



Memorandum of Understanding for Church Partnership

*A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Church partnership with Alongsiders International in the **establishment of discipleship movements** through the **church** in the **developing world** to reach the world's **most vulnerable children**.*

1. Prayer

- The Partner Church and Alongsiders International leadership commit to pray for one another, to pray for God's Kingdom to come amongst the poor and to pray for the world's most vulnerable children.

2. Timeframe of commitment

- Minimum: 5 years, reviewed together after 2 years by a subcommittee appointed by the Alongsiders International Board¹.
- The MOU commences 1st August, 2014.

3. Formal Membership

- The Partner Church will affirm and support the vision, goals and objectives of Alongsiders International.
- Conflict or disagreement between Alongsiders and a Partner Church will be addressed relationally whenever possible, in conversation between those involved. The partnership may be dissolved and membership relinquished at any time if a satisfactory resolution is not found.

4. Financial commitment

- Each Partner Church will aim to sponsor an annual Training Camp for vulnerable children and their mentors. Camps cater for 100-200 participants and we ask Churches to sponsor USD\$100 per participant (ie. \$10,000-\$20,000²).
- Partner Churches may also choose to contribute to the setup and ongoing costs of Alongsiders International. This may be through an annual gift or a monthly commitment.

5. Personnel commitment

- Each Partner Church will appoint an advocacy person/team to promote logistical and prayer support in the church.
- Senior Pastoral staff commit to visit Alongsiders in Cambodia at least once between 2014-2016.

¹ At the 2 year milestone, both the church and Alongsiders will have the opportunity to review and recommit to the partnership.

² Any excess funds will be used for the ongoing running costs associated with supporting the children reached by Alongsiders in that country

6. Short Term Teams

- Partner Churches are invited to send a team to participate in the camp as part of an ongoing learning exchange/internship program with the following guidelines:
 - All participants will be expected to complete readings, attend meetings before and after the trip, pray, and participate in destination-based learning (before or after the camp).
 - Participants should be at least 18 years old³ and participate under the recommendation of their church leadership.
 - Participants will sign a Child Protection Policy to promote the safety of all children involved in Alongsiders events.
 - We ask Partner Churches to allow Alongsiders to manage the relationship with local churches, not bypassing or organizing trips to visit Alongsiders participants without Alongsiders involvement. This is to ensure consistency of engagement and the safety of children.

7. Promotion

- Working together with the Advocacy Person/Team from each Partner Church, Alongsiders will provide quarterly updates for the church in the form of video, story and news.
- The Partner Church will encourage church members to engage with Alongsiders on Facebook, Twitter and the website/blog.
- Partner Church logos may be added to camp t-shirts, banners and other materials as per the promotional needs of the church sponsoring the event.

8. Learning Exchange

- Partner Churches may have church members with particular areas of expertise that they are able to offer to train trainers within the Alongsiders movement. Such training will generally take place in Asia, or other parts of the developing world.
- The Partner Church will provide annual opportunities for the congregation to learn from teaching/preaching input from Alongsiders leaders and associated teachers.

Date: _____

Signed: _____ (Alongsiders International)

Signed: _____ (Partner Church Leadership Representative)

³ Exceptions for families may be made when negotiated in advance