

Associational Barnabas Team Overview

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Scope

Local sponsoring churches, local associations, and the state convention work in cooperation to plant churches throughout our state. For the purpose of our cooperative church planting work, there are two types of Barnabas Teams: (1) Associational Barnabas Team (ABT), and (2) Local Church Barnabas Team (LCBT). The purpose of this document is provide background information and a job description for ABT members.

Background

Biblical Basis

Barnabas was a Jewish Levite who encouraged Paul and was a catalyst for church planting and church growth (Acts 11:25).

Associational Church Planting Strategy (ACPS)

The ACPS developed and adopted by the association, sets a goal for the number of new church plants in the next ten years based on research of population and population projections. The ten-year goal will inform the association's work in each one-three year window (10-3-1 church planting process).

What is an Associational Barnabas Team (ABT)?

An ABT is a group of volunteers that work alongside the Director of Missions (DOM), or his designee, to set the climate for and initiate (be a catalyst in) the process of planting churches according to the ACPS. The DOM will oversee the selection and orientation of ABT members.

Job Description

What will the ABT do?

- Serve as a central committee for implementation of the ACPS
- Perform the required church planting tasks that occur before the selection of a church planter and a church planting site
 - Encourage local churches to have a vision to reach people for the kingdom of God.
 - Work with associational mission development leaders to assess the need for new churches and ministries within the associations though the use of demographic profiles and community windshield surveys
- Update the Associational Church Planting Strategy 10-3-1 process annually to reflect the current realities of a three-year window. The contiguous three-year window will include the past year, the current year, and the next year
- Assist the local sponsoring church in the formulation of a LCBT

What is expected of ABT members?

- Work in concert with the DOM, or his designee, to promote the need to plant new churches and ministries in the association
- Read and be familiar with the ACPS
- Attend training and orientation for team members
- Attend the regular meetings of the ABT
- Participate in community windshield surveys
- Use demographic profiles and community survey results to help the team identify potential church planting people and places to target
- Participate in community needs assessment for potential compassion ministries and ministry evangelism opportunities

- Participate in the annual update of the ACPS 10-3-1 process.
- Work with one or more local sponsoring churches to help develop a functioning LCBT for each new church plant