

## **Mentoring a New High Councilor**

A member of the stake presidency orients the new high councilor by doing the following:

- Provide the new high councilor with the reference binder. From Section 1, overview documents that outline the speaking rotation, unit assignments, and committee structures. Ask him to read sections 1 and 5, in preparation for meeting with his mentor.
- Give materials required for his assignment (MLS printouts, handbooks, etc.).
- Apprise him of his peer mentor (a fellow high councilor).
- Discuss preferred communication methods (email, telephone) for each of you.
- Discuss preferred working styles for each of you (e.g.: lots of context or the immediate issue; big picture or bite-size tasks).
- Schedule a time for a PPI, at the end of his two-month orientation.

The mentoring high councilor schedules two or three meetings with the new high councilor to do the following:

- Overview the reference binder, especially Sections 1 and 5.
- Take the new high councilor on a 1st Sunday and a 3rd Sunday visit. Give ideas on how to select topics for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday talks (e.g.: select one for the year, etc.).
- Explain the need to contact his assigned unit. Explain the purpose and process of doing EQ president interviews and bishop/branch president interviews. (See “A Guide for High Councilors” in Section 5).
- Overview duties concerning the annual unit conference (Section 5).
- Explain the traveling expectations and show the reimbursement form (Section 6).
- Discuss the leadership and communication styles of the stake presidency, and your own personal observations as to how to work on the high council.
- Overview the chart of calls (Section 5 contains this chart, copied from the *Church Handbook of Instructions*, “Callings and Releases” (pp. 40-47)). Explain the protocol for releases and sustainings (*Ibid.* pp. 37-39). Explain the high councilors’ role in presenting names for approval at stake PEC meeting.
- Explore anxieties or questions that the new high councilor may have.

The above should be completed within two months, at which time the formal responsibility of mentoring and orienting is completed.