

ECN: An Initial Framework

ECN Core Processes

- *Building Readiness*

Focus: congregational and community discovery

Outcomes: a shared vision for community ministry, the formation of a community ministry team, a designated staff/ministry leader, a “next step” plan that includes at least two new/renewed areas of community ministry

- *Building Capacity*

Focus: training leaders and deploying ministry teams

Outcomes: a staff focused on training/equipping and alert to team dynamics, the development of ministry models-tools-resources, feedback adjustments, a long term leadership development strategy, and budget revisions (to support growing involvement in/with the community)

- *Building Coalitions*

Focus: establishing congregational and organizational partnerships for community transformation

Outcomes: regional community development efforts, the formation of church-based nonprofit organizations, the increase of financial resources and volunteer participation in addressing particular community needs

ECN Building Readiness Process

- *form a new team to oversee a discovery process (i.e. a Forward Planning Team, a Community Ministry Development Team, a Ministry Renewal Team, a); this is done with the blessing of the visible leader (or leadership team)*
- *actively move through a two-track discovery (or “listening”) process that results in new/renewed ministry for the sake of the community; this includes:*

Congregational Discovery

- > a readiness/capacity survey
- > one-on-one interviews (50% participation)
- > comprehensive spiritual gifts assessment
- > ministry audit (identify assets)
- > interpret feedback (identify patterns)

Community Discovery

- > a demographic survey
- > one-on-one stakeholder interviews
- > neighborhood canvassing/focus groups
- > community walking/asset-mapping
- > interpret feedback (identify patterns)

- *develop a ministry plan out of what has been discovered; this includes renewed ministry initiatives, new ministry teams, a refocusing of resources, and future ministry scenarios*

This tool is utilized within a coaching/consulting relationship. This is not intended to be a “stand alone” resource for analyzing data.