

It is alarming to know that on average 40% of people in your congregation do not give anything of their finances to God through their church. This information comes from Christian Stewardship Network. But an important question is: Are we aware of this? And if so Why aren't we more concerned? The thing that is going to entice people away from the church is materialism. Even church leaders of some of the largest churches are not addressing this issue. Yet it is vital to the continuation of the church that we talk about God, generosity, giving and where our trust lays.

WHY IS A RECORDING SYSTEM HELPFUL?

As a corps officer/ministry leader, you need to be aware of this information and how your corps is situated in relation to giving and how it is related to the spiritual growth of your people.

It is important that the corps is accountable for money people have faithfully given to God through The Salvation Army and that we are able to be transparent in what we have received and how it has been used.

Giving to God through our tithe is a spiritual process and an indication of our trust in God as our provider and not living in fear of not having enough.

World experts in giving and generosity use statistics and information which helps in a number of ways.

Giving patterns:

It is helpful to know how giving is tracking. The System provides helpful Reports showing individual giving, combined totals of income per quarter, those who have committed to giving to God's ministry.

It can alert you if someone suddenly ceases giving which may have pastoral connotations and could be worth following up on.

It would be expected that those in leadership positions in the corps are committed in the giving of their time, talents and their treasures. This enables you to confirm this.

If money is misplaced or paid into the incorrect bank account can be identified quickly by sending out quarterly letters advising givers of their information. They are able to check on the total and ensure it is correct. If there are any issues, they can be identified and rectified before too much time has gone by.

Information Sharing

All information in the Recording System is Confidential and meets the Code of Conduct.

The only people who have access to the System are the administrators and whoever has been nominated by the corps officers/leaders and their corps ie data entry.

Personal Information such as names and giving records are not shared outside the corps to Area Officers, Divisional Commanders or anyone else in the organization. Other than the Administrators, only the Corps Officers know this information and anyone in the corps they may authorize access too.

Financial information (which has no identification to givers) can be prepared in a Quarterly Report for discussion with the corps finance team plus it may be shared with the Division for a purpose such as corps assessment. At no time are names included.

Ways of Giving

Cash through weekly giving envelopes.

EFT paid into the corps imprest account. Account details are given along with an identification number. This ensures that no personal information such as names is shown in the Bank Statement.

Budgeting purposes:

This information enables corps to have an expectation of what will be coming in to support the ministry of the corps. By keeping the recording up to date, corps leadership will know if there are any potential issues.

Regular Data Entry

If up to date, it should take no more than 10 minutes a week to do the data entry.

By using envelope numbers rather than names with EFT giving, it is quicker to complete the weekly giving sheet. It is time saving to not have to research this prior to doing the data entry.

Should you have any queries about the Recording System please email:

Generous.culture@salvationarmy.org.au



Generous Culture

Australia Territory
Mission Support Department