

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Who can become a Leader?

Any individual can become a Leader. You do not need to have any special degrees or have had a child to qualify as a Leader. Leader applicants do have to complete the Leadership Training process and be approved by the Leadership Committee. If you are passionate about helping women become more informed about their options and then supporting them in their decisions, you have the makings of a great Leader.

Qualities we particularly look for include:

- . Non-judgmental/open-minded
- . Good listener
- . Caring
- . Self-motivated
- . Organized
- . Knowledgeable in facilitating a group discussion (or willing to learn)

How much does it cost to apply?

For the time being, there is no application fee.

What are the Leader's responsibilities?

The Dar a Luz Leader represents DaL Network. As a model for others, she agrees to present Dar a Luz material, perspectives and approaches whenever she has presented herself as a Dar a Luz Leader. Basic responsibilities include:

- Planning and holding monthly meetings. There are sample meetings with backup information available in the Leader Handbook.
- Maintaining a chapter checking account at your local bank (the chapter leader will be able to use Dar a Luz Network's 501(c)3 non-profit status).
- Advising pre-pregnant, pregnant and post-pregnant women one-to-one, by telephone or in person
- Supervising the management of the local Chapter
- Staying up-to-date on pregnancy and family-related topics
- Reporting to International on a Bi-Annual basis. (Bi-Annual Reports are included in Leader Handbook)

How does a Leader report to Dar a Luz International?

Once you are a Leader, you will be invited to join the Leader-Only Yahoo Group. This is how we communicate on a regular basis. There is also a formal Bi-Annual Report.

ABOUT STARTING A CHAPTER

What is a Chapter?

A Chapter is your local circle including anyone with interest in pregnancy and birthing, pregnant women and their families, and birthing professionals.

Where can a Chapter be?

Anywhere in the world where there is not already an active Chapter. If there is a local Chapter, you may apply to become a co-Leader in that Chapter.

How often do Chapters meet?

As often as they would like with the minimum being once a month. Some Chapters have other monthly meetings such as playgroups or book clubs.

How do you get together a lending library?

When you become a Leader, you may begin pulling together your chapter's lending library using the Approved Media List. You may find books from private donations, library book sales, internet discount websites or bookswap sites, and publishers will sometimes donate a copy to a 501(c)3 organization. The minimum library requirements are the same as the required reading list for Leader training.

How much does it cost to start a Chapter?

There are no set start-up fees. You can operate your chapter on a "shoe-string" budget. Your essential costs will be reproducing flyers to advertise your first meeting, a meeting place (you can often use our non-profit status to secure a meeting place at no cost), snacks you may want at the meeting, and your lending library. All of these things can be donated or done at a minimum cost. The most essential element is you and your willingness to share your knowledge and build a community of support – which is invaluable! Many new chapters organize a fund-raiser to reach out to their community and raise funds to run their chapter.

What is a Membership?

People in your community can become Members by paying a \$35 yearly Membership fee. This fee helps cover your expenses, helps keep Dar a Luz International running, and also offers the new Member valuable benefits. Check out the Benefits of Membership page on the website for a list of International benefits. Then, you can recruit local groups, individuals and businesses to offer discounts and bonuses to Members as well. For example, in Kettering, Ohio, a local health food store offers DaL Members a 20% discount on all purchases.

Why does a Chapter need Members?

It helps build a stronger community when people feel they have "bought in" to the group as well as providing needed funds for basic operating expenses.

How does a Chapter get Members?

At every meeting, be sure you talk up the benefits of Membership and encourage people to sign up by having easy-to-use Membership Applications. Get your group in the public eye at local events as well. You will find many tried-and-true publicity and outreach ideas in the Leader Handbook.

How many Leaders does a Chapter have to have?

We have learned that it is more fun and much easier to run a Chapter with two or more Leaders, one of whom is the Signing Leader (ultimately responsible). This is not, however, a requirement in every case. Depending on you and your community, it may be just fine to have a solo Leader.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a DaL Leader and/or starting a local Chapter. If you have the passion and commitment to make the world a better place by helping one woman at a time, please contact April at 845-282-0177 or info@daraluznetwork.com for more information.