

PT Connect Teams

At the beginning of each church's participation in Project Transformation's next round of site churches partnerships, the pastor and church leadership team, in consultation with the Director of Site Church and Community Development, will commission and bless the 4-6 person PT Connect Team (including the sight pastor/leader) to guide the church in building relationships with neighbors by leveraging PT's connections with children, families, and other partners.

Who to Recruit: *Congregation constituents who are warm and relatable to strangers, as well as who can recruit other members to get involved in getting to know families through PT.*

PT Connect Teams will receive a written guide and training for their work, including the following:

Hospitality & Connecting Training

Over three years, each PT Connect Team will plan Hospitality and Connecting learning experiences that will train as many laity and staff as possible. These learning experiences may include small groups studies of relevant books, a welcoming facilities audit, trainings for Hospitality Teams, preaching series, and congregational workshops by congregational leaders or the Director of Site Church and Community Development or other leader. The first learning experience will begin by May 1, 2016, the second by November 1, 2016, and the third by May 1, 2017.

The following resources will provide direction for the ten PT Connect Teams to use in their design process, with the coaching help of the Director of Site Church and Community Development:

- *The Art of Neighboring Building Genuine Relationships Right Outside Your Door* by Dave Runyon and Jay Pathak (2012)
- *Clip In: Risking Hospitality in Your Church* by Jim Ozier and Fiona Hayworth (2014)

Family Engagement Grants

Healthy families have a greater impact on their children's lives than an after school or summer program. And connecting with parents of PT children and youth is a key growing edge for our program impacts and church revitalization. As funds become available we will recruit applications for events or ministries that connect directly with PT and other families. Trainings will provide coaching on how to best translate these relationships into growth in discipleship.

Custom-fit Learning Opportunities:

Other learning experiences for the congregations will be developed in collaboration with the site pastors and PT Connect Teams (e.g. Hispanic ministry cultural competencies, understanding wealth and poverty, small group and discipleship pathway development).

Projected Timeline

2016

- February 2016: Site Church Selections Announced
- March 2016: Connecting & Hospitality Training
- June-August 2016: Summer Program –
- September 2016 - May 2017: After-school Program
- October 15: First Round of Connection Ministry Grant Selections