

What to say to a sister considering inactive status

How do I know a sister may be considering inactive status?

- Has not attended a meeting or social for quite a long time and no one seems to know why
- Talks about being overwhelmed by all her obligations (work, family etc.)
- She or a family member has serious health issues
- Has had a recent conflict with another individual in the chapter
- Talks about quitting P.E.O.
- May be suffering from some financial setbacks

What can I do or say?

- Approach her by phone or in person to let her know you've been thinking about her
- Listen (really listen) to her response
- Let her know you really care and are sympathetic to her situation
- Reassure her the chapter understands she is unable to participate at this time and will be there ready to welcome her back when she is ready.
- If family obligations are the major concern, reassure her that we all understand that family comes first
- If finances are a concern, let her know the chapter may be able to pay her dues
- Ask if she would mind if you shared her situation with others in the chapter
- Don't try to convince her to stay but, rather, demonstrate loving concern
- Suggest ways you and chapter sisters can help (visit aging parent, provide meals etc.)

What if she still indicates she wishes to go inactive?

- Remind her that her dues are paid until the end of February so she will still be considered an active member until then
- In certain situations, suggest a transfer to another chapter, if another is nearby, and offer to help with the transfer process
- Ask if she would like to continue to receive the RECORD (a year's subscription is only \$5)
- Let her know she can reinstate her membership at any time, quite easily
- Encourage chapter members to continue to stay in touch
- Continue to invite her to chapter socials and other activities where P.E.O. business is not being conducted.