

Adopt-a-Hall PROGRAM



MAKE THIS PLACE YOUR HOME



METHODIST
UNIVERSITY

RELIGIOUS LIFE

[Engage. Enrich. Empower.]

Adopt-a-Hall PROGRAM

I. PURPOSE:

To partner with local Christian congregations in the Fayetteville area to provide students with a connection to the Fayetteville community and the opportunity to experience God's love and acceptance, as well as "a touch of home" while living in the residence hall community.

II. SCOPE:

13 Residence Halls or areas

Residence Hall	Type of housing of residents	Approx. #
Sanford	Freshmen only, male	150
Cumberland	Freshmen only, male	150
Garber	Freshmen only, female	150
Weaver	Upperclassmen, co-ed	150
Pearce	Upperclassmen, co-ed	45
West	Upperclassmen, co-ed	45
North	Upperclassmen, co-ed	100
Village Houses	Designated graduate housing, Upperclassmen housing	25 per house
Commons & McLean	Apartment-Style housing	230
Total		1,210



III. COMPONENTS OF ADOPTION:

A. Program Outreach and Nurture

- ◆ Provide a “gathering” or program two times each semester in coordination with the RC (Residential Coordinator). Anything the youth or young adults of your congregation would enjoy, these students will like as well! Programs might include, but are certainly not limited to, pumpkin carving, “build-your-own-ice-cream-sundae” night, painting party, or game night.
- ◆ Be a support person that the RC can call on for program ideas or church connection suggestions.
- ◆ Participate with other Adopt-a-Hall churches in coordinating meals for international or domestic students (other than athletes) who may need food support during holidays when campus dining is closed. Teams cover meals for athletes when their season extends into a holiday.
- ◆ Be a resource for the University Chaplain, as requested, to reach out to students in times of need.
- ◆ Program adoption typically includes freshman and sophomore halls, but can be expanded to include sophomore to senior students when the number of partner churches enable us to do so. NOTE: The apartment-style living spaces do not lend themselves to group programming, although it can be done! These areas also house senior students whose schedules are less regimented than freshman schedules. In this case, churches may find that the “personal touch” approach is more effective (see B. for more information.)

B. Outreach and Nurture

- ◆ Reach out to each resident in a simple, personal way at least once per semester. Ideas include a written note, birthday card, useful trinket, flower vase, or small goodie bag.
- ◆ Be a support person that the RC can call on for program ideas or church connection suggestions.
- ◆ Be a resource for the University Chaplain when needed to reach out to students in times of need.
- ◆ Personal engagement adoption typically includes non-freshman residence areas.

IV. MONARCH MOVERS:

(Freshman/First Year Hall move-in/Orientation)

Monarch Movers are volunteers who welcome students and families on their first day at MU and assist in moving their personal items into the residence halls. First-day interaction provides the opportunity for your church to demonstrate your care for these students and to begin forming a relationship from the beginning! MU Religious Life provides custom T-shirts to each volunteer to identify you as a partner church and “Monarch Mover,” as well as providing lunch. We ask that all volunteers wear the Monarch Movers T-shirt as a sign of unity among our many denominations and so that you can be easily identified.

Note: It will be hot! It will be exciting. YOU will be the face of comfort, reassurance and help for eager students AND nervous parents.



V. RESPONSIBILITIES:

Methodist University covenants to:

- 1) Convene with partner churches twice annually for idea sharing and input
- 2) Provide written guidelines for the Adopt-A-Hall program
- 3) Provide clear and timely communication and responses
- 4) Provide an MU staff member at each event
- 5) Arrange for campus resources and set-up (tables, chairs, etc.)
- 6) Assist with printing, publicity and distribution of materials on campus as needed
- 7) Provide Monarch Movers t-shirt
- 8) Pray for partner churches and congregations
- 9) Partner with churches for shared funding of events when necessary

Partner Church covenants to:

- 1) Participate in called meetings and provide feedback
- 2) Abide by guidelines of the program
- 3) Provide clear, timely communication
- 4) Provide programming and events
- 5) Request resources needed at least one week in advance
- 6) Meet with RC and staff to set event dates by the second week of each semester
- 7) Participate in Monarch Movers, freshman move-in
- 8) Pray for Methodist University and students





VI. CONTACT INFORMATION

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“Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”

— Hebrews 13:1-2 (NIV)

