

Partnership Agreement
between
Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
and
Open Doors Academy (ODA)

Definition and Goals

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and Open Doors Academy have formed a working partnership in order to implement the Community Connectors mentoring program for ODA high school students in Cleveland Heights/University Heights, and secondarily, for ODA high school students in the Cleveland Metropolitan and Euclid School Districts.

The goals of the program are to “strengthen communities, encourage mentoring opportunities, and create new pathways for civic engagement that will result in higher educational achievement, higher levels of well-being and health, and workforce readiness.” The initiative utilizes social connectedness to “impact school performance and economic productivity while creating new ways for schools to promote a positive, goal-oriented, and hopeful atmosphere for success.”

The other partners in the Open Doors Academy Community Connectors program are the Cleveland Heights High School, the Heights-Hillcrest Chamber of Commerce (representing 300 businesses), and the YMCA of Greater Cleveland (as program evaluator). The partners constitute the ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team.

The partnership will go into effect dependent on receipt of funding from the Ohio Department of Education, and will remain in effect for the allotted three years of state funding, to be renegotiated, as agreed by all parties, for an additional period of time after the initial three years.

Commitments: Open Doors Academy

Under this Partnership Agreement, Open Doors Academy is responsible for the following tasks or duties.

1. Direct programmatic, administrative, and financial management of all aspects of the Community Connectors program, serving as the lead applicant.
2. Convening quarterly meetings of the ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team for purposes of program review and consultation.
3. Convening meetings of the Forest Hill Advisory Group, consisting of Forest Hill Senior Pastor John Lentz and appropriate members of his church educational team. Those meetings will take place monthly for the first six months of the grant, and quarterly thereafter, for the purpose of consulting on curriculum development as described below. ODA will provide needed administrative staffing for these meetings.
4. Sharing all evaluation data/findings with members of the ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team.
5. Between meetings, providing members of the Leadership Team with regular updates about program events, progress, challenges, and needs.
6. Compensating Forest Hill Presbyterian Church \$10,000 annually, for the three years of the grant period, according to a schedule and process which shall be determined by mutual agreement.

Commitments: Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

Under this Partnership Agreement, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church is responsible for the following tasks or duties.

1. Ensuring attendance at quarterly ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team meetings by Senior Pastor John Lentz or his designee.
2. Ensuring attendance by church educational leadership at regular Forest Hill Advisory Group meetings, on the schedule indicated above.
3. Providing, through those meetings and other informal consultations, direct advice on the development of workshops and seminars focusing on each of the five Community Connectors Core Principles, as established by the Ohio Department of Education: 1) Setting Goals; 2) Building Character; 3) Developing Pathways to Achievement; 4) Building Resiliency; and 5) Believing in a Positive Future. The Forest Hill Advisory Group will pay particular attention to the development of value-based programming as it relates to these Core Principles. ODA staff will be responsible for administrative support and final drafting of seminar and workshop syllabi.

Commitments: Joint

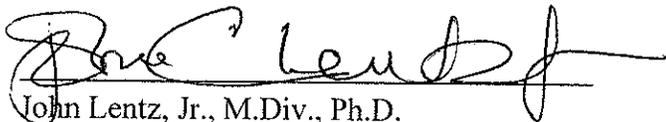
Under this Memorandum of Understanding, Open Doors Academy and Forest Hill Presbyterian Church are jointly responsible for the following tasks or duties.

1. Be knowledgeable about the goals and objectives of the Ohio Department of Education Community Connectors Initiative.
2. Advocate the program to the community.
3. Assist with evaluation activities related to administration of the grant and implementation on the program.

Management, Dispute Resolution, Duration

1. The length of this Partnership Agreement shall be the three years of the Community Connectors initiative.
2. In the event of a dispute or disagreement, all parties will make every effort to resolve the dispute or disagreement through direct dialogue.
3. Should either party wish to dissolve the Partnership Agreement, he or she will communicate that wish to the other party, first verbally, to be followed by a written statement to that effect.
4. Notice of desire to terminate the Partnership Agreement shall be given at least 60 days in advance of the intended date of termination.

Signatures, Dates



John Lentz, Jr., M.Div., Ph.D.
Senior Pastor
Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
Cleveland Heights, Ohio



Annemarie Grassi, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Open Doors Academy
Cleveland, Ohio