Title: Developing training programs for family ministries leaders of selected SDA churches in the Jakarta Conference

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Date completed: May 2005

Granting Institution: Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS)

Description: Unpublished Thesis (DMin): 305 pages

Abstract:

The Jakarta Conference of Seventh-day Adventist (JCSDA) responded to the needs of its members, particularly the young married couples (YMCs) – to improve their married life— but it was not sufficient. The Family Ministries Department (FMD) suggested that the entire Family Ministries (FM) leaders should serve the needs of YMCs in their respective churches. Unfortunately, the majority of them do not have adequate knowledge to manage FM programs to best serve the needs of the families.

It was observed that no matter how good the programs are if the people who will handle the programs have insufficient training, it will only reap a little.

To meet this problem, a mentoring project was developed to fill the gap between the plan of JCSDA and the needs of YMCs in the selected local churches. There are about 650 YMCs within JCSDA, and this conference is responsible in enabling the FM leaders to minister to the needs of the families.

The mentoring project was restricted to the five local churches selected by JCSDA. The churches are Kota Wisata, Depok Timur, Taman Harapan, Ciracas, and Salemba.
The purpose of this project is to develop FM training programs that would enable FM leaders to design and conduct and FM program that would serve the needs of the YMCs in the local SDA churches.

The project used descriptive research which was divided into three main parts: design, implementation, and evaluation. The FMD and FM leaders were involved in the designing of the program. The pre-evaluation interview was used on the FM leaders to assess their understanding on the affairs of the FM prior to the implementation for the program. The post-evaluation interview was used to evaluate the performances and the program itself. Both the FMD and FM leaders were consulted in the implementation of the program.

Three programs generally was perceived to have achieved its goals and objectives. The FM leaders were able to administer a program for the YMCs. This training was shared to the local members through the participants and suggestions on how to improve it were considered for future similar projects.