



Transforming Lives. Strengthening Communities.

Sports Friends' Church Partnership Program Summary Terms & Roles and Responsibilities

Vision: To link North American churches to Ethiopian church-centered sports ministry (“CCSM”) programs for the purpose of creating healthy, interdependent relationships that enhance the ongoing movement to reach the youth of Ethiopia for the sake of the Gospel through the powerful platform of sports.

Aims:

1. Develop mutually beneficial relationships between North American churches and Ethiopian churches to support the ongoing development of youth sports ministry programs in Ethiopia.
2. Provide strategic cross-cultural mission initiatives and opportunities in which North American churches and their youth can engage passionately, while benefiting and moving forward the Ethiopian CCSM programs.
3. Connect Ethiopian and North American churches together in intentional prayer.
4. Provide economic assistance to support the development of Ethiopian CCSM programs, while providing a strategic giving opportunity for the North American church.

Primary Goal: An interdependent partnership effort between North American and Ethiopian churches that is church centered, youth focused, and results in a grassroots sports ministry movement that is ongoing and sees the lives of youth (and family members) in both locations changed forever in the name of Jesus Christ.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Increase the prayer support for the Ethiopian CCSM movement.
2. Create an exciting and challenging opportunity for North American churches to link their youth (and their families) to ministry and cross-cultural missions in Africa.
3. Encourage short-term vision trips for pastors, church leaders and donors from North American churches for the sake of personally connecting them to the work and encouraging the Ethiopian CCSM programs.
4. Create opportunities for short-term sports ministry and camping trips for North American churches and their youth in order to benefit the long-term CCSM strategies of the Ethiopian churches – i.e. camping ministries, sports weeks, and mobilization initiatives.
5. Equip the Ethiopian CCSM programs by assisting with biblical materials (such as Bibles and discipleship materials) and much needed sports equipment and uniforms.



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6. Support the development of CCSM in Ethiopia by assisting with leadership training and salary/budget support for current and next-generation leaders.
7. Assist Ethiopian youth with camping scholarships.
8. Create opportunities for the development of relationships between Ethiopian and North American church leaders and youth that are a blessing and encouragement to both.

Guidelines for Involvement in Ethiopia: All Ethiopian and North American churches must be supportive of and abide by the following guidelines in order to participate in the CCSM church partnership program.

Requirements of Ethiopian Churches:

1. In order to be eligible, sports ministry denominational leaders must have been trained by Sports Friends Ethiopia (in Level IV course), and have a minimum of two years experience of fruitful CCSM.
2. Denominational sports ministry leaders and their related churches must be approved for participation in the CCSM church partnership program by Sports Friends Ethiopia using defined selection criteria.
3. All requests for support (whether financial, material, or otherwise) must be reviewed, prioritized and approved by the applicable denominational sports ministry leader in Ethiopia.
4. Denominational sports ministry leader presents needs to Sports Friends Ethiopia staff at bi-annual meetings. Approved requests are then submitted to Sports Friends International for final review and approval.
5. All communications between North American and Ethiopian churches must take place through Sports Friends. There will be no financial or material assistance allowed that is not approved and routed through Sports Friends.
6. Denominational sports ministry leader will oversee the appropriate distribution and implementation of all support received through the partnership program and report back to Sports Friends Ethiopia staff.
7. Ethiopian denominational leader will host agreed upon short-term vision and ministry teams from participating North American churches.
8. All local Ethiopian churches involved in the CCSM church partnership program will provide at a minimum the following information: photos of leaders with names and brief background information, CCSM project description (including general description and ministry strategy), and periodic reports (at least 2 times per year) and feedback (including praise and prayer requests).

Requirements of North American Churches:

1. Attendance at CCSM church partnership program seminar to be conducted by Sports Friends International.
2. Commitment to intentional and strategic prayer for participants, leadership and ongoing ministry of Ethiopian CCSM partner programs.



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3. Agree to provide basic financial support package of Ethiopian partner for a minimum of three years.
4. Agree to consider meeting special need requests that may arise from Ethiopian partner churches.
5. Send at least one adult leader and one youth leader on a vision and/or ministry trip at least every other year to see and encourage the CCSM work of the Ethiopian partner church.
6. Provide periodic praise reports and prayer requests (at least 2 times per year) to their Ethiopian partner (to be routed through Sports Friends)
7. All communications between North American and Ethiopian churches must take place through Sports Friends. There will be no financial or material assistance allowed that is not approved and routed through Sports Friends.

Requirements of Sports Friends Ethiopia:

1. Determine which Ethiopian churches/denominations are eligible for participation in the CCSM partnership program.
2. Evaluate the requests for support and assistance from the Ethiopian churches.
3. Assist in planning and coordinating short-term teams coming to Ethiopia from North American churches.
4. Receive all donations of financial and material assistance and distribute to Ethiopian denominational sports ministry leaders in accordance with agreed upon procedures.
5. Visit Ethiopian churches participating in the partnership program and ensure proper use and implementation of all support received.
6. Ensure Ethiopian churches provide required reporting (including praise and prayer requests) and forward this along to North American partner churches.

Requirements of Sports Friends International:

1. Provide CCSM church partnership program seminar to orient North American churches to goals, objectives and requirements of the program.
2. Recruit North American churches for participation in CCSM church partnership program.
3. Receive and process all support donations (financial, material or otherwise) from North American churches.
4. Overall maintenance of partnership program including proper communication (in both directions).
5. Work with North American churches to ensure partnership program is meeting their needs/expectations.
6. Assist in planning of short-term trips by North American churches to Ethiopia.