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## Congregational Ministry Partner

Congregational Ministry Partners inspire, equip and connect congregation members and other constituents to work together for lasting change. They are supported by their Diocesan Ministry Partner, who recruits and mentors them. Diocesan Ministry Partners are, in turn, supported by Provincial Ministry Partners. All Ministry Partners work together to update and educate their respective constituents on the work of Episcopal Relief & Development, thus serving as the heart of Episcopal Relief & Development within The Episcopal Church.

An effective Congregational Ministry Partner will:

- **Be fully informed about Episcopal Relief & Development and its work.**
  - Frequently visit [episcopalrelief.org](http://episcopalrelief.org) to acquire the latest resources for your ministry.
  - Read the monthly Ministry Partner e-newsletter, *Ministry Partner Matters*.
  - Take part in workshops and other training opportunities offered throughout the year, both virtual and in-person (when public safety allows), such as Ministry Partner Gatherings, webinars, online training courses, and more.
- **Ensure people in your community know about Episcopal Relief & Development's work.**
  - As the Episcopal Relief & Development expert in your community, share information and updates with your congregation and greater community. This could include (but is not limited to):
    - Making announcements in your congregation, in your congregational bulletin or newsletter monthly.
    - Submitting articles to community publications and websites.
    - Ensuring that Episcopal Relief & Development's materials are available in public spaces.
- **Encourage Fundraising Campaigns and Engagement Resources in your community.**
  - Encourage engaging with the toolkits and other resources for congregations.
  - Engage with seasonal tools, such as *Lenten Meditations* and *Advent*, to deepen your constituents' spiritual connection to our work.
  - Encourage the use of Episcopal Relief & Development resources within your congregation, such as the *Abundant Life Garden Project* and *16 Days of Activism Toolkit*.
- **Stay in touch with Diocesan Ministry Partners and the Episcopal Relief & Development staff.**
  - Submit photos, articles and examples of your fundraising and awareness work to your Diocesan Ministry Partner and organizational staff so that it can be recorded and appreciated.

- Both your Diocesan Ministry Partner and the organizational staff will be contacting you throughout the year, but you should feel free to contact us as well. We are here to serve you and be strong partners in *working together for lasting change*.
- **BE CREATIVE!**
  - Take an inventory of your skills and use creative ways to share the message of Episcopal Relief & Development and to encourage engagement with the organization.
  - Identify the strengths of your congregants and invite them to shared ministry. Are you making a poster board for a parish event? See if you can involve youth in helping to decorate. Is there a photographer in your midst? Ask if they'd like to take photos of a fundraising event. Perhaps your parish is home to a great musician. Would they like to donate their time to do a fundraising concert for Episcopal Relief & Development? The sky is the limit when ministry is shared!

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