



NBA INCUBATE INITIATIVE BY THE NUMBERS

10-11

NBA Incubate Affiliate Ministries, called "Partners" in

7

States (California, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, Tennessee) and

1

1 Territory (Puerto Rico!)

9

Founded or Co-Founded by Women

5

Led by People of Color



Learn more at:
nbacares.org/incubate!



Disciples social entrepreneurs at the 2018 SENT Seminar in St. Louis

Disciples Social Entrepreneurs Make a Difference

Have you ever tried to start something new? Or, been called by God in a new direction, but didn't know quite where to start? At NBA, we know Disciples across the United States and Canada are continually feeling the tug of God on their lives, and wondering how to make a positive impact in their communities. As social entrepreneurs, these individuals are being called by God into creative and innovative ministry in *their* contexts and *their* communities – yet sometimes it helps to have a bit of support and healthy, helpful cheering from alongside! In September, we welcomed 30 Disciples social entrepreneurs to the NBA office and Union Avenue Christian Church in St. Louis, to equip them with the tools they need to build and sustain successful health and social service ministries. Our annual SENT Seminar, named for Social ENTrepreneurs,

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- CONNECT:** Advocacy and Activism Peer Group Launches
- INITIATE:** New Cohort and Host Site, plus XPLOrmore

brings together Disciples-related health and social service ministry start-ups to learn and share in a variety of topics, including leadership coaching, legal principles for faith-based entities, marketing, and fundraising.

“The SENT Seminar has been a reminder of who our church is and where our church is going...I feel so grateful for this insight into the innovation that’s in our midst as church,” says Tallu Schuyler Quinn, with the Nashville Food Project.

After completing SENT Seminar, these Incubate Participants can continue to access a variety of supportive resources for the next year, including webinars and wisdom tables, consulting and coaching, and events like our annual Incubate Retreat. Incubate Participants who are interested in a longer-term



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relationship with NBA can apply to become an Incubate Partner/Affiliate. In 2018, we are excited to announce our newest Incubate Partner: Garden of Eden Health Center, operating in Jayuya, Puerto Rico. Visit the Partner Directory on our website to learn more about the breadth and depth of community impact amongst our Incubate Partners. Prepare to be

inspired by the good work these Disciples leaders are bringing forth through health and social service ministries across the life of the church!

In service,

Rev. Ayanna Johnson
Watkins

Director, NBA Incubate
Initiative

**Learn more about the
NBA Incubate Initiative
at nbacares.org/incubate.**

Connect with NBA Ministries!

Recently, NBA convened our Connect Partners for a time of education, connection, inspiration, and advocacy opportunities in the 21st Century. NBA works with more than 60 Disciples-related health and social service ministries throughout the United States and Canada - equipping them through peer groups, webinars, and so much more. Join Disciples making a difference in their communities by supporting **NBA with a gift today!**

You may give online at **nbacares.org/donate**, by mail, or call us at (314) 993-9000 ext. 2662. Thank you for your generosity!

NBA XPLOR Welcomes New Host Site and Launches XPLORmore

For 2018-19 – the fifth program year of NBA XPLOR – we are pleased to welcome XPLOR Spokane, a partnership with North Hill Christian Church, Country Homes Christian Church, and the Northwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)!

We are also excited to launch XPLORmore, a special opportunity for Residents who have gone through XPLOR already, to have another, new experience going deeper into the program’s four cornerstones. NBA XPLOR is collaborating with NBA Incubate Partner QC Family Tree in Charlotte, NC, for an intensive learning-by-living model of “ministry in place.”

“We’re trying to figure out, ‘How can we live into a way of abundance, out of a way of scarcity? How can we do that creatively and faithfully?’” says Rev. Helms Jarrell, Co-Founder of QC Family Tree. “We’re creating a village of mutual care and concern. That’s quite a big challenge, and it’s quite a joyful ride.”



2018-19 NBA XPLOR Residents and Spiritual Companion in Spokane, WA, and Charlotte, NC.

NBA Advocacy and Activism Peer Group Kicks Off in St. Louis

The mission of the NBA to “advocate for the well-being of humanity” calls the NBA and its partners to deepen engagement in advocacy and activism. As we continue to connect and resource our Disciples health and social service ministries, we have called together eight Disciples activists into our newest Peer Learning and Wellness Group for Advocacy and Activism.

Convened by Rev. Dr. Dietra Wise Baker, Program Coordinator for NBA Advocacy and Activism, this peer group covenants together to share, learn, and grow in their ministries and relationships, with a particular focus on social justice issues; language and the theological foundations of social justice; and direct action and advocacy efforts.



2018-19 Advocacy and Activism Peer Group meeting in St. Louis in August 2018.

The NBA Peer Learning and Wellness Group experience includes time for rest and renewal, joyful shared conversation, and group learning with others who truly understand the challenges and gifts of this faith-based work in the current environment. “Ministry can be lonely sometimes,” says Rev. Monica Wedlock Kilpatrick, Director of Connect Ministries. “NBA Peer Groups bring people together so they know they are not alone, sharing in joys and challenges, and forming new relationships that reflect the very presence of God among us.



National
Benevolent
Association
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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St. Louis, Missouri 63108

NBA is a grateful recipient of Disciples Mission Fund support. Your contributions help make stories and ministries like these possible. Thank you!

Now Available: 2018 NBA Ministry Impact Report






More than 130 years ago, our six founding Disciples women advocated on behalf of those in need—and we have not stopped. As the NBA, and as people of faith, we seek to intentionally address the health and social service issues that impact our partners and the communities in their midst.

Read more in our latest Impact Report, online at: nbacares.org/care-resources/nba-impact-report.



At NBA, we are deeply appreciative of all the ways you make Disciples health and social service ministry possible. As you make end-of-year giving decisions, please do remember NBA – and don't hesitate to be in touch for giving options: **nbacares.org/donate**
Thanks so much!

ENGAGE WITH THE NBA!

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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
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)