

COASTAL RESIDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

(CRSS)

Gulf Coast Baptist Association

Vision

A spiritual presence in every multi-housing venue in the Gulf Coast Baptist Associational area resulting in self conducting, self-sustaining, reproducing missional communities.

Mission

Coastal Resident Support Services (CRSS), an auxiliary of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association, exists to support multi-housing managers with a variety of social activities, life skills classes, and other services to foster a sense of community.

Strategy

The strategy is borrowed from Church Planting Movements, by David Garrison, to lay the foundation for a missional community in each multi-housing venue (MHV). This program will contain the following characteristics:

1. Prayer
2. Abundant gospel sowing
3. Intentional missional community planting
4. Scriptural authority
5. Local leadership
6. Lay leadership
7. Cell/house missional communities
8. Missional communities planting missional communities

The strategy will use a “3 to 5” plan for churches and volunteer groups to engage multi-housing venues. This plan consists of:

1. 3 to 5 years of commitment to a multi-housing venue
2. 3 to 5 activities per year in a multi-housing venue
3. 3 to 5 people on each team that conducts activities.

The strategy will also use the “People Plan” to engage a multi-housing venue.

1. **P** ray fervently
2. **E** ngage the people
3. **O** pen the Word
4. **P** repare key leaders
5. **L** aunch a ministry
6. **E** ffective exit with care

CRSS is to build relationships with Multi-Family Housing (MFH) managers, gatekeepers, persons of peace, and other significant persons for ministry opportunities.

1. Actions
 - a. Conduct personal visits with managers, social activities directors, gatekeepers, and persons of peace within the multi-housing venue.
 - b. Involve local church leadership in these developing relationships.
 - c. Conduct activities that begin a relationship between the church and the MHV.
2. Outcomes
 - a. Identification of groups of adults interested in beginning and continuing bible studies.
 - b. Establishment of ongoing relationships leading to adult bible study groups.
 - c. Future ministry opportunities.

CRSS will resource and coordinate summer volunteer groups to work in MFH venues.

1. Actions
 - a. Coordinate and resource summer missions groups conducting Backyard Bible Clubs (BBC) and block parties in the MHV.
 - b. Work with Gulf Coast Baptist Association (GCBA) pastors to conserve prospects and decisions from BBCs and block parties.
2. Outcomes
 - a. Renewed vision of local church leadership for local community.
 - b. Establishment of missional communities, bible studies, and other spiritual activities.
 - c. Positive relationships with GCBA and churches leading to continued cooperation between neighbors and MHVs in future ministry opportunities.
 - d. Revitalization of strategic GCBA churches from the addition of prospects and possible new members.
 - e. Relationships with parents or guardians of children touched by these ministries.

CRSS will use churches and volunteer groups to adopt MHVs within the GCBA area.

CRSS will resource and coordinate summer mission groups working in MFH sites.

CRSS will provide training for churches, volunteer groups, and individuals.

1. Actions
 - a. Coordinate and resource summer missions groups conducting Backyard Bible Clubs (BBC) and block parties in MFH sites.
 - b. Work with GCBA pastors to conserve prospects and decisions from BBCs, block parties, and other activities.
 - c. Provide necessary training.
 - d. Train workers to conduct participatory bible studies in order to train participants to do the same.
2. Outcomes
 - a. Establishment of missional communities, bible studies, and other spiritual activities.
 - b. Renewed vision of local church leadership for local community.
 - c. Positive relationships with GCBA and churches leading to continued cooperation between neighbors and MFH sites in future ministry opportunities.
 - d. Revitalization of strategic GCBA churches from the addition of prospects and possible new members.

- e. Relationships with parents or guardians of children touched by these ministries.

Rules of Engagement

1. **CANNOT:**
 - a. **DO ANYTHING WITHOUT THE MANAGER'S PERMISSION.**
 - b. **GO DOOR TO DOOR.**
2. **CAN:**
 - a. Witness **only** when **personally approached**.
 - b. Prayer walk with **manager's permission**.
 - c. Do bible study when **invited**.
 - d. Visit in a home when **invited** or if **prior permission** has been obtained from the resident.
 - e. Begin forming relationships by engaging residents during activities.

Definitions.

1. **Missional community.** A group meeting regularly to implement the Five Purposes of a Church.
 - a. Worship
 - b. Evangelism and missionary outreach
 - c. Discipleship and education
 - d. Ministry
 - e. Fellowship
2. **Self-conducting.** Missional communities led by residents of a multi-housing community. These leaders are trained by the strategist, adopting church and volunteers.
3. **Self-sustaining.** This refers to leadership raised up from within the missional community. This is also called lay leadership. When the multi-housing strategist or volunteers exit that community according to their exit strategy the missional community continues.
4. **Reproducing.** Missional communities raise up and train new leadership and create new missional communities inside and outside the multi-housing venue using their own resources.
5. **Gatekeepers.** Those who sit in positions of authority whether formal or informal. Their job is to keep the peace of their area and to look out for their people.
6. **Person(s) of Peace.** Those who are open to receive your message and teaching. These people usually try to help you in some way.
7. **Local leadership.** People from within the multi-housing venue that have been trained to organize, lead, and conduct worship services or bible studies.
8. **Lay leadership.** People who have no formal theological or ministerial training.
9. **Participatory bible study method (PBSM).** A small group method in which everyone actively participates. Anyone who is scripturally qualified can serve as group leader. Accountability is part of the meeting. PBSM should begin with the first meeting of a group to lay the foundation for how they can do "church" in their situation.
10. **Effective exit.** We cannot just quit coming. Before we engage we must know how and when we will exit. This involves formulating goals, objectives, indicators, and the possibility of a renewed term of engagement.

Dionne Williams

(228) 832-4311

John Johnston

(225) 733-2422