

CALLED TOGETHER | CALLED TO CARE



National
Benevolent
Association

of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

*The **National Benevolent Association** of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) unites passionate individuals, congregations, and ministries to create communities of compassion and care.*

Serving as the Church's health and social services general ministry, the NBA partners with congregations, regions, general ministries, and a variety of Disciples-related health and social service providers. Our shared work is about advancing care for and with others in our communities and raising awareness of needs that are often overlooked and forgotten.

The NBA equips and collaborates with partner ministries and organizations that provide direct care to those in need – via affordable housing, spiritual care for the incarcerated, children and family services, programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, care and advocacy for older adults, hunger and food security initiatives, and other efforts that respond to human need in its many expressions.

Today's ministries of the NBA are grounded in our historic mission of "caring for the least of these." Our missional vision is to inspire and invite people of faith into this shared work and ministry, responding to God's call to care and be compassionate listeners, organizers, and advocates.

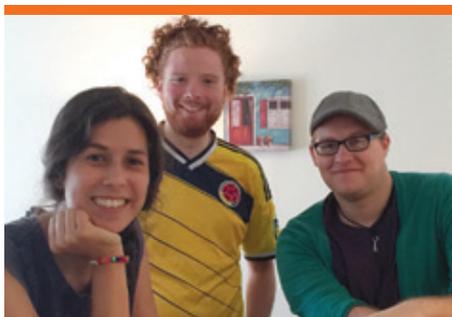




“We look forward to cementing a new affiliation with the NBA Incubate Initiative, committed to carrying out our vision of wholeness in our part of a fragmented world.”

REV. NORA JACOB & REV. AL LOPEZ

Ministers at UrbanMission, Pomona, CA



“NBA’s vision is to create communities of compassion and care, and this has become a mission in my own life...I would like to be part of building and fortifying a community that is empathetic and cares for all of its members, even those whom we choose to ignore and walk past.”

ELSIE ALMODOVAR-REYES

2015-16 XPLORES Resident in North Hollywood, CA



“It seems that creative, innovative methods to an obviously dysfunctional criminal justice system are now necessary if we are to change this scandalous trend that has unfairly impacted communities and families of color in the United States. Together, we can explore and exchange new ideas and approaches.”

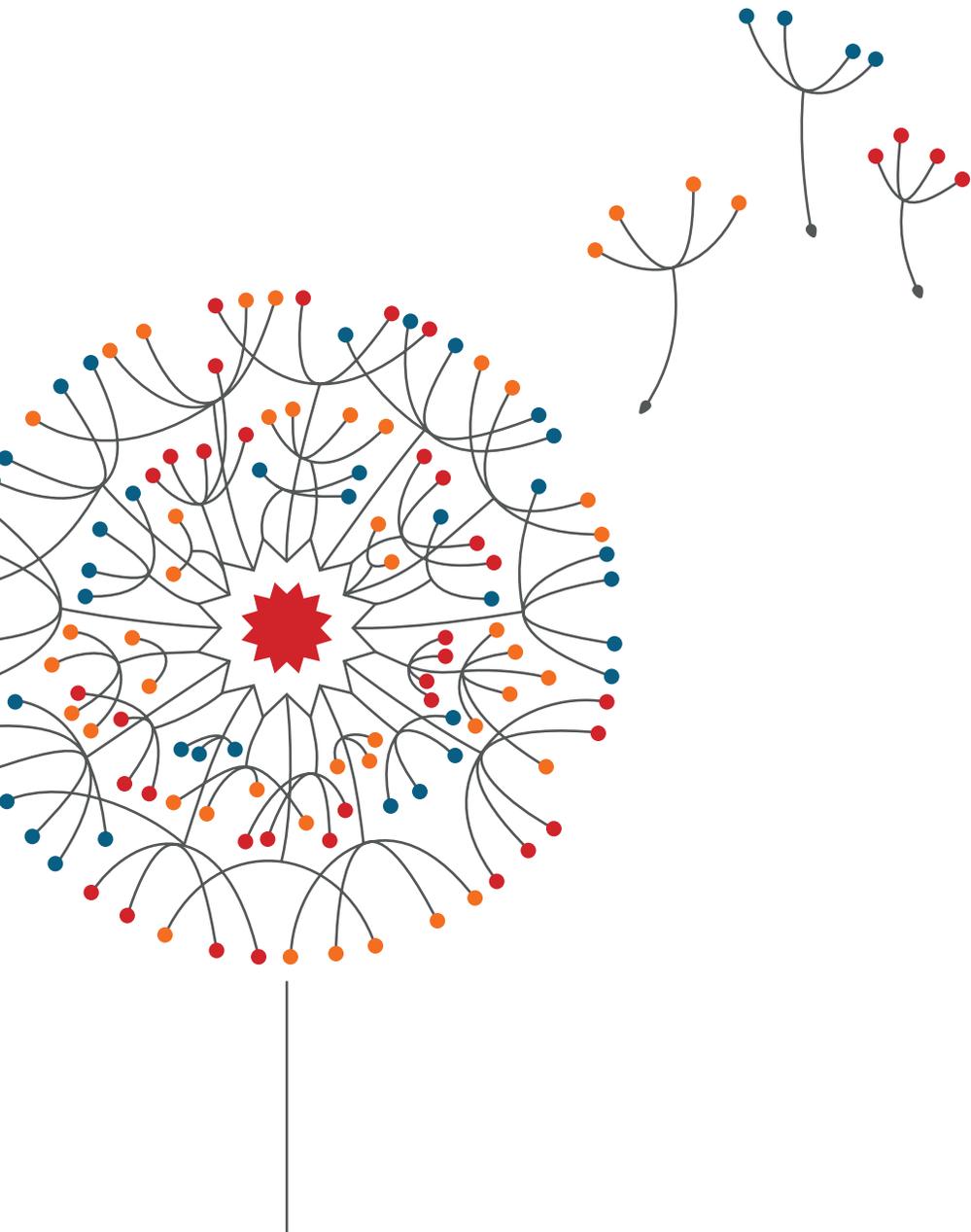
REV. DEAN BUCALOS

Mission Specialist for NBA Prison and Jail Ministries and Program Coordinator for Mission Behind Bars and Beyond, Louisville, KY

“As people of faith, we understand that no one person can help everyone – we are called to act together for the care and well-being of all humanity.”

MARK D. ANDERSON

NBA President and CEO



*We thrive on collaboration. We invite your partnership.
We invite your ideas and insights. We invite your affirmation.
We invite your prayers. We invite you.*

TO LEARN MORE OR GIVE YOUR SUPPORT:

Please call us at (314) 993-9000 or email nba@nbacares.org.

INCUBATE



The NBA incubates new ministries, empowering Disciples-led health and social service projects to focus on growth, impact, and sustainability.

NBA Incubate Initiative

Through the NBA Incubate Initiative, we support the development of new and innovative health and social service ministries by Disciples social entrepreneurs. These entrepreneurs are most often Disciples individuals, congregations, or members of ecumenical/interfaith teams. Their ministries take the form of individual nonprofits, auxiliaries or subsidiaries of larger ministries, networks and collaboratives, curricula and training programs, and more.

How Incubate Works

- *Connection:* In-person gatherings, including learning events and retreats; virtual gatherings, including a private Facebook group; and larger Disciples gatherings, like General Assembly
- *Learning:* Workshops and conferences; consulting and coaching; and other virtual co-learning opportunities
- *Support:* Marketing via NBA publications and networks; back-office support opportunities; and professional and spiritual support
- *Grants:* Financial grants and subsidies for a variety of project-specific needs

Learn more at nbacares.org/incubate.

INITIATE



The NBA initiates ministries designed to establish and grow partnerships with health and social service supporters and providers.

NBA XPLOR

NBA XPLOR is a prophetic movement of and for young adults who are considering lives of care and service. Through this 10-month Residency, we partner young adults ages 21-30 with Disciples congregations, regions, general ministries, and the communities in which they serve—impacting neighborhoods, the congregations, and the young adults. We pray our Residents will sense the gravitational pull of their faith and discern the focus of their life's work.

Four Cornerstones of NBA XPLOR

- *Hands-On Service/Justice Work:* Serving in and among neighborhoods to accompany local mission efforts while confronting systems of injustice
- *Simple Living in Community:* Learning and practicing faithful, intentionally simple, and culturally competent communal living
- *Spiritual Discernment on Vocation:* Striving through spiritual disciplines to discern the purpose for which one's soul is made
- *Disciples Leadership Development:* Living out one's Disciples identity and unleashing one's leadership capacity

Learn more at nbacares.org/xplor.

CONNECT



The NBA connects service providers and mission partners – connections that empower them to learn, collaborate, and grow stronger.

Disciples Care Exchange

The NBA and Disciples Home Missions collaborate to support a rich network of care providers—the Disciples Care Exchange (DCE). The DCE serves to connect, resource, and share the stories of Disciples-related health and social service ministries. Our shared work includes peer-to-peer learning groups, educational opportunities, operational assistance in times of transition, communications and back-office support, and connection to other ministries of the church.

Participation in the DCE is by choice. Ministries participating in the Exchange have an established connection to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through their ethos, mission, governance structure, and congregational/regional/general church/ecumenical alliances.

Affinity Group Ministries

The NBA also supports collaborative communities of Disciples working together on particular health and social service justice issues through Affinity Group Ministries. These collaborative communities include advocacy efforts related to prison and jail ministries, and support of mental health and congregational care.

Learn more at nbacares.org/connect.

MISSION STATEMENT

Following God's call, the National Benevolent Association exists to inspire and connect the people and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), to accompany one another in the creation of communities of compassion and care, and to advocate for the well-being of humanity.



National **Benevolent** Association

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