

WHAT CNT IS BUILT ON

Transformation Is:

Is the progressive, ongoing, measurable and impact from the presence and power of God working in, through and apart from the body of Christ on human society and its structures. It involves seeking positive change in the whole of human life materially, socially and spiritually, as we recover our true identity as human beings created in the image of God and discover our true vocation as productive stewards, faithfully caring for our world and its people. Deep and profound change is possible in human beings and is equally possible for the social organisms that we call communities, cities and nations.

The goal of Christian Transformation is to establish a total ministry whose purpose is to bring together Jesus' Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20, his Great Commandment to care for the sick found in Matthew 25:36, his Great Instructions in Matthew 10:8 where he commanded his disciples to "Heal the sick," and His Great Example as recorded in Mathew 9:35-36.

The Purpose Statement and Guiding Principals Are What Hold a Collaborative Together. The Collaborative for Neighborhood Transformation might include:

CNT Purpose:

To collaborate together for greater impact and nurture a North American movement for transformational development particularly in urban neighborhood settings.

The Collaborative is completely committed to action which transforms individuals, communities/neighborhoods, and nations physically spiritually, emotionally, and socially. Our goal is to so influence individuals that their attitude and worldview produces visible changes in all sectors of their life, in their community/neighborhood, and in their nation.

CNT Principles:

A commitment to operate the collaborative under the following principles:

- Be focused on God's Kingdom.
- Have defined commonalities with a strong expressed need to wholistic transformational ministry.
- There are three levels of membership based on the commitment of the member to put into practice CTN
- CTN is equitably owned by all participants based on their level of membership.
- Participants have equitable rights and obligations but it does not attempt to impose uniformity.
- CNT is open to all qualified participants who agree with the wholistic approach to ministry in whatever sector.
- Power, function, and resources are attempted to be distributed to the maximum degree.
- Authority is attempted to be equitable and distributive within each governing entity. No interest should be able to dominate deliberations and decisions.
- No existing participants should be left in a lesser position by any new concept of CNT.
- Have a coordination team and steering committee who are the committed core members giving the collaboration direction
- To the maximum degree possible, everything should be voluntary.
- The collaboration attempts to induce, not compel, change.

- CTN attempts to be indefinitely malleable yet extremely durable.
- CNT is designed to be capable of constant, self-generated modification.

CNT Core Values:

Carefully articulated, core values insure that an organization's commitment to a vision becomes reality. They help to guarantee that during implementation, the vision, program integrity, sustainability, effectiveness, and applicability are preserved. This is important to ensure that the neighborhood transformation vision is not compromised. It will also insure that neighborhood transformation actually happens and develops properly. These core values are:

- Integration and Wholism: We are personally committed to complete obedience to all that Jesus commanded including compassion for the physical needs of people as well as evangelism and discipleship. We recognize an integral relationship between the physical, mental, social, and spiritual. Our programs seek the total development of the whole person and community.
- Commitment to the Poor and Marginalized: Jesus came to preach good news to the poor. As his Ambassadors, we are committed to the poor and marginalized. We affirm their worth, call them to be children of God through faith in Christ, and seek to release them from brokenness and despair.
- Long Term Solutions: We concentrate our efforts on long-term solutions that break the cycle of poverty and disease. We train, equip, and empower people to do for themselves. We focus on development rather than relief, and disease prevention rather than cure.
- Identifying and Using Neighborhood Assets: It is critical to build on assets that are already found in the community and then mobilizing individuals, associations and institutions to come together to build on their assets and not concentrate on the communities needs. Each individual and association have hidden assets that are waiting to be tapped and used. In the Entering the Community phase an extensive amount of time is spent in identifying the assets of individuals, associations and institutions especially in an urban setting where we are trying to identify sub-groups in which to form small sub-communities built around the peoples interests.
- Releasing Neighboring to Help Neighbors: In the past when a person had a need they went to their neighborhood for assistance. But this has shifted today to the belief that the neighbor does not have the skills to help them, therefore we must go to a professional for assistance.
The Welfare system today works in such a way that professionals have made clients and recipients of the poor, robbing them of the support from their neighbors who now think that they are not skilled enough to help. This leads to isolation of the individuals. The poor begin to see themselves as people with special needs that can only be met by outsiders. But this is changed through reawakening the idea that it is critical for neighbors assisting each other.
- Local Ownership and Initiative: Sustainable programs are owned by the people and built on local initiative. Ownership and initiative is demonstrated through volunteerism and strengthened through capacity building. We take time in communities to participate with them in assessing their needs, identifying resources, and assisting them in organizing for action through training and consultation.
- Participatory Learning: We believe that people must be active participants in their own development. Therefore, we use methods for adult learning that engage participants in a process of reflection and action. We also believe that people learn by doing, and that modeling is essential.

- Multiplication and Movements: Our aim is not merely projects, but movements. This is facilitated by training people to train others using concepts that are transferable. We emphasize the use of local resources and appropriate technologies so that solutions can be passed along neighbor to neighbor. We build cooperation and vision at a community level. We work collaboratively with faith and community based organizations, local and international relief and development agencies, churches and missions, as well as governments to facilitate the transformation of communities and nations.
- Christian Servant Leadership: Jesus is our model. We seek to imitate him in humility and love. Jesus taught that the greatest in the kingdom is the servant of all. Every leader in our organization is Christian, and each one a servant. We seek to model servant leadership in our organization and programs, and to raise up leaders in every community who give sacrificially to serve the needs of the people.
- Contextualization: Our programs will be adapted to local needs and requirements as identified by the local community.