LIVE WELL TABLES
HopeSprings and Open Table

Program Overview
Through our partnership with Open Table, HopeSprings is creating “Live Well Tables” around a friend living with HIV. Open Table is the poverty transformation model employed in this initiative. A “Table” is a team of 8-10 people, investing their vocational and life experiences and networks, and meeting regularly for a year with individuals and families in poverty. They aim to develop and implement personal and family economic plans that will build financial sustainability and wholeness for the participants and their communities, while continuing to address the challenges with staying in HIV care.

All information confidential. Unless information is given that indicates the resident might hurt themselves or someone else, information shared in the one-on-one discussions will be kept within that relationship.

Volunteer Roles

- Mission Leader - A congregation champion for volunteer recruitment specific to Live Well Tables. This volunteer does not need to serve on every table recruited through their congregation, though it is encouraged to serve at least once.
- Table Member– Each volunteer serves the Brother/Sister throughout the year and is assigned a specific Chair role. Volunteers do not have to be an expert in their Chair role, but are responsible to help Brother/Sister navigate this area of their life in regards to the life plan that they create with their Table.

“What Table Members are givers of hope when all others seem to tell you what you can’t do or what you’re ineligible for.”
- Brother served by a Table

“What Serving on a Table is a loving and secure way to step outside of your comfort zone. As you are serving you are being served.”
- Table Member

What you will need:
- Church support through a licensing process
- Mission Leader
- 8-10 Table Member Volunteers
- Availability to host Table meetings at your congregation location or ability to network for a location that works for the Brother/Sister
FAQs

**Q: What if I can’t make a meeting?**

A: We understand that life happens, and it is possible a volunteer may not be able to attend every meeting. It is encouraged that to best support the Brother/Sister, table members try to make every available meeting and maintain contact with other table members throughout the process.

**Q: Do I need to be an expert in my Chair role and do I get a choice?**

A: Table member volunteers do NOT need to be experts in the area of their assigned chair role. They will however, help coordinate with the Brother/Sister being served and the table members to make sure that the Brother/Sister has access to these components to maintain connection to care.
Volunteer Costs

Volunteers are asked to provide a member fee of $120 for table members that helps to cover the costs for training, backgrounding, and resources and tools provided. Open Table explains this as:

“The Open Table experience is a 12-month mission trip teaching members about the transformative power of relationship. As with most mission trips, the congregation and trip members are each responsible for a share of the costs. The congregation may help pay the organizer costs and/or supplies while trip members pay their transportation and incidental costs. Without the congregation and trip members jointly contributing, the trip usually cannot be funded. Open Table mission trip is funded similarly. The church pays a portion as does each Table member. Together, this funding helps support Open Table and its mission to increase the impact in your community and beyond. These payments allow Open Table to provide the model, Launch Handbook and model versions; training and materials for Coordinators and Table Members, background training and support, behavioral health team coordination, the Basecamp project management system and coordination, the Member Portal (tools and resources for congregations) and other project support and coordination.” (Open Table Frequently Asked Questions, 2015)

HopeSprings will provide training, technical assistance and coaching throughout the process.

Fee Options & Requirements

- This fee can be paid via check, included with your application sent to our office, or online. Instructions are provided on the application.
- Scholarships may be available for any who may not be able to pay the fee. Contact tables@hopesprings.org for additional information.

Training Requirements for Volunteers

Open Table Training
- Organizing Meeting-assign Chair roles
- 3 (2 hour) group training sessions

HopeSprings Training
In addition to Open Table Training Sessions HopeSprings coordinates a one day (8 hour) training including the following components:
- HIV 101
- Stigma and Discrimination
- Culture and Communication
Referral Partners

Potential Candidate Key Indicators:
Candidates also go through a process to see if they are ready for a table. Candidates considered for referral:

- Are at least 18 years old;
- Have a projection of at least 6 months stable housing;
- Are free of “active” substance abuse;
- Are goal oriented, for example:
  - Have productively done job searches or looked for educational opportunities,
  - Have shown follow-through on responsibilities;
- Do not have a support network or very limited support network; and
- Are willing to accept a network of supports and make a commitment to attending weekly Table Meetings.

Questions or Concerns
Please email tables@hopesprings.org or call 410-323-0005 for more information.

Training Requirements for Volunteers

Steps to Make a Referral
Have a client in mind who could benefit from a Table? Here’s how you can make a referral:

1. Identify clients with these Potential Candidate Key Indicator characteristics;
2. Discuss Open Table with your client, and if they are interested, complete the online referral form: http://goo.gl/forms/EVxCxnkhe8 (email tables@hopesprings.org to get an emailed copy of this form with live link);
3. HopeSprings will setup and facilitate a Candidate Meeting with client and proctor Strengths Discovery Surveys to assess if client is in Preparation or Action Stage of Change (Prochaska’s Theory of Change);
4. Candidate is approved and is introduced to their Table Members and moves through next steps; and
5. Next Steps: Backgrounding, Breaking of Bread, Life Story, Life Plan, Weekly Meetings, building relationships, celebrating ALL successes, living well and having an extended support system beyond the 12 months of the active commitment (reference Candidate Process Document for details).