

Church Partnership Evangelism Leadership Guide for Local Church Representative

Obtain Local Church Support

1. Church Partnership Evangelism is a local church ministry. You should present the event vision and strategy to local church leadership for their approval. Their approval and assistance will be invaluable in recruitment of personnel and financial support from the congregation.

2. If you are a lay person you should seek to remain accountable to the local church leadership by providing regular written reports to the pastor and board and to the missions committee concerning progress in personnel recruitment and financial support.

Recruit Personnel For The Team

1. The greatest opportunity for recruiting impact is immediately after a previous trip. The impact made on your church congregation at that time, when memories and excitement are fresh, provides a foundation upon which the leader can build when recruiting members for the next trip. Showing video coverage or slides of the previous trip will greatly enhance the impact. If you are developing the first CPE team from your church you may seek persons outside your fellowship who have been on a CPE event to give testimony to the Church congregation.

2. It is important to realize that many team members will be recruited through a series of presentations over many months. The most effective presentations are often those that are done one-on-one over coffee, or in small groups by lay people who have committed to join the team, or have already participated on a previous team. These lay people are absolutely critical to the success of the recruiting process because they dismiss the misconceptions about missions being only for "super Christians."

3. Don't be surprised that many will not volunteer without a direct personal petition. As a Pastor I found it helpful to spend time praying about the formation of a team and then going directly to individuals I felt impressed upon to seek their participation. It never ceased to amaze me how many said something like, "I have felt I should go and prayed that if God wanted me to go than somebody would ask me."

4. Providing a training program for the campaign can also be a great tool for recruiting, by leaving it open-ended and inviting curious members of the congregation to attend. As they receive some introductory lessons in language, cultural differences, cross-cultural evangelism, hear of the testimonies and experiences of others who have gone on previous trips, and have fears allayed about such concerns as fund-raising, appetites are wetted, and new recruits enlisted.

5. Attempt to get as much coverage as possible in the local church through missions conferences and similar missions focused events.

6. Do not limit recruiting to your home church, but contact other churches and request for an opportunity to make a C.P.E. presentation. On average, it has taken the participation of two or three churches to provide enough members to comprise a team. Ideally we would like every church to engage one other church with them in the ministry.

7. If possible, although it isn't necessary, recruit at least one member who can speak the language of the host nation to be visited. This person could be invaluable, especially if there is a shortage of translators in the host national church(es).

8. Remember that recruiting is often the most difficult and time-consuming process of C.P.E. leadership. However, through prayer, persistence, and beginning the recruiting process well in advance of the campaign (preferably 12 months), recruiting will prove to be a very rewarding faith experience in the final analysis. God will give you who you need.

9. Make sure that you have received from the CPE coordinator a Run Up on the upcoming event you are to be participating in and a copy of the registration material for signing up those you recruit.

Collect Registration Forms and Application Fees Forms, Fees and Testimonies Go To CPE Coordinator

1. You should already have collected registration forms before this time and submitted them but as a goal you should aim to have the larger portion of your team recruited and registered by this time.

2. Make sure that they have completed the form in its entirety. Make sure that they have recorded their names as they are found on their passports. If they have not applied for passports they should do so immediately. These registration forms should include a \$ 100 deposit, which though not refundable goes towards their cost of the campaign. Also they should have legibly completed their testimony forms in some where around 250 words.

3. Once you have determined that these forms have been completed in entirety send them on to the CPE coordinator. You should collect these forms as this helps confirm the commitment of the participants to you and to them.

4. It is important that the testimonies be sent in at this time to allow sufficient time for translation and printing.

Prepare And Distribute Event Guidebooks To Registered Team Members

1. The Event Guidebook you received or shall receive contains introductory information on the country to be visited.

2. You should copy and distribute this guidebook to all individual who have completed the registration material and submitted the hundred-dollar down payment.

3. This guidebook will provide many answers to questions your people have but not all. Encourage them to begin reading through it and making note of any questions they still have that are vital to their preparation.

Organize And Commence Pre-Event Team Training

This aspect of preparation will prove valuable and fun. We encourage you to do what you can to provide some pre-event preparation. CPE will provide whatever resources we have available in this effort. The following is a suggested list of areas you may choose to cover in such training.

1. An Average Day in the Event: It is best that you begin by communicating to the team what a normal day of ministry will be like. This information is included in the event guidebooks.

2. C.P.E. Evangelism And Discipleship Familiarization: Due to the language barrier the role of the North American team members will be limited when their national Christian partner does not understand English and can't translate. However, the bilingual evangelism tract and discipleship material has been designed in such a manner as to help the North American understand and even have a significant part in any presentation of the Gospel even in these situations. The Event Guidebook contains a section entitled, "The Proper Use of the Tract." It also should have a guide to the proper use of the discipleship material. (This material is interlined in Spanish for those working in Spanish speaking countries and is being prepared in the same manner for other languages.) It is recommended that you go over this material with your team. You may even choose to role-play the use of the material.

3. Cultural/Historical Awareness: An attitude of "people over there don't do things right" can be fatal to the C.P.E. experience and campaign. It will prevent team members from gleaning many important lessons, and can even be detrimental to the efforts of the missionaries working in the host's community. You should contact a missionary from the country you will be visiting for some do's and don'ts in polite cross-cultural behavior. Keep in mind that we go not going as ambassadors of any earthly country but of the Saviour of the World.

4. Fund-Raising Training: In the registration material and the Event Guidebook there are some very good pointers on fund-raising. Use this as a guide for instruction and interaction with the team members. Because much of the funding may be generated through the church it is important that you as leader, at this time, make a presentation to the church leadership for approval and implementation of tax deductible contributions through the church. This is the church's ministry, and they need to have the opportunity to support it.

5. Preacher Training: As team leader, it is not only likely that you will preach, but that you will need to select and train other leaders under you, who will also be expected to preach. The requirement for newly trained leader/preachers will depend on the number of national churches participating in the campaign. The evangelistic message preached should be brief (10 to 15 min.), because the time is doubled with translation. The Cross should always be kept central to the message. The narrative stories such as Nicodemus, Zacchaeus, and the woman at the well, are particularly suited to this type of presentation. At the end of the sermon lead in a believer's prayer of repentance and faith: "Lord Jesus, I need you. I am a sinner. Thank you for dying on the Cross for my sins. Please forgive my sins. I open the door of my life and invite you in. Take control of my life and make me the kind of person you want me to be." Say this prayer once. And then make an invitation for those who want to submit to Jesus Christ say it with you, slowly, phrase by phrase. Then ask them, "if you have prayed this prayer for the first time please raise your hand". Explain that you have materials for them and you need information from them. Have the nationals ready to record the names of all who prayed. (You may contact your CPE coordinator for materials on lay evangelistic preaching.)

6. Testimony Training: Almost everyone on the team will have an opportunity to give their personal testimony. Because for many, and maybe all of the team, this may be the first time they have been asked to give a public testimony, it will be extremely helpful to have allowed them the opportunity to first do this in front of the familiar and friendly faces of the team. It will also enable some time to help the team members refine their testimonies, by shortening them (if necessary), editing theological jargon and defining their testimony in easily understood terms, and using simple English that a host country translator will be able to translate. The rule is KISS. Keep It Simple and Short. This same rule applies to preaching.

7. Spiritual Equipping Training: All of the above training will be of little effect if the team member is not aware that ministry involves spiritual battle and requires one to be in constant touch with the Holy Spirit. To set out in one's own strength alone is to invite disaster. First we recommend that each team member work his way through a The pamphlet, **O God, Revive Us Again**, published and distributed by Overseas Missionary Fellowship, 404 South Church Street, Robesonia, Pennsylvania 19551, Telephone number 215-693-5881. We can also send you this material by contacting us at our office in Boise, Idaho. Secondly, divide the team into small prayer groups of three or four where they will feel less threatened to pray more openly. It would be of great benefit to the team during this prayer time if they were also taught to pray the scriptures, with the Psalms or such powerful scriptures as Ephesians. Thirdly, include a time of worshipful singing. And finally, the team members need to realize that their spiritual equipping will be incomplete if they do not have the support of some prayer warriors at home. Ask team members to recruit at least two members within the church to support them in prayer

8. Length Of Training: As there is much to be accomplished in preparing a team for this ministry, if it is to be effective, it is recommended that the training consist of at least six to eight sessions. If possible, the team should be set up as a temporary growth group within the church growth group calendar, meeting weekly for one term.

Receive and Send Campaign Air Travel Cost to Travel Agent or CPE Coord.

1. Because of the upcoming Spring break it is important that we pay for the travel well in advance in order to get the best prices. This will be a bit of an inconvenience but it is necessary that we collect these funds as soon as possible. Your church may be willing to advance the funds for members who have already expressed the commitment to go. However to purchase tickets we will have to give specific names (as listed on a person's passport) therefore moneys used to purchase tickets will be locked in according to the name the ticket is purchased in.

2. At this time you may want to send a letter out to your team members with a reminder about getting passports, travel insurance, and immunizations, for those who have not yet completed these activities. They will need to take care of these matters themselves.

3. At this time verify with the church treasurer the amount of contributions made through the church offerings toward the campaign. These can be used to assist those team members who were not financially capable of meeting the total campaign cost.

4. These funds may be sent by the individual directly to the CPE coordinator or they may be channeled through the local church. The later is usually the best option. Either way you are responsible to see to it that those funds are sent on or before this time to the coordinator.

Schedule Commissioning and Post Event Services For The Local Church

This is important both for the congregation and the team, to recognize that the team is not a separate entity from the rest of the congregation, but rather it is chosen and sent from within the local body to represent the local body in this special ministry.

Send/Receive 100% of Remaining Cost of Event 30 days in advance of departure

Make Arrangements For Transportation To And From The Local Airport.

1. It is anticipated that the sending church will want to have the appropriate send off for the team as well as welcome them home. Therefore, it is likely that the church would be willing to provide the necessary transport. If this is not the case, other local transportation arrangements may have to be made.

2. Notify team members of the time and date that they are to meet at the church for departure.

Prepare A Listing Of Emergency Phone Numbers

1. This list should include the following:

Emergency number and family contact for each team member.

Travel Agent Home And Office Numbers.

Number Of Host Missionary In Host Country.

Denominational Head Office Number.

Number Of Hotel.

2. Leave a copy of this listing and the campaign itinerary with the local church office.

3. Retain the original on your person for the campaign.

These are your defined responsibilities. You may be asked to provide other services by the CPE coordinator. Feel free to consult with him as you have a need or a question and to ask of him assistance at any time.