

Case Study 1: The Jones Family

Brother Robert and Sister Emily Jones joined the Church two years ago. They are the parents of three children: two girls, Sally (age 12) and Rachel (age 3), and a boy, John (age 8). They were preparing to go to the temple. Brother Jones was a commercial driver. However, about a year ago Brother Jones was involved in a work-related automobile accident and was left disabled. He is unable to return to work in his job.

Brother Jones received a small disability pension. The pension health benefits will provide for the medical needs of the family for the rest of his life. Sister Jones sews to supplement the pension income. Brother Jones's recuperation and therapy have been ongoing since the accident. During that time, Brother Jones has not attended any Church meetings. Sister Jones and the children have attended about half the time. Their attitude towards the Church and its members remains good.

The family has the following needs and resources:

Food and Clothing

There is less than one week's worth of food in the house. The average cost of a modest meal for the family is \$10. Sister Jones and the children have suitable clothing, although the children's shoes are badly worn. Brother Jones has only a few clothing items he can wear and no clothes that he feels are good enough to wear to church.

Housing and Utilities

The family rents a small home. Monthly rent is \$700. They own their furniture and are buying the appliances on credit. There is available land for a small family garden. Monthly electricity and water bills usually total \$300.

Transportation

They own a small 10-year-old sedan. It runs but needs some work (brakes, tune-up, and a spare tire). The average monthly cost of fuel and oil is \$75.

Brother Jones's Condition

His therapy has been helpful, but he will remain paralyzed in his legs. He needs a wheelchair. His attitude is good, and he is eager to improve his education so he can begin working again. He is interested in accounting.

Income

Brother Jones's monthly disability pension is \$1,000. Sister Jones earns about \$400 per month sewing for others. If she had a newer, heavy-duty sewing machine, she could take in more sewing and double her income. Such a machine costs \$875.

Savings

They have \$85 in savings, which they will use for their monthly appliance payment. The payment is due tomorrow. Six payments remain on the appliances. They have been using savings to carry them for the past year.

Other Family Members

Brother Jones says that his only living family member, a brother, could probably help a little bit, but he has hesitated to ask him because his brother has to deal with his own family problems. Sister Jones's extended family has been very hostile towards them since they joined the Church. She doubts they would help.

Case Study 1 Example

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS	Needs and Resources Analysis	Self-Reliance Plan
Name of member Robert and Emily Jones		
Address 123 Main Street		Telephone None
Ward Oakhills 1st Ward		Stake Columbia Stake
Where employed Unemployed (Robert); self-employed (Emily)		Occupation Seamstress (Emily)
Telephone None		
Names and ages of dependent family members Sally (12 years old), Rachel (3 years old), John (8 years old)		
Instructions The bishop helps the individual with immediate needs as the ward welfare committee, including the priesthood quorum and Relief Society leaders, assists with a plan leading to self-reliance.		
1. Determine individual and family needs. 2. Identify individual, family, Church, and other resources. 3. Help the member develop a self-reliance plan. 4. Make work assignments so the recipient can work to the extent of his or her ability.		
Immediate Needs Determine with the member his or her immediate needs. Needs should be listed below and may include: food, clothing, and housing; money for medical or utility bills; or other needs. Food Shoes for the children, suitable clothes for church and school for Brother Jones Rent: \$700 monthly Utilities: \$300 monthly	Resources to Meet Immediate Needs Resources from individual, family, ward welfare committee, other Church resources, and community. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less than one week's food - \$1,000 monthly disability pension - \$400 monthly income from Sister Jones's sewing business - \$85 in savings for appliance payment, due tomorrow - A small plot of land for a family garden <hr/> 2. Family members and how they can help (parents, children, siblings, others) Brother Jones's brother may help a little (Brother Jones to contact him). Sister Jones's extended family has been very hostile since she joined the Church (bishop to contact her extended family).	
	<hr/> 3. Other resources and how they can help <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relief Society president to make a family needs visit to complete an order for commodities and determine other immediate needs. - Fast-offering assistance for clothing and shoes. - The family will use the disability income and the sewing income to pay rent, utilities, appliance payments, and some household and food expenses. - Two weeks' food from the local bishops' storehouse or purchased from fast offerings to meet immediate needs. 	
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Self-Reliance Needs	Plan to Meet Self-Reliance Needs
<p>Determine with the member what is needed to become self-reliant. Needs should be listed below and may include housing, employment, job training, education, and so on.</p> <p>Increased, permanent income for the family.</p> <p>A new occupation for Brother Jones, possibly in accounting. Enrollment in an accounting training program, continued occupational therapy, a wheelchair.</p> <p>Strengthening Sister Jones's small sewing business. A newer sewing machine, small business training courses.</p> <p>Pay off the debt incurred with the appliances.</p> <p>Utilities, automobile expenses, and household expenses.</p> <p>Better clothes for Brother Jones. This could include material and supplies so that Sister Jones could make them.</p> <p>Help in planning and planting a family garden to supplement their diet.</p> <p>Home storage and savings.</p>	<p>Determine with the member a self-reliance plan which includes how to obtain needed resources and timelines.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With the help of the ward employment specialist, Brother and Sister Jones will contact this week the local Church employment resource center for assistance. Brother Jones will complete the employment resource center's Career Workshop and enroll in a training program that will enable him to become employed again. This may include finding a suitable part-time job while he is going to school. 2. The elders quorum president will help Brother Jones apply to receive a wheelchair from the local government agency for the disabled. 3. Sister Jones will complete the employment resource center's Self-Employment Workshop and begin work to strengthen her small business. She will consider obtaining a small business loan to buy a new sewing machine, material, and supplies for her business. 4. Brother Jones's brother's family will provide child care for the youngest child to allow Brother and Sister Jones to attend training and to work. 5. The Joneses' home teachers will help repair the family's automobile so that they will have reliable transportation. 6. Sister Jones's visiting teachers will work with her to plan and plant a small family garden in the next two weeks. The two older children will tend the garden. The bishop will use fast offerings to buy seed. 7. As the Joneses' income increases, they will make plans to obtain better clothing and transportation, save some money, and participate in home storage. 8. The bishop may continue to provide food assistance until the family's income increases sufficiently.
<p>Work or Service to Be Performed Note below the assignments accepted by family members to work to the extent of their abilities for commodities or services received.</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brother and Sister Jones will visit the Church employment resource center and will attend the Career Workshop and the Self-Employment Workshop. Brother Jones will begin a training program and find part-time work. Sister Jones will improve her business. 2. Sister Jones will sew clothing for other needy members of the ward using materials purchased by the bishop with fast offerings. 3. The children will take on most of the planting and care of the family garden. <p>In addition to the above, the Joneses will strengthen themselves spiritually by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attending church regularly. - Having regular family scripture study, family prayer, and family home evening. - Making plans to go to the temple. 	
<p>Signatures</p>	
<p>Signature of member</p>	<p>Date</p> <p>Signature of bishop</p> <p>Date</p>
<p>Note: The terms <i>bishop</i> and <i>ward</i> on this form refer also to branch president and branch.</p>	