



IMPACT MINISTRIES

www.citiimpact.org

375 Robinson Road
Mooresville, NC 28117
704-507-6579

IMPACT MINISTRIES Collaborative Agreement Review Checklist

IMPACT Ministries encourages collaborations between non-profits and other like-minded organizations. We believe that one plus one *can* equal three. We have found collaborations help expand organizational missions, reduce duplication of services, and reduce the common misperception of a limited donor and volunteer base, thereby reducing “turf” struggles between agencies.

With the positive potential of collaborations, it is still prudent for ministry leaders and/or boards to complete due diligence with regard to policy when considering collaborations. When expectations are clarified, communicated and managed, conflicts can be minimized. This due diligence is especially important for a prospective IMPACT Ministries Covenant Partner ministry that will be a collaboration or program addition for an existing non-profit organization. Leaders and Boards of these groups must consider the following:

Key Questions to Ask About Joint Agreements*

- ✓ What **degree of closeness** have all organizations agreed on for the joint agreement?
- ✓ What **authority** will each organization exercise?
- ✓ Which **responsibilities** will each organization fulfill?
- ✓ What kinds of **powers and other resources** will each organization contribute?
- ✓ Which **key people** in each organization must sign the agreement and have they signed?
- ✓ What important **policies, procedures, and operations** have to be changed in each organization to further the collaboration, and what is the plan for implementing those changes?
- ✓ Who has responsibility for **drafting the agreements** and negotiating any differences among the member organizations?

Mission and Culture Compatibility

- Are there potential problems with the existing organization adopting, without reservation, the full letter and spirit of IMPACT Ministries Covenant Partnership Agreement? (If the rest of this document leads you to continue, we'll send along our simple IMPACT Ministries Covenant Partnership Agreement to review)
- Does the existing program currently provide straight charity? IMPACT Ministries has theological based philosophy on self-help partnership. Outright charity is called for in some circumstances, such as giving out food or blankets following a natural disaster. But most charity is theologically deficient in other situations because it deprives the recipient the blessing of giving back, as promised in the Bible. "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" – Acts 20:35 This is only one example of scriptural references and inferences.
- Does the existing program accept government funding? Is the current organization's government funding in conflict with the IMPACT Ministries Covenant Partnership Agreement?
- Does the existing program(s) charge interest for anything that it does? How will programs that are in conflict with the IMPACT Ministries Covenant Partnership Agreement be segregated from IMPACT Ministries activities?

Legal and Finance

- Does the existing organization have any debts, insurance loss history or legal liabilities that would or might transfer to this new IMPACT Ministries ministry?
- Is there an expectation of financing for staff salaries?
- What are other budget implications?

Marketing

- Are you willing to plan for a clear and consistent marketing strategy that describes the relationship between the organizations and/or programs?
- Do you have a strategy that will minimize donor confusion?
- Are both groups willing to use the approved IMPACT Ministries logo and trademarks on appropriate marketing materials such as internet web sites, brochures and newsletters?
- Will the mission of IMPACT Ministries be clearly articulated in press releases?

Review Date _____

Representing the Prospective Covenant Partner

Representing the Prospective Covenant Partner