

How to Start the Self-Reliance Process

Steps	When	Criteria	Other Ideas
1- Set a Date for My Path Workshop	Now	Set a date in the future and begin following the other steps. Reserve a 2-hour block to complete the My Path workbook.	Decide a date and time that will work best for members. This may be held during Sunday School and Priesthood/Relief Society if approved by bishop.
2- Call or Assign Specialist and Facilitators	5 Weeks Before Workshop	Call or assign a Ward Self-Reliance Specialist and facilitators. Members of the ward council could assume these roles. Specialists and Facilitators should help facilitate the Workshop.	A facilitator does not need expertise to facilitate Self-Reliance groups. They need to be able to follow the materials and love the participants. They are not to teach, but to help members participate.
3- Order Materials	4 Weeks Before	Should have enough “My Path to Self-Reliance” and “My Foundation” booklets for each person expected to attend.	Copies of the manuals for each of the expected groups (My Job Search, Education for Better Work and Starting and Growing My Business) should also be available so that groups can begin immediately after the workshop.
4- Train Ward Council	4 Weeks Before	This can be done during ward council meeting. Some stakes may choose to do this with multiple units together.	Ward Councils are key to success. The council should understand the doctrine and the process so that they can reach out to the members of their organizations and give support.
5- Publicise the My Path Workshop	3 Weeks Before	Announce the date to members and missionaries. Create posters and invitations.	Standard materials prepared by Self-Reliance Services may be available.
6- Teach Self-Reliance Doctrine	3 Weeks Before	Use Sacrament meetings and other lessons.	As doctrine is taught, the Holy Ghost will touch the hearts of the members so they will desire to become temporally and spiritually self-reliant and participate in the My Path Workshop.
7- Identify and Invite	2 Weeks Before	Ward Councils identify individuals and specifically invite them to participate in the My Path Workshop. This includes active members. See D&C 84:106.	These should include returned missionaries, new members, less active members, welfare recipients and non-member friends. Also home and visiting teachers and leaders.
8- Train Facilitators	1 Week Before	Provide training for the assigned facilitators. Stake self-reliance committees can help.	On-line materials are available at srs.lds.org , including training videos and the “facilitator guide”.
Hold My Path Workshop	Workshop Week	Begin with message from Priesthood Leaders (5 to 10 minutes) and then follow materials exactly. Divide into Self-Reliance Groups at the end.	If facilitators have not been previously assigned, select someone in each group to be the facilitator. If invited members miss the workshop, help them individually to complete the My Path workshop and join a group.
Start Self-Reliance Groups	1 Week After	The Self-Reliance groups should be ready to start within a week of the workshop.	At the end of the My Path Workshop, the groups decide on meeting dates and times.