

MISSION CLUSTER MINISTRY MODEL

Christian Churches of Northern California-Nevada



Under the Regional By-Laws approved at the 2010 Annual Meeting and in effect since the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Northern California-Nevada a new model for Regional Ministry has emerged. It calls for the creation of 'Mission Clusters' as the units through which we partner, gather, network, and leverage our common interests and passions for ministry.

A **Mission Cluster** is a group of people or Congregations formed to promote mission and fellowship within the CCNC-N. They are accountable to and are represented on the Ministry Council. The three types of Mission Clusters in our by-laws are:

- 1) A group of Congregations based on geography. The geographical composition of these Clusters will be determined by the Ministry Council in consultation with the Congregations. Every Congregation is encouraged to be in a Geographic Cluster.
- 2) A group of at least two (2) Congregations (or groups within them) with similar interests, needs, or vision for a particular mission and who wish to work together to live out or explore their mission.
- 3) Regional Fellowship Group. (Examples: Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Youth Ministry, GLAD, NAPAD).

Mission Clusters are meant to be a flexible and responsive way for people across the Region to build relationships, pool knowledge and resources, and support one another as the Holy Spirit moves us all to meet the needs of our communities and build God's Kingdom together. The groups are meant to have open membership. Individuals and congregations are encouraged to participate in as many as they wish.

- A group wishing to become a Mission Cluster will complete an application and submit it to the Ministry Council. Applications for first two types of Mission Clusters will include a letter of support from the congregation's board or pastor. Clusters that fit the Vision and Mission of the Region will be approved.
- Each Cluster will form its internal structure and programs, leadership and meeting formats.
- Each Cluster will designate a Convener and a representative to the CCNC-N Ministry Council. (It is acceptable for this to be the same person).
- Representatives will bring their knowledge, enthusiasm and insight to the Ministry Council. They will bring the programs of the Ministry Council to their respective Clusters.
- When a Cluster disbands it will inform the Council. If a Cluster ceases to function in accord with the Vision and Mission of the Region it may be disbanded by a majority vote of the seven (7) elected officers of the Ministry Council.
- The Ministry Council will facilitate formation of Mission Clusters as indicated by interested parties.

The first applications for Mission Clusters are due to the Regional Office by September 1, 2011. These will be reviewed by September 15, 2011. Representatives from each Mission Cluster will come together for the first full meeting of the CCNC-N Ministry Council on November 5, 2011. From that point forward applications will be reviewed as they are received.

MISSION CLUSTER APPLICATION
Christian Churches of Northern California-Nevada



Initial Applications due: September 1, 2011

Please complete and return to Regional Office. Please include indicated letters of support indicated below.

CCNC-N FIVE YEAR VISION 2008-2012

To cultivate a faithful, growing regional church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice (Micah 6:8), AND

To educate and empower every congregation to become a healthy, vital and living witness to the love, justice and grace of God through Jesus Christ (Acts 2:43-47).

CCNC-N MISSION

In covenantal relationship with our General Church, the Congregations of our Region and with other bodies that share our vision, we invite everyone to discipleship - not mere church membership - calling out and nurturing the infinite variety of spiritual gifts bestowed by God in the lives of all. We will establish and receive new Congregations. We will nurture all Congregations by providing assistance, counsel and pastoral care. We accept the invitation of Jesus in Acts 1:8 to follow him by witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth."

Proposed Mission Cluster Name: _____

Mission and purpose of the Cluster: _____

Please indicate which type of Mission Cluster this will be:

Geographic

Common Mission/Interest

Fellowship Group

Please include brief Letters of support:

✓ From Convener of the Cluster

✓ From Pastors of each of the participating congregations

✓ From Convener of the Cluster

Please list congregations or individuals wishing to join as initial members: _____

How will the Cluster live out the Vision and Mission of CCNC-N? _____

Mission Cluster Convener

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Ministry Council Representative

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

We are interested creating a mission cluster but need help connecting with other interested groups. Please help us to connect with other churches to bring this Mission Cluster to life.