MOPs Leadership Meeting Guide

Leadership Meeting Guide - Find Your Fire

Being a Good Neighbor

Fence Line Communities + Industrial Neighbors

Many of us are not aware about what happens in communities that are located next or near to natural gas drilling, landfills, chemical production and other toxic industrial plants. They are called fence line communities. These communities are usually located in communities of color and/or poverty, but not always. What would you do if you heard a natural gas platform was going to be located 1 mile from your child's school? Would you know what to do to even ask questions?

In many of these communities there are increased rates of asthma, cancer and other chronic diseases. Are we loving our neighbors if their kids are chronically ill? As Moms and more importantly as Christians, we must be aware and protect everyone. The first step in earing for your neighbor is understanding what issues your neighbors are dealing with. You don't have to be an activist to be a prayer warrior. Let the praying begin.

Speaker or Video program

Community Activist working in a Fence Line Community, Mom's Clean Air Force Organizer, Local pastor in a Fence Line Community, EEN Director of Women's Ministries.

Discussion questions:

- 1. How would you feel if a toxic plant was being built in you community?
- 2. What steps would you take to get more information about the proposed plant?
- 3. How as Christians can we serve our neighbors who are struggling in communities facing these issues?
- 4. How can our local churches help these communities obtain clean air, clean water and a healthy community?
- 5. How can moms support moms in these communities?

Additional resources

- Healthy Creation = Healthy Children Bible Study.
- Visit Moms Clean Air Force Toxic Chemicals Section on Website. Order pamphlets from Mom's Clean Air to hand out at meeting.

Additional activities for off MOPs meeting weeks

Write letters of encouragement to churches in a fence line community. Create packets that include education about living more toxin free to distribute to neighbors in fence line communities. Kits night include water filters. Take a prayer walking tour in a fence line community.