

Introduction to the Diaspora Ministry Self-Assessment Continuum

“And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us...” (Acts 17:26-27)

Did you know that as of 2015, 244 million people were living outside their country of origin? If these people were put into one country, it would be the fourth largest nation in the world! Historically the United States has received 20% of all the world’s immigrants—by far the largest number of any country. Today terrorism and increasing fear, hate mongering, racism, and politicizing are reshaping global attitudes toward immigrants. But in the midst of turmoil, it is important to remember that the immigrants already living in the US represent 350 unreached people groups who need to hear the Gospel.

The Philadelphia Regional Diaspora Network has developed a simple assessment tool for two reasons:

- 1) To enable you to evaluate how your congregation is responding to this current opportunity for evangelism in our region and consider next steps.
- 2) Help us as a network of churches in the Philadelphia region work together to reach more diaspora peoples with the love of Jesus Christ.

We are offering this tool for your missions leadership team to evaluate where your church is on the immigrant-ministry continuum. The items are in a general arrangement of easier to more difficult, but involvement does not need to progress in any set order.

Please share your results with us at info@PhillyForAll.org. We would be happy to recommend resources or people who can help you reach the next level of involvement. And you might be able to assist another church in growing into diaspora ministry.

*The Philadelphia Regional Diaspora Network
Leadership Team*

A Diaspora Ministry Self-Assessment Continuum

Doing Now	Want to start soon	Launch in 12-18 months	Type of Ministry
			1 Encourage people to attend a local international cultural event
			2 Regularly circulate diaspora prayer information to individuals or groups in our congregation
			3 Host a speaker presenting local immigrant ministry
			4 Designate funds from the church budget to assist local immigrant ministry
			5 Launch a project to raise money for a specific diaspora ministry
			6 Recruit volunteers to assist with a one-time event (holiday celebration, neighborhood festival, clinic, etc.) for immigrants held by another organization
			7 Establish a diaspora ministry team in our church
			8 Recruit volunteers to help with ongoing immigrant services (ESL classes, etc.) provided by another organization
			9 Begin working with a diaspora ministry coach
			10 Research diaspora populations in our community
			11 Match families in our church with immigrant families or international students for relationship building
			12 Start one or more Bible studies with immigrants
			13 Sponsor one or more refugee families
			14 Launch some type of ongoing services for immigrants (such as computer or cooking classes, thrift store)
			15 Support an international church planter and/or host a diaspora church plant
			16 Begin or realign businesses to employ diaspora peoples
			17 Other