

# ACTIVATING GACX PARTNERSHIPS

## BUILDING BLOCKS AND STEPS

### 5 BUILDING BLOCKS OF PARTNERSHIP

#### BEGINNING WITH A RIGHT MINDSET

**Unity:** We must work together in unity to courageously accomplish the Lord's mission. John 17:22-23

**Diversity:** We must recognize our need for one another's unique contributions. 1 Cor. 12:12-31

#### BUILDING BLOCKS

##### 1. Aligned Vision

- **Direction and Results:** We understand and agree where we are, where we want to go, and what measurable results we want to courageously accomplish together. Matt. 28:19-20

##### 2. Trusted Relationships

- **Shared Values:** We understand and agree upon those things that are most important to us in our working partnership. Matt 22:37-39
- **Servant mind-set:** We humbly value one another and to serve the interests of each other. Phil 2:1-11
- **Authenticity:** We build trust with one another through speaking and acting with honesty and integrity. Col. 3:1-14
- **Accountability:** We encourage one another to follow through on our actions. Heb 10:24

##### 3. Complementary Contributions

- **Unique contributions:** We identify our unique contributions that others need to accomplish our shared purpose. 1 Cor. 3:5-9
- **Unselfish humility:** We generously offer one another our resources, skills, and time. What's mine is yours, and what's yours is mine. Acts 2:42-47

##### 4. Commitment to Action

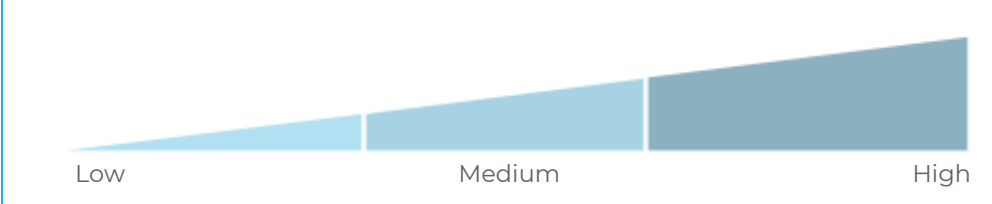
- **Leadership Initiative:** We demonstrate our commitment to one another through proactive leadership engagement and participation towards our shared vision and goals.
- **Leadership Will:** We understand and accept the time and energy that will be required to sustain a healthy partnership and achieve our shared vision.

##### 5. Common Practices

- **Strategy and Processes:** We know and agree upon shared objectives and goals and the processes and steps needed to accomplish them, (e.g. communication, meetings, decision making, evaluation, correction, etc).
- **Guidance:** We establish and model agreed upon roles and responsibilities that provides the boundaries or riverbanks for healthy partnerships and relationships.
- **Infrastructure:** We identify and provide the resources and systems needed for partnership, (e.g. project management, file sharing, communication, etc).

# 1. ACTION STEPS TO COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

## 4 LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIP Adapted from [Partnership Continuum](#), REACT Services, 2011

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>4 Levels of Partnership</b>	<b>Connecting</b>	<b>Cooperating</b>	<b>Coordinating</b>	<b>Collaborating</b>
<b>Vision Alignment</b>	Shared Awareness	Shared Purpose	Shared Objectives	Shared Plan
<b>Trusted Relationships</b>	Casual	Informal	Formal	Trusted
<b>Complementary Contribution of Resources</b>	Not shared	Few shared	Some shared	Jointly
<b>Commitment to Action</b>	Understand	Participate	Engaged	Committed
<b>Common Practices</b> Defined Roles Leadership Communication Accountability Processes				

## THE STEPS TO ACTIVATING LEVEL 4 PARTNERSHIPS

### KEY ACTIONS TO GO TO THE NEXT LEVEL

#### No Partnership Activity

**ACTION - Contact:** Get the word out and meet potential new partners.

#### Level 1 *Connecting*

**ACTION - Communicate:** Listen carefully and learn one another's direction and distinctiveness. Mutually discern if there is alignment and a partnership opportunity.

#### Level 2 *Cooperating*

**ACTION - Connect Relationally:** Intentionally build a trusted relationship and gain a greater understanding of one another as well as each other's core contributions and values. Schedule additional times for personal connection and communication. If possible, visit one another's organization.

#### Level 3 *Coordinating*

**ACTION - Call to Action:** As you see the partnership matures, test-run by choosing a short term, high-gain, low-risk opportunity to collaborate on and then execute it. This next level of partnership formation should be marked by mutual contribution towards common objectives and goals.

#### Level 4 *Collaborating*

**ACTION - Commit:** Commit to one another through deepening trust in your relationship, joint planning, collaborative execution, and greater sharing of resources and time. This is demonstrated by co-laboring

on an agreed-upon project in a region or nation, with clear objectives, contributions, and evaluations defined in an MOU.

## SOURCE FILES FOR THIS DOCUMENT

[Activating Partnerships, 2019](#) GACX, John Becker & Jerry Sharpless

[Igniting Strategic Partnerships, 2019](#) John Becker

[Bi-Lateral Partnership Process, 2013](#) Jerry Sharpless

[Partnership Training Process, 2016](#) GCM, Global Leaders

[Degrees of Partnership, 2018](#) Missio Nexus

[Partnership Continuum, 2011](#) REACT Services

## POTENTIAL ADDENDUMS

1. Why Partnership - Motivation
2. Biblical Basics
3. Assessment - Understand needs and readiness for partnership
4. Questions - Reflection on next steps
5. Actions - Recommended goals and next steps
6. FAQ
7. Stories - Examples and case studies
8. Learn more - Additional Resources
9. Contact information

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. Design and add graphics to provide visual interest and memorability.
2. Condense down to a card size and print to provide a communication piece and increase transferability
3. Match to GACX branding
4. Design for both web and print
5. Add links that provide additional info to unpack various parts.
6. Show names of leaders / organizations who endorse this pathway to provide authority and credibility