



# **Engaging Church Members in Community Ministry**

Explore effective strategies to empower church members in impactful community ministry initiatives through the F.I.S.H. principles from Oikos Institute.

**Reverend Challis S. Bradford, DMin**

**F.I.S.H.  
Principles  
for  
Community  
Ministry**

## Fishing Differently Philosophy

The 'Fishing Differently' philosophy advocates for transforming existing resources into innovative partnerships.

It encourages utilizing current assets creatively to foster collaboration and drive growth, ensuring sustainable development for all stakeholders.

# F.I.S.H. Principles for Community Ministry

Key Principles for Effective  
Community Engagement

## 1 Faith Capital

Emphasizes the importance of financial resources and faith in driving economic growth and stability.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

## 2 Intellectual Capital

Encompasses the knowledge, experience, and skills of individuals and organizations. It is the foundation for innovation and competitiveness, highlighting the value of continuous learning and knowledge sharing.

## 3 Social Capital

Pertains to the relationships and networks that facilitate cooperation among individuals and groups. It underscores the significance of community ties and collaboration in achieving shared goals and fostering social cohesion.

## 4 Human Capital

Refers to the attributes gained by individuals through education, training, and experience. Investing in human capital leads to a more skilled workforce, enhancing productivity and economic success.

**“F”.I.S.H.**

**FAITH**

*Fishing Differently*

*Ministry Formation in the  
Marketplace*

Rev. Dr. Sidney S. Williams, Jr.

When Congregations are in survival mode, there is little personal development happening.

Members will experience cognitive dissonance. Instead of making the next faithful step, they simply stop responding or completely withdraw.

Investing in ourselves!  
What do we believe?  
Are we connected to the Lord?  
Are we showing up spiritually?  
Do we believe we can do it?  
When we believe, we will and can do it!  
The disciples and Jesus.  
Did they really believe?

The lack of Faith Capital is exacerbated by multiple requests from church leaders to meet the obligations of the church. The greater the frequency of the requests, the lower the giving progressively gets.

Leaders must focus on the spiritual development of the congregation

80% of churches will never break through the two-hundred-member barriers  
80% of Christians do not attend Bible Study  
80% do not attend regular worship services  
90% of pastors shared they are tired

**F.“I”.S.H.  
INTELLECTUAL**

**Intellectual Capital**

*Fishing Differently*

*Ministry Formation in the  
Marketplace*

Rev. Dr. Sidney S. Williams, Jr.

Appreciate the diverse personalities, skills, and experiences within the congregations and invite them to strategically think “outside the box”

Great Sermons are not enough to unleash the Intellectual Capital

What skills are in the house?  
Are we using our gifts?  
Do we understand their areas of expertise?  
Are we throwing away the treasures in the house by calling it trash?

**F.I.“S”.H.**

**SOCIAL**

**Social Capital**

*Fishing Differently*

*Ministry Formation in the  
Marketplace*

Rev. Dr. Sidney S. Williams, Jr.

**A network of  
relationships among  
institutions and people.**

**Congregations tend to only  
interact within their own silos.**

**A call for both those who seek  
funds and those who have funds.**

**Building Social Capital is an  
invitation to pause and ask, “Who  
should we do ministry with?”**

**Whether we are asking for money  
or giving money, we are drawn  
together by God, who is about to  
do a new thing through our  
collaboration**

**F.I.S.“H”.**

**SOCIAL**

**HUMAN Capital**

*Fishing Differently*

*Ministry Formation in the  
Marketplace*

Rev. Dr. Sidney S. Williams, Jr.

**Implementation of  
projects and programs.**

**Develop new ministries**

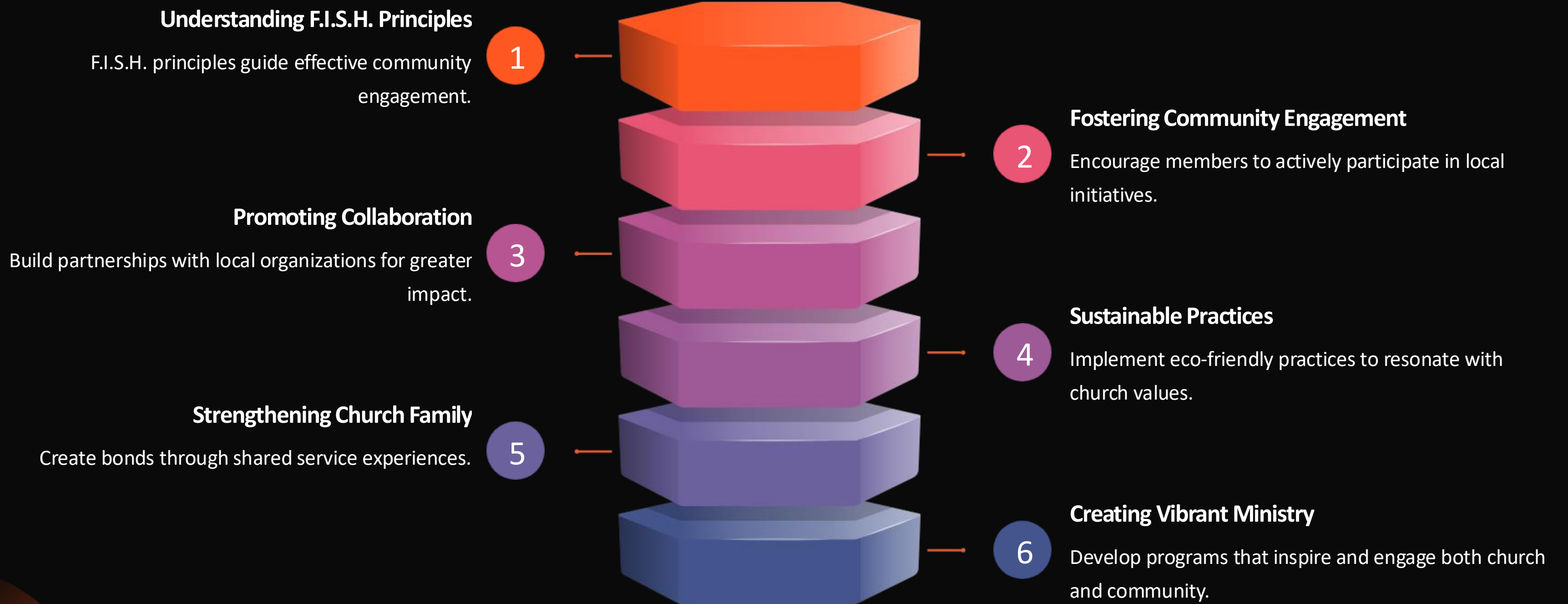
**Put together a plan and execute!**

**How do you get over the  
mountain of fear and get the job  
done.**

**Create opportunities to develop  
ministries that will assist people  
in achieving their full potential in  
practical ways.**

# Engaging Church Members in Community Ministry

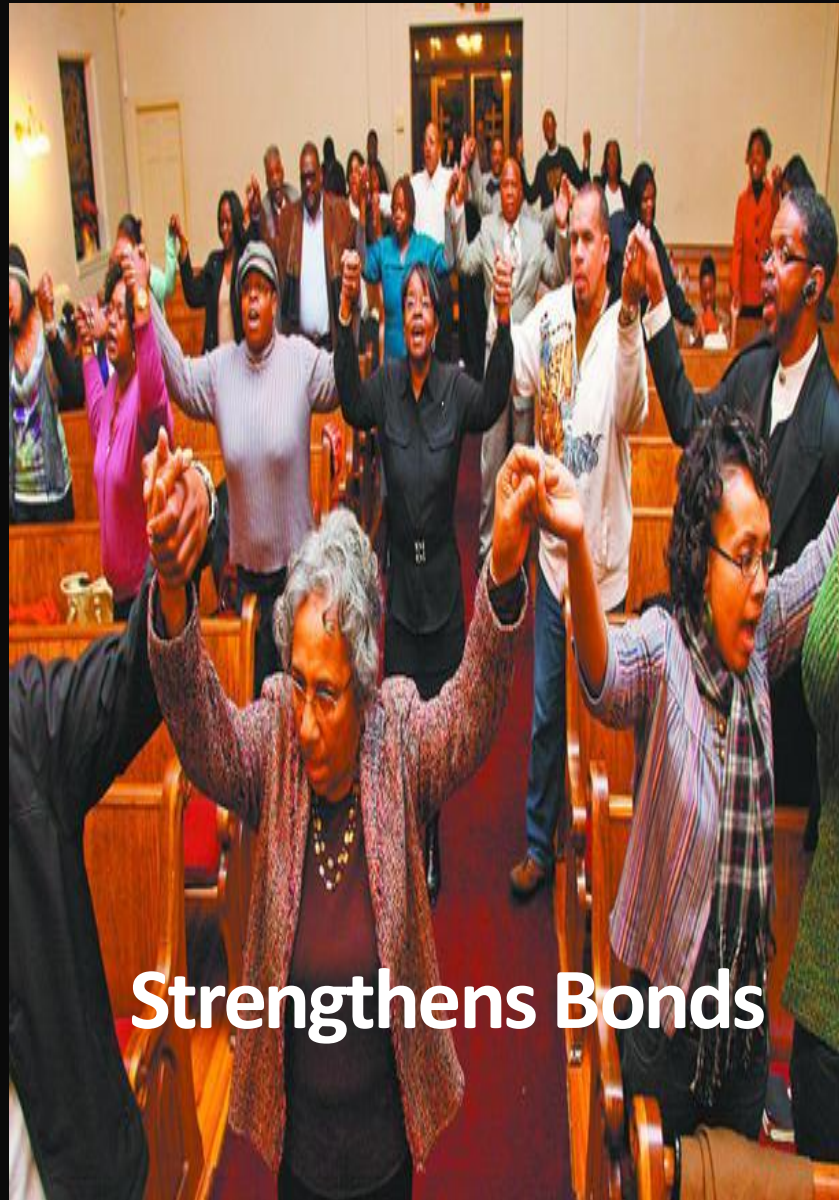
Strategies for Involvement in Community Service





# The Significance of Community Ministry

Understanding the Impact of Community Engagement



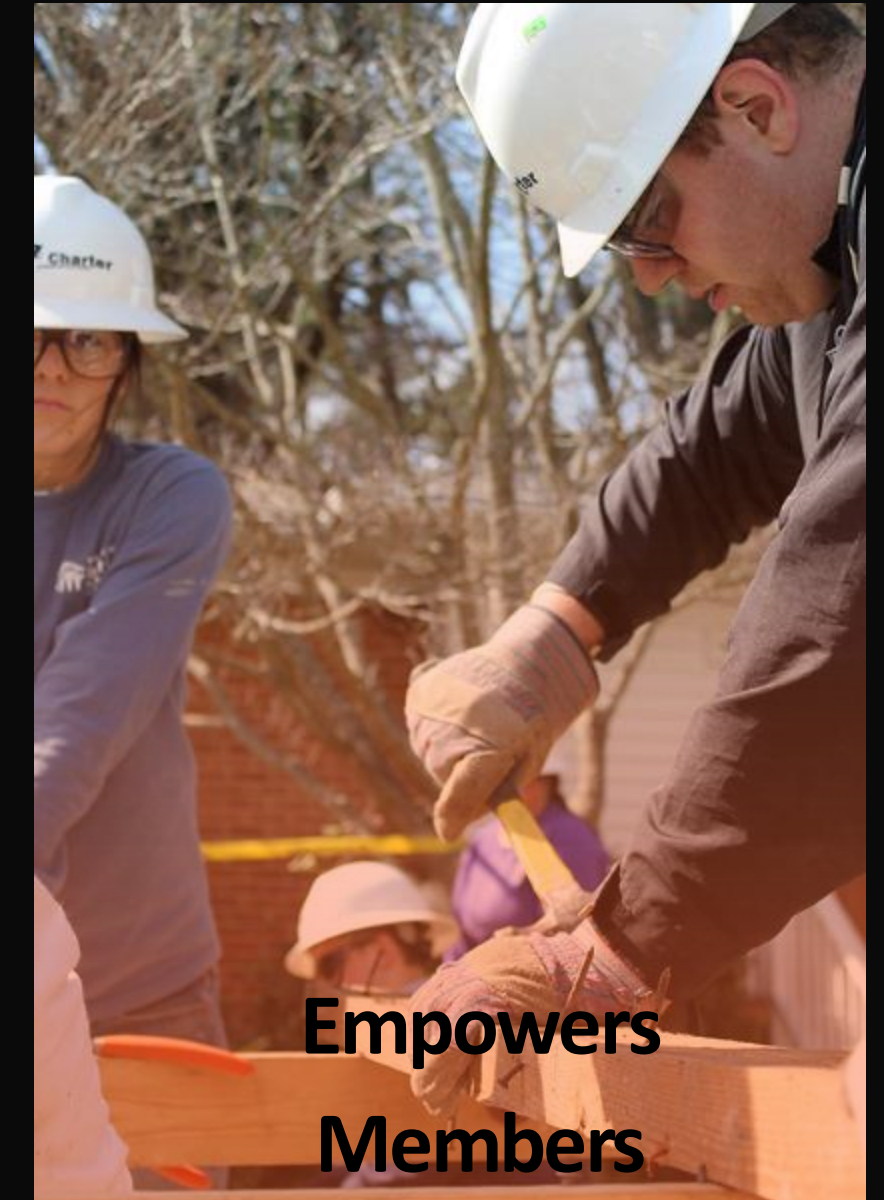
Engaging in community service fosters stronger relationships among church members.



Identifying and addressing community needs shows the church's commitment to serving others.



Community ministry is a powerful tool for evangelism, showcasing Christ's love and compassion.



Involvement in ministry empowers church members to use their gifts and talents effectively.



# Building Connections within the Church

Strategies for Fostering Relationships

- 1 Host Regular Fellowship Events**

Organize events to foster interaction and strengthen community bonds among church members.
- 2 Create Small Community Service Groups**

Form small groups dedicated to serving the community, enhancing collaboration and connection.
- 3 Utilize Communication Platforms**

Share inspiring stories and testimonials through church platforms to encourage engagement.
- 4 Encourage Mentorship Pairings**

Match experienced members with newcomers to promote guidance and support within the church.

# Empowering Members through Education

Key Initiatives and Training Opportunities

- 1 Offer workshops on community needs assessment and service planning.**  
Conduct sessions to identify community needs and develop service plans effectively.
- 2 Provide training sessions on effective communication and outreach strategies.**  
Equip members with skills to communicate and engage with the community better.
- 3 Collaborate with Oikos Institute for resources on social impact initiatives.**  
Partner with Oikos Institute to access valuable resources for social impact projects.
- 4 Create a volunteer leadership program to mentor potential ministry leaders.**  
Develop a program to nurture and mentor future leaders within the ministry.

# Engaging the Community through Service

Key Initiatives for Outreach Programs

## Encourage Participation from Members

Motivate church members to invite friends and family, promoting outreach through collective action.

## Address Specific Community Issues

Develop initiatives targeting critical issues like food insecurity and homelessness to create real change.

## Organize Community Service Days

Plan regular service days to address pressing local needs and foster community involvement.

## Partner with Local Organizations

Collaborate with local groups to enhance outreach and maximize impact in the community.



# Working Together for Greater Impact

Enhancing Community Ministry through Collaboration

## Form Partnerships

Collaborate with surrounding churches and organizations for impactful joint projects.

## Host Community Events

Organize events like health fairs and workshops to bring various groups together.

## Share Resources

Utilize shared resources and volunteers to amplify outreach efforts in the community.

## Highlight Success Stories

Showcase successful collaborations to motivate and inspire further community involvement.

# Examples of Effective Ministry Engagement

Case Studies Demonstrating Impact

1

## Case Study 1: Church and Food Bank

A church's partnership with a local food bank increased volunteer participation by 50%.

2

## Case Study 2: Collaborative Health Fair

A health fair served over 300 community members, connecting them with essential health services.

3

## Case Study 3: Mentorship Program

The church's mentorship program nurtured new leaders who launched their own service projects.

4

## Impact of F.I.S.H. Principles

These case studies illustrate how the F.I.S.H. principles foster impactful community engagement.

# Inspiring Involvement through Engagement

Cultivating a Vibrant Ministry through Collective Effort

## Member Testimonials

Share inspiring stories from members highlighting personal growth through ministry.

## New Initiative Suggestions

Encourage members to propose new service initiatives for community engagement.



## Volunteer Recognition Program

Implement a program to honor volunteers who consistently contribute to community service.

## Culture of Encouragement

Foster an environment that celebrates all contributions, big and small.

# Summary of Community Ministry Insights

Key Insights on Community Ministry Engagement

## F.I.S.H. Principles Framework

The F.I.S.H. principles provide a framework for effective community ministry.

## Importance of Relationships

Fostering relationships is crucial for successful community engagement.

## Investment in Training

Investing in training equips members with necessary skills for ministry.

## Engagement in Outreach

Engaging in outreach activities is essential for community impact.

## Successful Case Studies

Successful case studies illustrate the impact of collaborative efforts in ministry.

## Encouraging Participation

Encourage every member to take part in ministry, recognizing their unique contributions.

## Commitment to Service

Together, let's commit to actively involving church members in community ministry.

## Transforming Lives

Through service and love, we can transform lives and the community.





# **Engage Church Members Through F.I.S.H. Principles**

Discover and implement innovative strategies to actively involve church members in meaningful community ministry, utilizing transformative F.I.S.H. principles for positive impact.