

# Outreach Guidelines

The purpose of these guidelines is to assist the community with criteria for the selection of projects of partnership. The community engages in these partnerships as good stewards of God's gifts and from a perspective and concern for justice and compassion to those who are suffering and in need. Mindful of our vocation to be faithful stewards of God's gifts, this document is intended as an aid and guide to the community. Existing and future partnerships will be reviewed and selected with these criteria in mind and using the process recommended below.

A spirit of faithful stewardship is to be emphasized and regarded above all in community discussions related to our social partnerships. In other words, we must seek to foster partnerships while maintaining a reasonable accountability of the resources that God has given us. In this sense, this document is intended as a guide for future community discussions on the topic of our social partnerships.

## Criteria for selection of projects

1. Donations made on behalf of the community are made to institutions and not to individuals. In this way, many individuals benefit through the good work of an institution.
  - a. Cases for supporting particular individuals in need can be presented at community meetings, to be funded by individual members of the community and not from the community funds.
2. Institutions chosen for community partnerships are to have characteristic Christian values embedded in their mission.
3. Partnerships are to be created and maintained both locally and internationally.
  - a. Local partnership: recommended characteristics
    - i. A partnership in Munich is ideal, so that direct community involvement of time is possible if desired. Some community members have, in addition to donating by means of financial support, donated of their time to the local partnership. Such a practice only helps to strengthen the partnership by creating tangible, personal connections with the project.
    - ii. An organization that works with immigration / integration issues would be a desirable choice, given the international nature of the parish community.
  - b. International partnership: recommended characteristics
    - i. The Church reminds us of the concern that should be taken as regards the poorest of the poor. A partnership in the international perspective should be a partnership that is focused on the justice of empowering the least of our sisters and brothers. In the same way, we should be aware of the special connection that is built with the global Church and be strengthened by the sense that we are helping to continue to build God's kingdom on earth.
4. A specific project(s) supported within the selected organizations is to be identified for support. Time and funds will be earmarked for specific projects rather than the general operational needs of an organization.

## Process to choose projects

1. The community will make two long-term commitments consisting of one partnership in Munich and one partnership internationally.
  - a. Special cases for aid concerning natural disasters, social unrest, etc. or simply smaller, shorter-term projects can also be presented to the community for consideration in addition to the annual commitments.
2. All proposals are to be submitted to the community for discussion and approval at a pre-announced community meeting, ideally in June.
3. Members of the community, who have been actively involved in the community for a minimum of 6 months can make partnership proposals.
  - a. The community member who proposes a project will be the sponsor if the project is approved.
  - b. The sponsor is responsible for keeping in contact with our partner, whether local or international, in order to update the community regularly on the status of the project.
4. All existing annual commitments or new proposals are to be reviewed yearly and (re-) approved or otherwise by the community.
5. Community involvement and a majority consensus are to be sought and maintained in the process of selecting and approving community partnerships. The community should be informed of the approval meeting and proposed projects in advance, and the decision should also be communicated to the entire community.

These guidelines were discussed and agreed in the February 2009 Community meeting.