (1998-2010)

1322. Article 7. General WY Treasurer. The General Treasurer of The Wesleyan Holiness Church shall be the general treasurer of WY (761:2)), receiving, holding and disbursing all general WY funds in keeping with the actions of the general WY executive committee as approved or authorized by the General Board of Administration.

1324. Article 8. General WY Convention. There shall be a quadrennial general WY convention, primarily for inspiration, instruction, and fellowship. It shall be held at a time and place recommended by the General Wesleyan Youth Executive Committee (1318:2) and approved by the General Board of Administration.

D. Amendments to WY Constitutions

1326. The local, district or general constitutions of Wesleyan Youth may be amended by majority vote of the General Conference at any regular or special session. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in the manner given in 636.

for each area to the General Board of Administration for election. The area WY director shall take office at a time determined by the General Board, shall serve for four years or until a successor is elected and qualified, and shall be amenable to the general WY executive committee. He may be removed by the General Board of Administration by a majority vote of all the members when it is in the best interests of Wesleyan Youth or the Church. The General Board shall have power to fill any vacancies.

(c) **Duties.** The area WY director shall be responsible to cooperate with the general WY director and the general WY executive committee, exercise leadership of the area WY, report when requested to the general WY director and the general WY executive committee executive committee, nominate an assistant area WY director and other officers as deemed necessary to the general WY executive committee for election, and assume other duties assigned by the general WY executive committee in keeping with *The Discipline* and the General Board of Administration *Policy for Youth*.

(2) **Area WY Convention/Camp.** An area WY convention/camp shall be held quadrennially (2 years before a congress), primarily for the purposes of inspiration, instruction, and fellowship. The time and place is subject to the approved by the general WY executive committee.

Mission

The mission of Wesleyan Youth is to glorify God through evangelizing, nurturing and equipping youths to be effective Christian witnesses committed to lifelong service to Christ His Church and the well being of their community. Wesleyan Youth ministry shall therefore be characterized by an effective organization of youth designed to provide for the evangelization of youths, the personal and collective study of God's Word, the edifying of young believers, the active sharing of their faith, the holistic personal development of young individuals and the enlistment of youths in Christian service, through positive Christian fellowship, the use of their spiritual gifts, talents, skills and competencies, for the enhancement of family, church, community, and world; thus fulfilling the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

Wesleyan Youth Philosophy of Ministry

The youth ministry of the Wesleyan Holiness Church, Wesleyan Youth (WY), shall be underpinned by certain principles, priorities and core values, which will serve to inform, direct and evaluate the programmes and activities, as well as the aims and objectives of WY and its operations. These principles, priorities and core values set forth our understanding of the ministry mandate of Wesleyan Youth, its mission and purpose.

Biblical Foundation: Wesleyan Youth is a Christian youth movement which embraces the message and principles of the Bible as the basis of our ministry. As such, biblical teachings and principles form the primary foundation on which our mission and ministries are predicated.

Missional Direction: As a Christian organization, WY understands its ministry mandate as being a strategic and focused execution of the essential mission of the church – bringing the Kingdom of God on Earth – in a manner that is purposefully designed to reach, respond and

relate to the youth population of our communities in a relevant and redemptive way.

Evangelical Identification: Given its clear missionary mandate, WY shall therefore be identified as a ministry arm of the Wesleyan Holiness Church, characterized primarily as the church's organizational machinery for the strategic and effective evangelization of youths by Christian youths, with the Gospel of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Cultural Contextualization: Given the importance of a youth ministry strategy that is relevant and responsive to particular youth communities, yet redemptive, WY ministry, though embracing everywhere, a uniformity of mission, must allow for flexibility in the mode and method of execution and expression, so that in all instances, WY ministry must seek to employ the most contextually effective programme and content for youth ministry.

Transformational Intention: While an evangelistic emphasis will characterize our ministry, transformation, not merely evangelism, is the goal. As such, WY leaders must model change; WY ministry must mediate a transformational encounter with Jesus Christ, and must offer ministry experiences geared towards developing the principles, values and ethics of the Christian faith in its constituents. Ultimately, success must be measured not by how many youths we reach, but by how many lives are changed.

Formational Preparation: The ultimate purpose of this transformational formation is to fit our young people for effective and exemplary lives of Christian leadership and Christian service to their families, church, vocations, communities, and world, thus furthering the task of bringing the Kingdom of God among men.

WY will therefore provide opportunity for conversion, instruction, interaction, worship, service and self-expression, designed to developed character qualities reflecting the fruit of God's Spirit within, devotion to Christ and care for others. WY ministries will reflect the

assistant General WY Director, if such an officer has been appointed, and the general WY area directors. The General WY Director may appoint other personnel as are necessary for the administration of the department (906:10), subject to the approval of the General Board of Administration.

- (2) **Duties.** The General WY executive committee shall hear the reports of the General WY Director and the area WY directors; approve the official WY handbook; adopt recommendations to the General Secretary of Youth which he may present to the General Board of Administration (906:1); serve as an advisory body to provide counsel and assistance to the General WY Director (909); submit memorials to the General Conference including proposed changes in *The Discipline* (636); supervise area finances; approve area budgets; approve dates of area functions. All plans of the general WY executive committee shall be subject to the approval of the General Board of Administration.

1320. Article 6.

(1) Area Wesleyan Youth Director.

- (a) **Qualifications.** Each area WY director shall be a full member of The Wesleyan Holiness Church and shall reside and hold church membership within the area which he represents and serves.
- (b) **Election Procedure.** The General WY Director, after polling the district WY presidents, shall present nominations for an area WY director

1305. Article 8. Bylaws. The district WY conference may adopt such bylaws as it deems essential, provided they are in accord with *The Discipline*, the constitutions and mission of WY, and other directives of the General Church and district in coordination with the district board of Christian education and subject to the approval of the district board of administration.

C. Constitution of General Wesleyan Youth

1310. Article 1. Name. All local and district WY organizations shall be known collectively as the General Wesleyan Youth Department, an auxiliary of The Wesleyan Holiness Church.

1312. Article 2. Purpose. General Wesleyan Youth shall carry out the mission of Wesleyan Youth, securing the cooperation of local and district WY organizations, providing resources and motivating them to accomplish the mission of Wesleyan Youth (cf. 1272).

1314. Article 3. Relationship. General Wesleyan Youth shall be a ministry of The Wesleyan Holiness Church and shall be subject to the direction of the General Church.

1316. Article 4. General Secretary of Youth. The General Secretary of Youth shall be the general WY director, serving as the executive officer of the general WY organization. Complete regulations governing his election and duties are found in 905-906 (cf. 1300:2b)

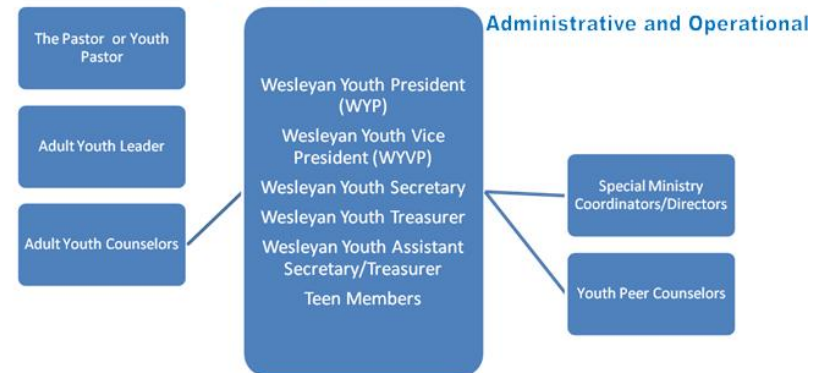
1318. Article 5. General WY Executive Committee.

- (1) **Membership.** The General WY executive committee shall be composed of the general WY director as chairman, the

priority of family and community life, of human development, of conversion to Christ, of worship and service, and the Lordship of Christ.

LOCAL WESLEYAN YOUTH PERSONNEL

Ministerial and Supervisory



A. Ministerial and Supervisory

1. The Pastor or Youth Pastor
2. Adult Youth Leader
3. Adult Youth Counselors

B. Administrative and Operational

1. Wesleyan Youth President (WYP)
2. Wesleyan Youth Vice President (WYVP)
3. Wesleyan Youth Secretary
4. Wesleyan Youth Treasurer
5. Wesleyan Youth Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
6. Teen Members
7. Special Ministry Coordinators/Directors
8. Youth Peer Counselors

Local Wesleyan Youth Officers (WYO)

1. WY President
2. WY Vice President
3. WY Secretary
4. WY Treasurer
5. WY Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
6. Teen Member
7. Special Ministries Coordinators

WESLEYAN YOUTH JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Roles and Functions of Wesleyan Youth Officers:

The constitution of Wesleyan Youth sets out the roles and functions of WY officers and staff at all levels (1280:3, 1298, 1380:2, 1320:1c cf. 906). The job descriptions outlined here are therefore complementary and explanatory.

LOCAL WESLEYAN YOUTH DEPARTMENT

WY President:

- To exercise general leadership of the local WY under the general oversight of the Pastor and the counsel of the Adult Youth Leader.
- To cooperate with the pastor and the adult youth leader on all aspects of his duty, seeking to ensure that the mission of WY is carried out.
- To preside over business meetings of the WY department and the WY executive committee
- To plan, along with the WY executive committee, the

WY president, district WY treasurer, teen cabinet members (1296:1c), nominating committee members, and all other offices to be filled by the district WY conference.

(b) Other Committees. The district WY conference may appoint other committees as it deems essential.

(5) Election Procedure. The district WY president shall be elected by majority ballot from among the nominees submitted by the nominating committee and approved by the district board of administration. The district WY treasurer and two teen cabinet members shall be elected by a majority ballot of the district WY conference from the nominations submitted by the nominating committee or other nominations from the floor. The District WY vice president and secretary may be elected by a majority ballot of the district WY conference or other nominations from the floor. The nominating committee may be elected in any manner desired by the district WY conference. All elections other than district WY president (486:21) must be ratified by the district board of administration before becoming final (486:22).

(6) Amenability. All plans and actions of the district WY conference shall be subject to the approval of the district board of administration (486:22).

1304. Article 7. Zones. A district WY cabinet may organize activities within one or more zones which meet for inspiration and fellowship (cf. 486:12, 1296:1g).

secretary of youth or his designated representative is present and presides (906:6, 1298:2f).

(3) **Membership.**

- (a) Voting members of the district WY conference shall include the district superintendent, the district WY cabinet, each local adult youth leader or pastor/youth pastor and WY president plus delegates from each organized local WY (1280:3g).
- (b) The district WY conference may have such honorary members as it desires.

(4) **Committees.**

- (a) **Nominating Committee.** The district WY conference shall elect three members to serve with the district WY president and the district superintendent as the nominating committee. The district superintendent shall serve as chair. Elected members of the nominating committee shall not succeed themselves. The nominating committee shall present nomination (s) for district WY president to the district board of administration for their approval, or additional nominations, prior to the district WY conference (486:22). The nominating committee shall then present to the conference the nomination (s) for district

programmes and activities of the youth department.

- To oversee the delegation and assignment of duties for the regular meetings and activities of the chapter.
- To seek guidance and assistance from the adult youth leader and other adult youth staff as may be necessary to ensure that adequate leadership and counselling support is available both for the administration of the department as well as the mentoring of youths.
- To be an ex officio member of all local WY sub-committees
- To report annually to the district WY conference, the local church conference and the local church board of administration (LBA) as instructed .

WY Vice President:

- To assist the president as the president or the WY executive committee shall request.
- To assume the duties of the president in the absence/ unavailability of the president.

Local Youth Secretary:

- To maintain the WY membership list and record of all attendances to all meetings.
- To record and prepare the minutes of all business meetings.
- To compile WY statistical reports and assist the WY president and the pastor/local church secretary in compiling statistics reports requiring WY statistics.
- To provide annual statistical reports for the annual WY business meeting, local church conference and annual district WY conference or the general secretary of youth.

Local Youth Treasurer:

- To receive, record, hold, and disburse all funds of the local WY in a manner determined by the LBA, and in keeping with

ministries as deemed necessary.

- the financial plans and policies of the WY executive committee, the district WY and the general department of youth.
- To collect all membership dues, ensuring that are outstanding amounts be settled.
 - To remit all funds intended for the district or general WY to the district WY treasurer.
 - To provide financial reports for the executive committee, the annual WY business meeting, the local church conference, or as required by the LBA or local WY.

WY Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

- To assist the secretary and treasurer in the performance of their duties especially at the regular WY meetings, and as the secretary, treasurer, or WY executive committee may require.

Teen Members

- To represent the particular interest, concerns and views of their peers to the WY executive committee.
- To understudy the local WY leaders as a means of preparation for future service in WY leadership. (A teen member may fill the office of assistant secretary-treasurer)

Special Ministries Coordinators

- To cooperate with the WY president and WY executive committee in providing immediate leadership for an assigned specific area of youth ministry, such as prayer, evangelism, sports, music, etc.

Local Adult Youth Leader

- To supervise the work of the local WY in cooperation with the pastor.

- (7) **Other Committees.** Each district WY may also have such other committees as the district WY cabinet shall deem necessary.

1300. Article 6. District WY Convention. There shall be an annual convention of the district Wesleyan Youth to mobilize youth towards the fulfillment of the mission of Wesleyan Youth, to provide inspiration, opportunity for commitment to Christ and His call to service, training and fellowship, and to promote a spirit of unity and identity among the youth of the church. The annual district WY conference (1301) may be held as part of this convention.

1301. Article 7. District WY Conference.

- (1) There shall be a district WY conference held primarily to conduct the business of reporting and electing the officers of the district WY department.

(2) Organization.

- (a) The annual district WY conference shall be held at a time and place recommended by the district WY cabinet in consultation with the general secretary of youth and approved by the district board of administration (486:22).
- (b) The district WY president shall preside over the district WY conference unless the general

(5) Duties of the District WY Treasurer.

- (a) To receive, record and hold all moneys remitted by local WY treasurers or raised by the district WY.
- (b) To disburse funds in accordance with the financial plans of the district WY cabinet, the district WY convention and the General Department of Youth.
- (c) To report annually to the district conference (473:13) and district WY convention (1300:6), and to the district WY president and cabinet as requested.
- (d) To submit the district WY treasurer's books annually to the district auditing committee (512-522), and when ordered by the district board of administration.

(6) Duties of the District WY Cabinet.

- (a) The district WY cabinet shall direct the ministries of the district WY between the annual district WY conventions, including local leadership development, spiritual development, evangelistic activities, service opportunities, finances, communications, fellowship and other ministries.
- (b) The district WY cabinet may also appoint adult advisors and others to direct specific youth

- To attend and provide leadership support at all meetings of the WY, including socials outings, and meetings of the WY executive committee.
- To guide and encourage the WY executive in their tasks as needed, and provide counselling support to the youth.
- To recruit additional adult staff to provide counselling and support to the youth as needed.
- To represent the pastor at annual district WY conference as a voting member.

Tips For WY Secretaries

Minutes & Correspondences:

- Sit in a position which allows you to hear and see the entire proceedings clearly and have quick un-interrupting dialogue with the chair if necessary.
- Summarize - don't write word for word.
- Rewrite the minutes as soon as possible.
- Highlight things that need to be done and the name of persons who are responsible for tasks.
- Handwritten documents should be neat and legible; typewritten documents should be typed with line spacing of about 1.5. Use a dictionary often to for spell check, especially when sending out correspondence.
- Make sure your pastor knows/sees the correspondence before it goes out.
- Deal with correspondence as soon as it arrives.
- Inform/remind the president of its contents, but be responsible to file, record, etc.
- Remind the president of any information/matter that requires his/her action.
- Ensure that all outgoing correspondence have contact

names, numbers or addresses of the president and secretary.

Statistics:

- Do a little bit every week; don't wait until the rush at the end of the quarter or church year is upon you.
- Always keep copies of the reports you send out.
- If you are not sure what is required, contact the district WY secretary or ask the local church secretary for help.

DISTRICT WESLEYAN YOUTH DEPARTMENT

District WY President:

- To exercise general leadership of the district WY under the general oversight of the district Superintendent and the district board of administration (DBA).
- To organize, along with the district WY cabinet, ministry programmes and activities for the youth across the district, and to provide training in leadership development and youth ministries for local and district youth personnel.
- To preside over all business meetings of the district WY cabinet and to serve as *ex officio* member of all district WY committees.
- To seek to organize local WY departments in every church in the District in co-operation with the pastors and local church boards.
- To liaise with local presidents and executives concerning areas of needs with which the district WY may assist, and to work in cooperation with pastors and LBAs to provide such support for local chapters.
- To recruit, in consultation with the district superintendent, other personnel, adult youth staff,

conference by virtue of this office (440:8) unless he is a voting member by some other right.

(3) **Duties of the District WY Vice President.** The district WY vice president shall assist the district WY president in all phases of his/her work as the district WY president or the district WY cabinet may determine. The Cabinet may also assign the district WY vice president to fill a specific area of responsibility as a special ministry director or zone coordinator.

(4) **Duties of the District WY Secretary.**

- (a) To be responsible for the official correspondences of the cabinet and the district WY department.
- (b) To record the minutes of the district WY convention and of the meetings of the district WY cabinet.
- (c) To prepare annual statistical reports for the annual district WY conference and to assist the district WY president in submitting statistical reports to the district and to the general department of Wesleyan Youth.
- (d) To perform such other duties as may be assigned by the district WY convention, the district WY president and the district WY cabinet.

- (c) To assign such responsibility to cabinet members as are needed to carry out the purpose of district WY (cf. 1292).
- (d) To preside over meetings of the district WY cabinet.
- (e) To serve as an *ex officio* member of all district WY committees.
- (f) To preside over sessions of the district WY convention, except when the General Secretary of Youth or his designated representative is present and presiding (906:6).
- (g) To supervise the recruiting and equipping of local youth leaders in cooperation with pastors and local boards of administration, seeking to organize local WYs in every church.
- (h) To report annually to the district conference (473:13) and the district WY convention regarding the state of the youth movement including realization of goals and his vision for the future.
- (i) To submit annual reports to the general secretary of youth and to cooperate with the general WY director and the general WY executive committee (1316; 1318).
- (j) To be a nonvoting member of the district

and such resources persons as needed to serve the ministry needs of the district WY department.

- To report annually to the district WY conference the district conference and to the district board of administration as may be required.
- To preside over the annual district WY conference in the absence of the general secretary of youth or his designate.
- To cooperate with the general secretary of youth and the general WY executive.
- To serve as a member of the Area WY executive committee and as a member of the general WY executive when opportunity affords.

District WY Vice President:

- To assist the district WY president as the president and district WY cabinet shall request.
- To assume the duties of the district WY president in his absence/unavailability.
- To assume responsibility for any specific area of district WY work or ministry assigned by the district WY cabinet.

District WY Secretary:

- To record the minutes of the district WY cabinet meetings and the district WY conference.
- To be responsible for the correspondences of the district WY department.
- To assist the district WY president with correspondences and reports as may be required.
- To maintain a directory of the names and addresses of the district WY officers, zone WY coordinators and zone committees.

- To ensure that statistical reports from local WY departments are submitted to the district WY before the convening of district WY conference.
- To record and compile the statistics of the district WY department, and provide statistical reports to the district WY conference.
- To forward a copy of the directory, together with a complete record of the district WY statistics to the General Secretary of Youth within thirty days of district WY conference.

District WY Treasurer:

- To receive, record and hold all moneys remitted by the local WY treasurers or raised by district WY.
- To forward designated funds and disbursing other funds in keeping with the financial plans of the district WY cabinet, the DBA and the General Department of Youth, or as directed by the district WY conference.
- To remit funds intended for the general WY or general church to the district treasurer, or in a manner approved by the DBA.
- To provide an audited financial report to the annual district WY conference or to the DBA as may be required.

Appointed District WY Cabinet Members:

- The duties and functions of all persons appointed to the district WY cabinet shall be determined as directed by the district WY president and the district WY cabinet.
- Appointed members shall perform their assigned duties as well as provide support to the work of

the cabinet (511:10).

- (2) **Qualifications.** All cabinet members and members of district WY committees must be full members of The Wesleyan Holiness Church and active members or honorary members of a local WY chapter within the district, have a burden and vision for youth ministry, demonstrate commitment to the mission of Wesleyan Youth and participates in a local WY chapter.
- (3) **Amenability and Vacancies.** The district WY cabinet members shall be amenable to the district board of administration and may be removed when the best interests of the WY or district so require, by a majority vote of the district board of administration. Vacancies of elected positions shall be filled by the district board of administration, and vacancies in appointed positions shall be filled by the district WY president subject to the approval of the district board of administration.

1298. Article 5. Duties of District WY Leaders.

- (1) **Criteria.** Cabinet members shall carry out their duties in keeping with *The Discipline*, the WY Constitution and the official WY handbook authorized by the General Board and issued by the General Department of Youth.

(2) Duties of the District WY President.

- (a) To exercise leadership by coordinating and directing the ministry of district WY.
- (b) To appoint additional members to the district WY cabinet within 30 days after the district WY convention (cf. 1296:1)

superintendent (1296:1f), for a term of one year.

- c. **District WY Secretary.** The district WY secretary may be elected by the district WY conference or appointed by the district WY President, in consultation with the district superintendent (1296:1f), for a term of one year.
- d. **District WY Treasurer.** The district WY treasurer shall be elected by the district WY conference for a term of one year.
- e. **Teen Members.** There shall be two teen members, elected by the district WY conference for a term of one year.
- f. **Appointed Members.** The district WY president and his/her cabinet, in consultation with the district superintendent, may appoint additional members as may be required, for a one-year term, within thirty days after the district WY convention, subject to ratification by the district board of administration.
- g. **Zone Coordinators.** The district WY cabinet may appoint zone coordinators to coordinate activities among local chapters within zones. Zone coordinators should serve as cabinet members reporting to the district WY president, the district WY cabinet, and the district WY convention.
- h. **District Superintendent.** The district superintendent shall be an *ex officio* member of

district WY in whatever other ways possible and needed.

District WY Zone Coordinator:

- To cooperate with the District WY president in coordinating the activities of district WY at the zonal level.
- To exercise immediate supervision and district support to the local WYs in the respective zone.
- To form a zone committee, where necessary, consisting of the local WY presidents in the zone, and recruiting additional personnel as may be required, to assist in carrying out the work of district WY at the zonal level
- To organize, along with the zone committee (if one is in place), activities for fellowship, talent exposé or evangelism among the WY chapters in the zones.
- To serve as a member of the district WY cabinet, representing on behalf of the local chapters in the zone.
- To report to the district WY cabinet as required concerning his/her work as zone coordinator and annually to the district WY conference.

GENERAL WESLEYAN YOUTH DEPARTMENT

General Secretary of Youth

The General Secretary of Youth shall serve as the director of the General Wesleyan Youth Department exercising visionary, supervisory, and directional leadership of the work of Wesleyan Youth. This involves:

- Visiting District WYs and consulting with District WY presidents on various aspects of their work

- Conducting training and other ministry services to District and Local WY leaders and youths in general
- Providing resources and other materials to aid in the work and ministry of Wesleyan Youth
- Conducting annual District WY conferences or designating his assistant/area WY chairman to do so.
- To direct the planning of General Wesleyan Youth Congress, ensuring that the necessary committees and personnel are properly recruited and assigned.
- To serve as the chairman of the General Wesleyan Youth Congress.
- To recommend to the General Board of Administration (GBA) candidates for the positions of Assistant General Secretary of Youth and the Area WY chairmen.
- Convene meetings of the General WY executive committee, recruiting such other personnel as may be required, subject to the approval of the GBA.
- To submit the plans for General WY Congress and other events or activities of General WY department to the GBA for approval.
- To provide reports to the GBA and General Conference concerning the progress of the department.

General WY Area Chairman

- To assist, cooperate and support the work of the general secretary of youth and general WY as may be required.
- To represent the general secretary of youth in his/her respective area.
- To serve as a member of the general WY executive

Youth is to carry out the mission of WY (1272) on the district level and to train local WY leaders for effective ministry to youth.

1294. Article 3. Relationship. The district WY shall be a ministry of the district of The Wesleyan Church to which it belongs, operating for the benefit of local WY organizations, subject to the supervision of the district superintendent, coordinating its programs with the district board of Christian education, being amenable to the district board of administration.

1296. Article 4. District WY Leadership.

- (1) **District WY Cabinet.** The district WY cabinet shall be composed of the district WY president as chairman, district WY vice president as vice chairman, the district WY secretary, the district WY treasurer, two teen members, appointed members, and the district superintendent as ex officio.
 - a. **District WY President.** The district WY president is elected by the district WY conference (1300:4a). The initial election shall be for a term of one year, and reelection thereafter shall be for a term of two years. Total years of service as district WY president shall not exceed seven years.
 - b. **District WY Vice President.** The district WY vice president may be elected by the district WY conference (1300:5) or appointed by the district WY president, in consultation with the district

become necessary to divide the group into create more discreet age-levels in order for more focused and effective ministry to a large number of different youth cohorts. The WY executive committee, subject to the approval of the local board of administration, may, in such cases, approve the organization of the local WY into two or more separate age-level divisions. These may include a division for teens ages 13 – 18, Wesleyan Teens Troop (WTT), and a division for youths ages 19-35, Young Adults Fellowship (YAF). A coordinator/director should be appointed to coordinate the activities and plans of each division and may recruit a small committee to execute immediate leadership of the division. The local WY president and executive committee however, will have the overall responsibility for each division as parts of the local WY department. Age-level coordinators should become members of the local WY executive committee.

1284. Article 9. Bylaws. The local Wesleyan Youth may adopt such bylaws as it deems necessary, provided that they do not conflict with *The Discipline* or other directives of the general church and district, and provided they are approved by the local board of Christian education (363:2) or the local board of administration (316:23), and the district WY cabinet.

B. Constitution of District Wesleyan Youth

1290. Article 1. Name. All local WY organizations within the bounds of a district shall be known collectively as Wesleyan Youth of the _____ District of The Wesleyan Holiness Church.

1292. Article 2. Purpose. The purpose of the district Wesleyan

committee.

- To assist the general secretary of youth in the planning of General WY Congress and any other general WY event.
- To ensure that statistical and other reports of the various district are submitted to the general secretary of youth.

STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH MINISTRIES

The diverse nature of the Caribbean requires a great deal of flexibility and contextual programming. As such, rather than offering a ‘one-size-fit-all’ programming strategy, this handbook seeks to suggest a wide range of programming styles and suggests a variety of approaches that may be taken into consideration.

Each district WY department and local chapter is expected to adapt these ideas and concepts and employ those programming which will be useful and beneficial in each district/local context.

PROGRAMME APPROACHES

- (1) **The Curricular Approach:** Using a curriculum to last for at least one year, structure your youth ministries to include a systematic and well organized programme of study, talent expression and service that allows for each session to be a follow-up on the previous. This allows for continuity, sustaining interest and systematic learning. Many youth ministries curriculum can be found in Christian bookstores and on the internet.
- (2) **The Contemporary Issues Approach:** This allows you to use the most topical issues affecting youth, whether it

relates to drugs, sexuality, crime and violence, popular music, etc., or simply generate topical concerns from the group. Using, special presentations by experts, panel discussions, debates, musical and poetic expressions, drama, graphic arts and banner competitions, among several activities, youths can share their views and experiences with these issues and learn how to respond as Christian youths.

- (3) **The Thematic Approach:** Select a particular theme, whether biblical or otherwise and structure the programme for one month or up to a quarter around that theme. A variety of programmes and activities providing for intellectual engagement, affective expressions, and social interactions designed to bring out this theme may be employed.
- (4) **Social & Recreational Approach:** This seeks to use the natural predisposition of youths towards social interaction, peer group activity, sports and games as a vehicle for holistic development and Christian training. Through the use of fun and socially interactive activities, youths can be taught Christian values, Christian character, and biblical principles of human relationships and community life.
- (5) **The Youth Challenge Approach:** Youths thrive on competition and rivalry. This can be used as a vehicle to promote bible study, stewardship, excellence and discipline. It requires careful management however as it also has the risk of causing a selfish spirit of competition.

PROGRAMME EMPHASES

pastor as an *ex officio* member. The local WY president, under the guidance of the adult youth leader, shall serve as chairman of the WY executive committee. All actions of the WY executive committee shall be subject to the review of the local board of administration (316:23).

- (4) **Delegates.** In addition to the pastor or adult youth leader and local WY president who are members of the district WY conference by virtue of their offices, each organized local WY shall be entitled to two youth delegates to the district WY convention (1300:3). In addition, each organized local WY whose average attendance is 20 or more shall be entitled to an additional adult and youth delegate for each additional 20 youth in average attendance.
- (5) **Term of Service.** Local WY officers shall take office at the beginning of the local WY year and shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified. A shorter term of service may be adopted by action of the Local Board of Administration.
- (6) **Vacancies.** All officers of the local WY shall be amenable for their official duties to the local board of administration and may be removed by a majority vote of the local board of administration, whenever the best interests of the church or the local WY so require (316:25). The local board of administration shall have authority to see that all vacancies are filled in the manner it deems best (316:26).

1282. Article 8. Age-Level Divisions. In larger congregations, it may

cooperation with the WY president, shall be responsible for written correspondence, minutes, membership and statistical records, and annual reports.

- (j) Local WY Treasurer.** The local WY treasurer, in cooperation with the WY president shall be responsible for the raising, receipt, disbursement of WY funds, and properly preserving the financial records of the local WY department, and shall cooperate with the president in providing monthly, quarterly and annual reports to the local board of administration, church conference, local or district WY as may be required. A WY secretary-treasurer may be elected to carry out the duties of both WY secretary and WY treasurer.
- (k) Other Officers.** Each local WY may elect other officers, such as WY vice president, directors of evangelism, prayer, fellowship, sports, service projects and others as needed to fulfill the mission of WY (1272).
- (l) Adult Youth Staff.** The adult youth leader, in consultation with the pastor, may recruit other adult staff to serve as adult youth counselors to help carry out the ministry of WY.
- (m) WY Executive Committee.** The WY executive committee shall be composed of the adult youth leader, local WY president, local WY secretary, local WY treasurer, assistant WY secretary-treasurer, teen member and all other WY officers, as well as the

Whatever programme styles or approaches are used, the following emphases should be always upheld as the underlining aims that we seek to achieve. These must include though no limited to

1. Evangelizing youths with the Gospel;
2. Developing a sound understanding of the Word of God (Narrative study, Character study, Bible doctrines);
3. Discipleship development in those converted to Christ;
4. Providing opportunity for the discovery and development of talents and affirming and allowing youths to use their various talents and skills to serve the Lord;
5. Providing opportunities for youths to be engaged in Christian service and ministry to others;
6. Providing opportunities for youths to develop personal character and be helped in furthering their educational and career development;
7. Training youths in developing a proper appreciation for a wide range of human and environmental relationship and family life;
8. Developing Christian character that enables youths to exhibit Christian values and ethics in all spheres of life;

the direction of the pastor or adult youth leader. These elections are subject to ratification by the Local Board of Administration. The Local Board of Administration may also appoint local WY officers whenever necessary (1273, 1280:1b).

(3) Duties of Officers.

(g) Adult Youth Leader. The adult youth leader is the pastor's representative in providing spiritual oversight and administrative supervision to the youth president and the WY executive committee. He shall seek to guide the youth in fulfilling the mission of WY (1272), overseeing the activities and programmes of the local WY, and leading by spiritual example. The adult youth leader shall serve as the chairman of the annual business meeting, unless the pastor/youth pastor presides.

(h) Local WY President. The local WY president is the person primarily responsible for the regular meetings and activities of the local WY. He, along with his executive committee, shall organize, coordinate and conduct the activities of the local WY, and shall serve as the chairman of the youth executive council and regular business meetings of local WY under the direction of the adult youth leader. The local WY president shall cooperate with the pastor and adult youth leader in implementing the mission of WY (1272), as he seeks to lead his peers by spiritual example.

(i) Local WY Secretary. The local WY secretary, in

(1273, 1275).

- (c) Other WY Officers. In addition to the adult youth leader and the WY president, the WY secretary, WY treasurer, assistant WY secretary-treasurer, teen members, and any other member of the local WY executive committee shall comprise the local WY officers. The local WY officers shall be Christian youth who are members of the local WY and in harmony with the doctrines and standards of The Wesleyan Holiness Church.
- (d) Adult Youth Staff. The adult youth leader may choose to recruit additional adult staff. These should be officially recognized as adult youth counselors. They shall be persons who are in harmony with the doctrines and standards of The Wesleyan Holiness Church, conduct their lives in a manner which will inspire youth to holy living, and able to assist the adult youth leader in the area of youth counseling and other support services. Adult youth staff are not WY officers.

(2) **Elections.**

- (e) Adult Youth Leader. The adult youth leader shall be elected by the local board of administration (316:22), considering input from local youth.
- (f) WY Officers. The local WY president, WY secretary, WY treasurer, assistant secretary-treasurer, teen members, and delegates to the district WY convention shall be elected by the local WY under

Chapter III

WESLEYAN YOUTH

A. Constitution of Local Wesleyan Youth

1271. Article 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be Wesleyan Youth (WY) of _____ Wesleyan Church, or a local WY may select its own name for local identification purposes.

1272. Article 2. Mission. The mission of Wesleyan Youth is to glorify God through evangelizing, nurturing and equipping youths to be effective Christian witnesses committed to lifelong service to Christ and his Church. Wesleyan Youth ministry shall therefore be characterized by an effective organization of youth designed to provide for the evangelization of youths, the personal and collective study of God's Word, the edifying of young believers, the active sharing of their faith, the holistic personal development of young individuals and the enlistment of youths in Christian service, through positive Christian fellowship, the use of their spiritual gifts, talents, skills and competencies, for the enhancement of family, church, community, and world; thus fulfilling the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

1273. Article 3. Organization. A local WY shall be considered an organized WY if it has an adult youth leader, a WY president, a secretary-treasurer, meets regularly and has registered with the District Wesleyan Youth Department, and where none exists, with the General Department Youth. In case there are no youth qualified to serve as officers, the local board of administration

may grant an exemption on youth officer elections, and upon appointing a local WY executive committee, register them as an official local WY chapter.

1274. Article 4. Relationship. The local WY shall be a ministry of the Wesleyan Holiness church, shall be subject to the supervision of the pastor (294:16) and the district WY president (1298:2h), and in all actions shall be amenable to the local board of administration (316:3, 23), and shall be under the direction of the local board of Christian education (363:2).

1275. Article 5. Membership. Any youth beginning secondary school (grade 7) or reaching age thirteen through thirty five, who is in any way touched by the local church ministries and who desires to participate in the meetings and activities of WY shall be eligible for WY membership. An Adult over age thirty-five who desires to participate in the meetings and activities of WY may be listed as an honorary member. An honorary member may not serve on the executive committee except as the WY president or the adult youth leader, or a member of the adult youth staff (1280:1a, 1d, 3e). An adult over age thirty-five who has been appointed by the Local Board of Administration to serve as the local WY president or as the adult youth leader shall no longer be listed as an honorary member, but as a regular member of the local WY department. (1280:1b). Each local WY chapter, subject to the approval of the Local Board of Administration, may adopt other specific criteria for membership.

1276. Article 6. Meetings.

(1) **Regular Meetings.** The local WY shall hold meetings and

activities which will help it to fulfill the mission of WY (1272).

- (2) **Annual Business Meetings.** The local WY shall hold an annual business meeting at a time set by the local WY executive committee for the election of officers and delegates and other necessary business (cf. 1280:2).
- (3) **Special Business Meetings.** The local WY executive committee may call a special business meeting, subject to the approval of the pastor or adult youth leader.

1280. Article 7. WY Officers and Staff

(1) **Qualifications.**

- (a) **Adult Youth Leader.** The adult leader shall be a full member of The Wesleyan Holiness Church who lives a life that will inspire youth to holy living. The position may be filled by either a minister or a layman (1280:3).
- (b) **Local WY President.** The local WY president shall be a member of The Wesleyan Holiness Church or a Christian youth who is in harmony with the doctrines and standards of The Wesleyan Church, has committed to regular attendance and participation in the local church, and a member of the local WY chapter. If there are no youths qualified to serve as WY president, the Local Board of Administration may appoint an adult who is a full member of the local Wesleyan Holiness Church to fill the position of local WY president. A person so appointed shall be listed as a regular member of the local WY department