



# Agent Stake Operating Committee

## Deseret Industries and Development Counseling Services

See *Handbook 1*, 5.1.1; 17.1.40

### Overview

The Area Presidency or a member of the Presidency of the Seventy assigns a stake to oversee each welfare operation. The president of the assigned stake organizes an agent stake operating committee to assist with the management of Deseret Industries and Development Counseling Services.

Members of the agent stake operating committee include:

- The stake president.
- The stake bishops' welfare council chairman.
- The stake Relief Society president.
- A Deseret Industries store manager.
- A development counselor.
- Other specialists, as needed.

The agent stake operating committee should meet at least quarterly to provide priesthood guidance and support to the operation.

### Duties of the Agent Stake for Deseret Industries and Development Counseling Operations

#### Provide priesthood guidance

Provide priesthood guidance to the welfare operation about specific concerns and needs of priesthood leaders throughout the coordinating council or councils and how to address them.

#### Ensure quality service

Become familiar with the activities of the operation. In locations where a Deseret Industries is present, regularly visit the store. Seek feedback from patrons and provide recommendations.

#### Represent the operation

Represent the operation in coordinating council meetings with the Area Seventy and in telephone, email, and other communication with other stake leaders, members, friends of the Church, and local government officials. Invite input about the operation's programs, services, products, and key challenges.

## Coordinate missionary service and volunteer labor

Work with the unit manager or development counselor to determine volunteer labor needs. Coordinate and follow up with stakes on their missionary and volunteer labor commitments.

## Train leaders

Host regular training for ward and stake leaders on the purpose of Deseret Industries and Development Counseling Services, the assistance they provide, how to access these services (including operating hours), and volunteer opportunities. Ensure that each

existing and new leader has received this orientation. The manager of the welfare operation, who is a member of the committee, can assist with or conduct the training as directed by the agent stake president.

## Help maintain facilities

Agent stake operating committees that support both a Deseret Industries store and Development Counseling Services should visit Deseret Industries to help assess needs for maintenance, repairs, and improvements. The store should be clean, orderly, and free of safety hazards.

# Services We Provide

We assist Church leaders to care for the poor and needy by providing work adjustment, development counseling, and job placement services to help individuals with barriers to employment foster greater hope and self-reliance. Individuals access these services through the authorization of their bishop.

- **Deseret Industries (DI)**—DI helps individuals become self-reliant by providing the following:
    - o **Work Adjustment**—Staff members coach individuals to improve work behaviors (such as punctuality, dress and grooming, staying on task, and so on) so they can be successful in obtaining and maintaining employment.
    - o **Bishop's Orders**—Bishops can write an order for a family or individual to receive needed items from DI (such as new and used furniture, clothing, bedding, and so on).
    - o **Community Grants**—DI partners with charitable organizations in the community to provide the individuals they serve with DI items (such as furniture, clothing, bedding, and so on) at no cost.
  - **Development Counseling Services (DCS)**—DCS helps individuals overcome barriers to employment by providing the following:
    - o **Vocational Counseling**—Counselors administer career tests, assess the results, and coach individuals to select a career and work toward their goals.
    - o **Skills Training**—Staff coordinate training or certification programs that will help individuals develop the skills they need to get a job in their desired career field (e.g., CNA, CDL, welding, software development certifications, and so on). DI funds or community resources may be used to help pay for the training.
  - o **Business Partnerships**—Staff organize on-the-job training experiences in which individuals work at a business temporarily while DI funds pay their wage. Individuals are often hired by the business following the experience.
  - o **Professional Consultation**—Counselors consult with Church leaders, service providers, members, and mentors.
- **Job Placement Services (JPS)**—JPS helps place individuals into employment by providing the following:
    - o **Job Search Skills Workshop (JSSW)**—Individuals learn and practice basic job search skills in this workshop.
    - o **Advanced Placement Program (APP)**—Individuals participate in a program that uses a daily job search group to focus on effective job search strategies, daily planning, and participant accountability.
    - o **One-on-One Coaching**—Staff provide one-on-one coaching throughout the job search process.
    - o **Account Representative Professional Placement**—Displaced professionals are hired temporarily to develop job leads for others and networking opportunities for themselves.
    - o **Resource Development**—Job developers cultivate relationships with employers to target job opportunities for individuals seeking employment.