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

**Rules of Engagement**

1. **CANNOT:**
2. **DO ANYTHING WITHOUT THE MANAGER’S PERMISSION.**
3. **GO DOOR TO DOOR.**
4. **CAN:**
5. Witness **only** when **personally approached**.
6. Prayer walk with **manager’s permission.**
7. Do bible study when **invited.**
8. Visit in a home when **invited** or if **prior permission** has been obtained from the resident.
9. Begin forming relationships by engaging residents during activities.

**Definitions.**

1. **Missional community.** A group meeting regularly to implement the Five Purposes of a Church.
2. Worship
3. Evangelism and missionary outreach
4. Discipleship and education
5. Ministry
6. Fellowship
7. **Self-conducting**. Missional communities led by residents of a multi-housing community. These leaders are trained by the strategist, adopting church and volunteers.
8. **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.
9. **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.
10. **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.
11. **Person(s) of Peace**. Those who are open to receive your message and teaching. These people usually try to help you in some way.
12. **Local leadership**. People from within the multi-housing venue that have been trained to organize, lead, and conduct worship services or bible studies.
13. **Lay leadership**. People who have no formal theological or ministerial training.
14. **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.
15. **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 John Johnston

(228) 832-4311 (225) 733-2422