
Conversations begin with intentional connections. John Mc Knight and Peter Block insist, "...we know that the power of what we have grows from creating new connections and relationships among us and between us and between what we have...we know that these connections are no accident. They happen when we individually and collectively act to make the connections - they just don't happen by themselves." (John Mc Knight and Peter Block, The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods, 2010, Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc., San Francisco). A classic volume that explains and applies the concepts and practices of 'Asset-Based Community Development' is


The application of "ABCD" (Asset-based Community Development) has obvious and immediate application to the local congregation whose members have been gifted by the Holy Spirit of their Baptism with abundant and varied gifts to create and sustain an "Abundant Community" of evangelizing disciples (Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-26). A training process that assesses the interests, challenges and gifts of a local congregation's neighborhood, "Planting Gospel Seeds While Serving Human Needs" utilizes some of the concepts of ABCD and can be designed to address a particular congregation's community outreach needs. For more information, contact Rev. Dr. Carlos Hernandez, 314-956-2005,

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