

# MidSouth Hispanic Ministry

## Check List for starting a Hispanic ministry in your church.

### In relation to the District:

- Contact the Hispanic coordinator in your district. The Hispanic coordinator is available to speak with you on the subject, speak to your board, or preach in your congregation on this subject.
- It is important to understand that the goal is to give birth, growth, and development to a Hispanic congregation until it becomes self-sufficient and fully organized. It is a process that takes approximately 6 years.
- The planning stages are: Stage 1 - New start, 1st, and 2nd year. Stage 2 - PAC or CTM, 3rd and 4th year. Stage 3 - Organized Church, 5th to 6th grade. There are other options.

### In relation to your Church:

- Be sure that the official board agrees with the idea of a Hispanic mission in your church.
- Be sure that your congregation is also willing to receive Hispanics in your church. For this, you will have to cultivate this relationship, and prepare the hearts of your congregation for a Hispanic ministry.
- Dedicate a series of sermons on the theme of reaching others for Christ, especially those who are culturally different, in this case Hispanic, Latinos.
- It would be good to accompany this series of sermons with statistics and demographic data that prove the existence of these groups around your church, or somewhere within reach of your church.
- Seek out, nurture, and encourage those Hispanics in your congregation - bilingual or not - to develop in them a call to service and evangelism to those of their own group or language.

### Regarding finances:

- Be sure to propose a fund for Hispanic ministry in your local budget with the approval of your official board.
- This fund should not be very large. In general, the first and second year will cover poster expenses, promotion, materials in Spanish, etc. Building expenses could be considered within your overall budget for at least the first two years.
- The funds raised by the new congregation are recommended to increase the Hispanic ministry fund for future ministry expenses including its share of building expenses and district and general contributions.
- This is not always the case, but generally Hispanic pastors work voluntarily and are co-vocational, until the new congregation can bear these expenses.

**Note:** Thank you for considering the adventure of a Hispanic ministry in your congregation. Of course, there is much more to talk about and consider. I am here to help you and dream together!

### Contact:

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