



HEART TO HEART SISTERS AT THE 2017 LWML CONVENTION IN ALBUQUERQUE

# H2H Sisters 2017-2019 Biennium

## PROGRAM PLAN

The 2017-2019 Heart to Heart Sisters Committee is blessed with a gifted committee made up of women who love the Lord, His Church, and the expansion of His kingdom. **Oluwatoyin Akinde Fakuajo(Toyin)** from Minnesota South, **Mai Nhia Thao** from South Wisconsin (Heart to Heart Sister District Leader from the class of 2017 at the Albuquerque convention), **Anita Beyersdorf**, past district president from Michigan, Chairman **Melissa Salomon** from California. We are privileged to serve under the leadership of Kaye Wolff, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries from Michigan. The big shift in perspective is in going beyond the Heart to Heart Sisters Program as a program of ACCESS and working toward making it a program that ensures MENTORING relationships for multicultural women with women leaders in the LWML primarily on the district level. This is a major shift in purpose and planning.

### Plan for the 2017-2019 Biennium

- 1.) The Heart to Heart Sisters program will be moved to the District level.** This not only gives women an opportunity to learn about the LWML and its mission but also be a part of the life and work of the LWML closer to the local level. Heart to Heart Sisters would have the opportunity to meet LWML leaders on the district level and likely on the zone and local level. We wish to foster mentoring relationships for multicultural women among the leadership of the LWML at the district level.
- 2.) We will create programming for the Heart to Heart Sisters that has some basic information and variations so that it can serve as a template for the Districts and can also be customized to serve the needs and structure of an LWML District.** This programming will include opportunities to develop mentoring relationships for women new to the LWML.

- 3.) **The Heart to Heart Sisters District Leaders (H2H DL) will continue to be hosted at a preconvention program at the national convention.** These new H2H District Leaders will thus experience the National Convention giving them an expansive and exciting view of the LWML, the mission fields it impacts, and meet some of the leaders that give their gifts of time, talent and treasure to advance the Kingdom of God.
- 4.) **We will start the Heart to Heart Sisters District Leaders program on the Wednesday before convention, instead of the Tuesday before convention as it has been structured.** Ministry commitments of so many days makes it difficult for us to invite active and working women to be H2H DLs. Cutting the program by one day will lighten this obligation. It will also help conserve resources by eliminating one day and night from the expense that is allocated for this program.
- 5.) **We will extend the Heart to Heart Sisters District Leader program by adding virtual videotaped workshops that will cover some basic informational pieces that will help the H2H DL women be effective in their districts.** Finding creative ways to bring training and resourcing to women in the field will help us reach more women who don't have the time to spend several days at such training/convention.
- 6.) **Part of the H2H DL's work in the field (pre/preconvention program) will be in conjunction with their LWML District President.** This will help the H2H DLs build a mentoring relationship with their District President (or other executive leader as the DP may direct) and learn more about how their district works. The H2H DLs will work on a goal document for H2H in their district with their District President. This will allow the plan to be tailored to the District and because it is a work contributed to by the DP, it will have greater support and ownership by the District. Building a relationship between the H2H DL and the DP will help the H2H DL feel more comfortable at convention. The H2H DL will have an opportunity to meet more of their district leaders at the national convention.
- 7.) **The H2H DLs will sit with their District Presidents at the national convention and not as a H2H group.** This will allow the relationships between DPs and H2H DLs to grow stronger.
- 8.) **The H2H DLs will walk with their District Presidents and the Young Women Reps during the District Banners Processional.** This allows the convention goers to see that both the Young Women and Multi-Cultural Women have strong support within the LWML.
- 9.) **The H2H Committee Members will each be assigned a portion of the previous H2H DLs to provide ongoing mentorship, support, and continued resourcing.** This will be primarily for the DLs of the prior conventions. We will also create a strategy to provide resources to all the trained H2H DLs.
- 10.) **We will write additional resources for use in the District H2H Sisters Program as well as the H2H Sisters District Leader program that will clarify the programs.** We are particularly interested in developing graphic informational pieces or infographics that help people understand the programs in a visually pleasing way.
- 11.) **We will write articles, Bible studies, and informational pieces for Lutheran Woman's Quarterly (LWQ), the LWML Facebook page, as well as the H2H Sisters Facebook group and finding helpful resources for inclusion on the H2H Sisters portion of the website.**