

Church Virtual

Learning Support

Community Support

Ideas for Re-entry

**Goal: Create framework for church partners as they seek to support families during this time of distance / virtual learning.** **Distance learning support can range from daily meals to total daily virtual support.**

**Wins through partnership:**

* This project can support multiple goals.
	+ Schools
		- Student Support
		- Staff Support
		- Academic achievement
		- Attendance
		- Teacher morale
	+ Faith Community Partners
		- Community awareness
		- Provide support for families / teachers in your community
		- Child safety
		- Violence prevention
		- Building usage
* **What can this look like for a church partner?**
	+ Daily meals - some churches cannot offer the internet; however, they have the ability to offer support to families by passing out meals daily or weekly.
		- Benefits: This type of support helps to relieve families of the added pressure to their budgets and overall finances.
	+ Hotspots - churches can donate hotspots to schools to aid in closing the gap for families that cannot afford to get internet access.
		- Benefit: With hotspots, children who have district computers can engage virtually.
	+ Virtual Café - this is a format that allows churches to identify specific times of the day and days of the week when students can come to their buildings and use the internet.  Example: 4-6 pm, MWF
		- Benefits: Allowing churches to support without the need for all-day volunteers.  Also, there is no need to provide meals so providing snacks or food would be at the church’s discretion.
		- Needs:
			* Discussing internet capabilities is important.
			* Screened volunteers. The church would want to make sure they have screened their own volunteers to protect children.
			* Must follow local government Covid-19 restrictions and church building guidelines to ensure cleanliness and student and volunteer safety.
	+ Daily Virtual Learning Support - students can come to the church building daily.  Example: Monday- Friday from 9 am - 3 pm
		- Benefits - the church can provide a safe place for children to learn virtually while their parents are at work. Church is also able to make sure students are getting a breakfast and lunch meal each day.
		- Needs:
			* Identify internet capacity.
			* Screen volunteers.  Please note - if your church is working with the school district in this effort, volunteers should be screened through the school district’s screening process.
			* Offer breakfast and lunch.  Note - if the church is working with the school district, check with the district to see if they will provide students with daily meals.
			* Volunteer support. Note - district could possibly provide district employees to church sites for additional support.
			* Staff for cleaning identified work areas.
			* Identify who will hold liability for sicknesses.
	+ Daily Virtual Learning Support as a satellite location for the district.
		- Benefits: The church can receive added direct support from the district as they support families.
		- Needs are as listed above with basic Daily Virtual Learning Support; however, all notes are supported by the district and liability is assumed by the district.

**Challenges to be addressed:**

* There are some major issues and questions to be considered in accepting this responsibility as a community partner.
	+ How do churches stay in compliance with the city ordinances?
		- What guidelines are necessary to allow your church to have students in the building?
		- Can you identify your capacity?
	+ How long can you realistically offer this to your community?
		- Dates and times daily
		- Dates long-term
	+ Can they acquire an ample number of volunteers?
		- Would school districts have a volunteer pool?
		- Will the school districts assist with helping children locate church locations?
		- Will the school district publish virtual safe spots for churches (ie: list format)?
	+ Liability - who will be responsible?
		- Insurance
		- Background checks
		- Any Covid-19 exposure, rules, and regulations
	+ Will food be offered to students?
		- Is the school district willing to help with meals for students at partnering church sites?
	+ Does the said church have the digital bandwidth to support students electronically?