

Launching Volunteer-led Ministries

Sometimes “How?” is all that stands between us and life-changing service. There are future ministry leaders sitting in your church’s seats with visions of starting new outreach programs, but don’t know where or how to begin. They have the inspiration. They just need a little guidance. Your staff can encourage and walk besides these spirit-filled entrepreneurs as they put action behind their vision. We’ve put together a 5-step process that your staff can use to launch new ministries under your church’s umbrella..

Please note: We recommend that your staff walks ministry leaders through the process one step at a time, rather than simultaneously going through all five steps. Keep in mind that each ministry and leader will have a unique set of proficiencies as well as areas they need assistance in, and therefore, the process and timeline will be different for each. Also, there will be cases where a ministry is not approved after a certain step in the process, so it’s vital to go through all steps in order to ensure you are setting these new ministries up for success.

1

Establish the Vision

The potential new ministry leader, aka “Applicant” should complete a [Ministry Proposal](#) summary sheet. Criteria for approving this initial proposal should include:

- a) The ministry is viable and has the potential to accomplish its vision.
- b) The ministry must have values and goals that are compatible and complementary to the overall vision and mission of your church, while being unique / different from other existing ministries.
- c) The ministry must not be for personal financial gain.

2

Qualify the Leader

If the Ministry Proposal is approved, the Applicant should complete a [Leadership Questionnaire](#) and [Spiritual Gifts Test](#) and [Volunteer Assessment Survey](#) detailing leadership abilities, skills and experience. Criteria for evaluating the Applicant should include:

- a) Has attended the church for at least one year.
- b) Is connected to the church body as an active participant, serving in an existing ministry or fellowship/life group.
- c) Has a regular job outside of the church (the new ministry should not be providing employment).
- d) Has a passion and gifting for serving the Kingdom in the capacity outlined in the Ministry Proposal.
- e) Has some level of leadership experience, either at the church, place of employment or previous church or ministry.

3

Build the Team

If approved, the Applicant should complete a Ministry Application in which s/he will be required to:

- a) Observe and report on ministries or community services that provide a similar service in the community.
- b) Assemble at least three team members who are willing to participate in the leadership of the new ministry.

4

Create a Ministry Blueprint

If approved, the Applicant should complete the [Outreach Ministry Blueprint](#) and the [Goals Worksheet](#) in which s/he will be required to outline specific, measurable goals for the ministry at 3 months, 6 months and 12 months of existence.

These goals should be discussed, edited and prayed over in a face-to-face meeting with the Outreach staff at your church.

5

Sign the Contract

If approved, the newly appointed Ministry Leader should be required to stay connected to, receive coaching and support from and remain accountable to the Outreach Staff. This can take place in the form of monthly ministry reporting, monthly or bimonthly ministry leadership meetings or other check-ins by your staff.

The Ministry Leader should also sign a [Ministry Contract](#) detailing the above and will be directed to start their ministry training at idoministry.org, where they will receive next steps to launching their ministry within the church body.

Additional Resources

The following resources are linked to our coaching process. Please contact us at info@dosomethingchurch.org for more info.

[New Ministry Proposal Summary Sheet](#)

[Leadership Questionnaire](#)

[Spiritual Gifts Test](#)

[Ministry Application](#)

[Outreach Ministry Blueprint](#)

[Goals Worksheet](#)

[Ministry Contract](#)