



Become a Certified Epworth Advocate . . .

Here's the bottom line.
Epworth Village, Inc. operates as a public/private partnership.

This means we must raise 20% of our budget each year to fulfill our mission . . . We need advocates to help us spread the word, gain support and to become prayer partners with us!

Do you have a heart to help healing families? We can use your gifts!
Here is the reality.

- *Since the beginning of 2010, six agencies have totally closed their doors.*
- *Fifteen agencies have either closed entire portions of some programs they once offered and/or laid-off staff.*
- *Epworth's Group Home "A" in Grand Island is the furthest west actual residential program that is currently in operation in Nebraska with the exception of a shelter or two and some hospital inpatient beds.*
- *Epworth's Residential Treatment Center (RTC) programs and our Treatment Group Home programs are the furthest west*
- *In terms of gender specific services there are no RTC programs for girls west of Omaha.*
- *More proposed cuts to services are coming from state sources.*

Programs are being cut, but people still need services. Epworth alone is serving 1,000 people every month dealing with the pain of behavioral and mental health issues. We need partners across Nebraska to advocate for healthy families!

Certified Epworth Advocates: Voices for Children and Families

You have been called to advocate for the most precious among us!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

What is a Certified Epworth Advocate? It's all about being part of the 20%

- Our children and families need voices across Nebraska advocating for their future. We need your voice to reach your church, the organizations you're involved with and your other networks.
- Certified Epworth Advocates are volunteers who carry the Epworth story across Nebraska with a passion. They can come from all walks of life, ages and backgrounds. Their purpose is to be a proponent of the family, the foundation of society.
- We need people who are not afraid to ask for support: monetary, in-kind and volunteers to help strengthen and propel our mission into the future.

What does it take to be a Certified Epworth Advocate?

- It takes your desire and passion and a little training. Epworth will provide you with materials and ongoing support to equip you on your quest to spread our mission's story across your area of the state.

STEPS TO CERTIFICATION:

Step 1

Contact the Development/PR Office to find out when the next formal training will take place at our main campus or our training can be accustomed to your schedule. We can work out a time to come see you as well!

Step 2

You will have some paperwork to fill out in terms of privacy, etc.

Step 3

Review the materials you are given and go through the final resource guide. The resource guide can be used to “test” your knowledge of the program. If you are trained at a “formal” event, the resource guide is reviewed at the conclusion. For those who cannot be trained “in person” we will work something out with you. There is no “graded” testing. We just want to ensure you have enough resources at your fingertips to ensure your speaking engagements are a success!

Once you have received the “Certified Epworth Advocate Certificate” you can schedule your first advocacy “event.”

What is an “Advocacy Event?”

This is the setting where you will begin sharing the Epworth mission to people already involved or with people who have no idea we exist. An “Advocacy Event” is where you share the “Epworth” story and your passion with another person. It may be just visiting with one friend, or having a dinner party and inviting a group of your friends over. It’s a way of sharing the “Epworth” story that’s comfortable to YOU!

Examples of “Advocacy Events”

- Speaking in front of a Youth Group at your church
- Sharing with co-workers
- Expanding understanding through any civic organizations you are involved with
- Setting up a “mission” moment at your church (or even filling the pulpit on a Sunday morning if they allow this)
- Holding a “Community Awareness” meeting with leaders in your town or area

To find out more about becoming an advocate contact:

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****Formal Trainings to be held Saturday, July 23 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Epworth Village and during the Nebraska Conference UMW Annual Meeting in October at York! Or we can schedule an individualized training just for you and/or a small group!***