



Neighborhood
Collaboratives:

Get Started Guide

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WHY YOU SHOULD BE IN A COLLABORATIVE?

Collaboration and partnership is God's heart and design for humanity

"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." - Genesis 2:18

Embracing and pursuing partnerships is a means of agreeing with God that our churches and organizations are not meant to work alone and in isolation from each other.

Neighborhoods and issues are complex

For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body - 1 Corinthians 12:12

As individual churches are made up of collection of people with a variety of gifts brought together to bless and build that community, neighborhoods are the same. Beyond this, no one church or organization has all the gifts necessary to address the variety of opportunities and needs in a community.

Now that you see the importance and value of collaboratives there are two options.

1. Join a pre-existing collaborative in your area.
2. Cultivate a new collaborative in your section of the vineyard.

We always encourage beginning with a thorough search to see if a collaborative is already in existence before deciding to begin something new. Watch our website soon for a "Find a Collaborative" feature to make this step incredibly easy!

In the meantime, here are two ways to help you get started...

FIND A COLLABORATIVE

- Look for churches already working in your neighborhood, and get involved in their events and initiatives.
- Participate in city-wide events and trainings. Here are some organizations providing some of these events:
 - > Redeemer Presbyterian: redeemer.org
 - > Trellis: jointrellis.org
 - > New York Leadership Center: nycleadership.com
- Talk with the NY CityServe team to see if any collaboratives are near you.

START A COLLABORATIVE

- Pray (this is crucial-- don't skip this part): ask God to show you where to go, who to meet, and where He's already working.
- Do internal inventory: ask what are the strengths and desires of your organization/church.
- Start small: find a few leaders and start by getting to know each other and pray for each other.
- Think sustainability/ longevity: what is one issue/ need/ or opportunity that you can give sustained time and resources to?
- Get the right leader: the goal is this is to build partnerships that will last and this will mean finding and training leaders that can foster, develop and give time to these collaborations.