

# SHALOM CLUBS

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## Shalom Vision

*Shalom* is the International Network of the Congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation. Members of *Shalom* minister in such a way that they express the values and attitudes of justice, peace, and the integrity of creation on the personal, communal, national and international levels. As *Shalom* the members take a prophetic stance by joining their voice with those who cry for justice and by providing a voice for those who are voiceless in their struggle for justice. It is action oriented. (*Shalom Document*)

## Goal of Shalom Clubs

*Shalom* Clubs seek to foster a way of life based on Gospel values and a global perspective among the members, which encourages them to examine critical issues and to take action that leads to reconciliation, solidarity with the oppressed, the promotion of human dignity, collaboration with ecological movements to safeguard the Earth, and the establishment of a culture of peace.

## Objectives

*Shalom* Clubs provide members with the opportunity to:

1. Increase understanding about the causes of injustice and violence.
2. Act with others in eliminating the causes of oppression.
3. Reverence the Earth and seek to deepen their relationship with all creation.
4. Promote a culture of peace and nonviolence.

## Membership

Ordinarily, members of *Shalom* Clubs are colleagues, students and friends of School Sisters of Notre Dame, who are committed to building a “more just and truly human world” and invited to join together in the work of justice, peace, and integrity of creation.

## Mode of Operation

The structure of *Shalom* Clubs should admit a flexibility which will allow them to reflect the local context in which they exist. However, the following points seem to be necessary elements of a *Shalom* Club:

1. *Shalom* Clubs are supervised by persons who embrace the *Shalom* vision.
2. *Shalom* Clubs meet on a regular basis for prayer, education, reflection, and action.
3. The issues selected for consideration have a global dimension with relevance to the lives of the club members.
4. Decisions for action by the *Shalom* Club are the result of reflection and analysis, grounded in the Gospel and the Social Teachings of the Church.
5. Whenever possible, *Shalom* Clubs are in communication and collaborate with other *Shalom* Clubs.
6. Annually, *Shalom* Clubs report their activities to the *Shalom* Contact person of the respective SSND unit or country, who includes this information in the annual report to the *Shalom* Branch Representative.
7. The *Shalom* Contact person maintains communication with the *Shalom* Clubs, provides support and resources, and invites participation in international action.
8. *Shalom* Branch Representatives encourage communication and collaboration among *Shalom* Clubs.
9. *Shalom* Branch Representatives include information about *Shalom* Clubs in their annual reports to the International *Shalom* Coordinator.
10. The International *Shalom* Coordinator shares information about *Shalom* Clubs with the membership, works with *Shalom* Branch Representatives and Contact persons to support the development of *Shalom* Clubs, and encourages participation in international actions.
11. *Shalom* Clubs are formed with the advice and support of the *Shalom* Contact person of the unit or country.

