

## Mandate

The Presbyterian Committee on the Self Development of People (SDOP) shall assist the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in carrying out its global commitment to work toward the self development of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people, who own, control, and benefit directly from projects that promote long-term change in their lives and communities. The mandate was established by the 182nd General Assembly of the former United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. in 1970, and reaffirmed and approved by the 199th General Assembly (1987) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

## Mission

Self-Development of People is a ministry that affirms God's concern for humankind. We are Presbyterians and ecumenical partners, dissatisfied with poverty and oppression, united in faith and action through sharing, confronting and enabling. We participate in the empowerment of economically poor, oppressed and disadvantaged people who are seeking to change the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression and injustice.



**National Committee, Task Force and Standing Committee Chairpersons**

**All persons interested in serving on the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People need to:**

- read about the GA nomination process.
- review the list of vacancies for the Self-Development of People Committee.
- know your presbytery and synod name.
- know who you will ask to serve as your references.
- think through your responses to the following questions:
  - Why are you interested in serving on the Self-Development of People Committee?
  - How does your commitment to Jesus Christ shape your participation in the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?
  - What relevant experiences, gifts, and skills would you bring to the work of this committee?
  - What professional and/or church experiences would contribute to your service on this committee?
  - Please list any corporate and not-for-profit board or committee service.
- **Submit your completed form with three (3) personal references. Forms are available at the GANC website [www.pcusa.org/nominations](http://www.pcusa.org/nominations)**

***All are encouraged to submit nominating forms!  
You do not have to be Presbyterian or have experience in all of the areas listed above.***

**QUESTIONS? Please contact:**

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or

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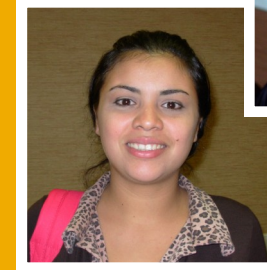
**One  
great hour  
of sharing**

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**PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE ON THE  
Self-Development  
of People**



## OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

*“Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace, and a soul generated by love.”*

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**“People Investing in People”**

## New Committee Members Nominations



National Committee members visiting a Batey in Dominican Republic

Being a part of this ministry provides an opportunity to positively impact the lives of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people around the world. We hope you will consider serving on the National Committee. If you, or someone that you know would be interested, please visit (or encourage them to visit) the General Assembly Nominating Committee (GANC) website [www.pcusa.org/nominations](http://www.pcusa.org/nominations) for the nominating form. Interested individuals must complete this form and submit it to the GANC. Check with GANC for deadlines.

### National Committee

The National Committee is composed of thirty-one (31) persons, chosen to reflect diversity and inclusiveness. At least 75 percent of the members shall be members of the Presbyterian Church (USA); a majority of the members (51 percent) will be racial/ethnic minority persons.

### Membership

The membership shall be composed of twenty-two (22) at large members, nominated by the GANC; three (3) members nominated by synods; and six (6) members nominated by presbyteries, in consultation with the GANC, to facilitate meeting the needs of the National Committee.

## Key Duties & Responsibilities



National Committee member visiting a transportation project in St. Louis, MO

- Promote and interpret the SDOP ministry and promote the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, including all three of its ministries—Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
- Educate the Presbyterian Church (USA) on the condition and status of economically poor and oppressed communities, and share related theological insights.
- Determine mission and purpose, overall strategies, policies and priorities of the SDOP ministry.
- Seek-out, receive, and evaluate applications from groups of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people.
- Work to establish SDOP Committees in Presbyteries/Synods where they do not exist.
- Work cooperatively with ecumenical partners in the self-development effort and with the Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry area to enable a coordinated approach to development.

## Time Commitment



National Committee member visiting a fishermen's project in India.

The National Committee meets three times a year (January, May and September). Task Forces meet in conjunction with the National Committee and between each National meeting. Standing Committees meet in conjunction with National Committee meetings. Each member is assigned to serve on a regional Task Force, and Standing Committee (Community Relations, Church-wide Relations, Personnel) or the International Task Force. The Community Relations, Church-wide Relations, and Personnel Committees rarely meet outside of the National Committee meetings. The International Task Force meeting schedule is similar to other Task Forces. Committee members are responsible for conducting site visits to potential partners in the United States, conducting training sessions for Synod/Presbytery SDOP Committees and leading workshops for community groups.



National Committee member during opening ceremony of water system in a community in the Dominican Republic