

Imagine how hard it is  
for a single mom to  
come to  
church Sabbath  
morning: juggling the  
kids, getting everyone  
ready, and walking  
into a family-oriented  
atmosphere.

What if you could  
make a difference?

## Contact Us

9705 Patuxent Woods Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046  
443-391-7200  
[www.nadwm.org](http://www.nadwm.org)

# Parenting Solo

Ministering to Single Moms



## Getting Started

Talk to the single parents in your church and community and find out what they need and want.

Create a team that will focus on connecting with and supporting single moms that also includes a couple of single parents on it--and people who parented single when they were raising their children. Empower those singles to speak up and plan--they will have the best ideas of needs because they are living it or have lived it. Don't just plan events for them alone--they already feel singled out. Plan events for the whole church and/or all women, but think through the details that will make it possible for a single mom to attend. Will they need childcare? Finances? What times work best for them?

## Ideas

- Plan a parents' night out. Provide free childcare so parents can go out and do the errands (or just something fun) knowing their children are having fun, too.
  - Celebrate life's moments with them. Holidays. Birthdays. Mother's Day. Their children may not be able to make it special on their own, especially when they're little. Send a card. Bake a cake. Take the kids shopping or for an afternoon of baking a cake and making their own cards.
  - Don't be critical of her kids. Get to know them. Encourage and affirm. If mom is having a hard time keeping them quiet in church, help. Sit with her and offer the kids quiet things to do.
  - Offer classes and seminars on topics that are relevant to single parents: finances, home repairs, quick and healthy meals, parenting, etc.
  - Offer a Sunday Service Day when moms can bring their cars to the church parking lot for check ups, oil changes, etc. Or come to them and help with repairs and needs around the house.
  - Create a resource that connects moms with someone who can help when they have a need--a repair at home, a concern with their car. Who in your church is great with cars? Plumbing? Yard work? Hanging pictures?
  - Invite them for lunch or dinner or a holiday gathering. Many times we invite families that look just like we do. Families often don't think to invite singles. Switch it up. Include a variety of people around your table. It will be a blessing to them and to you.
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