

Requesting a New Welfare Operation

Questions to Consider

General Questions:

- Is there Priesthood support from the Area Presidency and local leaders?
- Can the operation be staffed with sufficient volunteers and church service missionaries to manage the operation?
- Are local stakes committed to both training and operations of the welfare operation?
- Is there safe and reliable transportation to and from the operation – less than approximately 35 minutes for a member in travel time (one way)?
- What are the benefits to having a welfare operation versus using fast offerings and/or community resources?
- Are we prepared in the area office to control and monitor the impact of this operation? (Financial and operational controls need to be set up, bishop's order forms need to be monitored and controlled, bills need to be paid, product needs to be ordered, and the deliverables need to be recorded and submitted to SLC every month.)
- What are the compelling reasons for requesting a welfare entity after considering other options?
- What licensing, permits or other legal considerations need to be addressed?

Bishops' Storehouse Questions:

- Can the patrons travel to the storehouse and leave the storehouse without putting an additional burden upon them – how do they carry the products home (normally a 2 week order)
- How many commodities do I have in the storehouse – recommended 20 or less?
- Do I have food outlets that can provide our food needs consistently and with the best quality?
- Can we purchase the commodities in bulk and re-package them into smaller packages for the patrons use? (Volunteer labor to be able to perform this task)
- Do I need a food distribution license, or any other license or permits?
- Is there an adequate Church-owned facility for the operations, or does it need modifications or repairs?
- Will the cost to operate a storehouse be less expensive than using Fast Offerings?
- Is there a compelling reason for a storehouse after considering other options?
- Can a storehouse operation be combined with other welfare operations, i.e. Employment or Family Services such that it makes economic sense?

Employment Resource Services Questions

- What stakes and districts are approximately within a 50-mile (80-kilometer) radius?
 - What is the number of “members in units” in those stakes?
 - What percent of the stakes have called stake employment specialists?
 - Do the stakes have sufficient missionaries or volunteers with computer skills to operate the center?
- What are the circumstances of members in the service area (e.g. issues such as unemployment rates, unemployed Church leaders, and unemployed returned missionaries, single parents, etc)?
 - How is the economic condition impacting the employment, education, and self-employment situation of members in the service area?
 - What is the anticipated number of placements per year for this center? (see the minimum on the request form)
 - What is the current cost per placement for the Area?
 - What will be the estimated cost per placement after the center is opened?
- Is the proposed center location accessible to members by public transportation and sufficient parking? (It is preferred to co-locate with other Church entities when possible, such as Seminary and Institute, Bishops’ Storehouse, Family Services, Deseret Industries, or a meetinghouse)
- Will the center have dependable electrical power, telephone, and Internet access?