STARTING A PARTNERSHIP

Partnerships between churches and international workers (IW) are relational and work best at the grassroots level where there is a natural connection. As partners form relationships and share their lives and goals, the results can be powerful.

The Alliance recognizes several key elements in a good partnership:

• Through **Partner Care**, churches come alongside IWs to help in various ways.

• **Strategic Prayer** involves standing with each other before God’s throne.

• **Doing Our Share** means giving financially to support people and ministries.

• By **Going There**, churches take short-term trips that allow them to contribute to the shared strategies of their partners.

• **Staying Aware** keeps partners up-to-date with one another.
BUT HOW AND WHERE DO WE PARTNER?

There are three starting points.

**PEOPLE**
We encourage you to start with natural connections you already have with IWs you know and value.

**PROJECTS**
Perhaps there are local ministries your church is already strongly involved with. These can provide a good connection with a similar Alliance missions effort.

**PLACES**
You can also develop a partnership based on a specific region of the world or an unreached people group God has placed on your heart.

A partnership should be Spirit-led and relationship based. At its root should be a common bond, shared goals, and deep trust. It should benefit the overseas team and the local church.

Most partnerships begin with a focus on people or a project. But changes are inevitable, so we suggest that you remain aware of what your partner’s field/team is doing to avoid ending your partnership when changes occur.

For more information on how to create lasting partnerships, contact the Global Link Office at (719) 265-2129 or GlobalLink@cmalliance.org.
So [Simon and his teammate] signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

—Luke 5:7