

CD713 Missional Leadership
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Missional Leadership Integrative Paper

Missional Leadership Mission Statement

To become a leader who brings God's Kingdom to earth.

As I was gathering an idea for the final paper for the class, I recalled my unfinished project in Church as Social and Cultural Institution class. In the past, I assembled a project to support Hispanic groups in Palisades Park in NJ. For the final paper for the missional leadership class, I would like to recreate that project and develop it in more depth.

I reside in Bergen County, NJ. There is a Korean Town in Bergen County, which is Palisades Park. I visit Palisades Park often, and there is one peculiarity about this town that visitors cannot ignore. Hispanic men are standing in groups on the street. What is their story, and why are they standing on every corner of the street like this? That has been my question for a long time. That question began to be answered a little after I came across a GO FOR JESUS ministry. Its mission is to help Hispanic people find jobs on the streets and spread the gospel. This paper examines their reality and practical ways to help them and their family. In the Kingdom of God, there is hope. I want to be a leader who can help them experience hope from the Kingdom of God.

The town of Palisades Park is the heart of Bergen County in N.J. This town is fascinating because it's a pretty diverse town. "The five largest ethnic groups in Palisades Park, NJ are Asian

(Non-Hispanic) (58.2%), White (Non-Hispanic) (18.1%), White (Hispanic) (13.2%), Other (Hispanic) (7.41%), and Black or African American (Non-Hispanic) (0.811%). 0% of the households in Palisades Park, NJ, speak a non-English language at home as their primary language.”¹ Palisades Park is a town where many cultures are mingled together. When you are driving around Palisades Park, you will notice something unusual. You can find many men standing in groups on many corners of the street. They are daily workers who are looking for work. Often, when people need daily workers for moving, construction or cleaning, they reach out and pick up these men from the street. By about 1992, day laborers became a visible presence in Palisades Park. As a feeder road for Route 46, Columbia Avenue was a convenient spot for the workers and contractors to hook up. In addition, it is accessible to workers who live in surrounding towns like Cliffside Park, Ridgefield, Fairview, and Leonia, as well as the northern tier towns of Hudson County.²

The GO FOR JESUS ministry, which I’m currently involved in, is concentrated on Hispanic men. The ministry serves lunch to men on the street every Tuesday. Sometimes, they deliver food to them or make food in the First Presbyterian Church in Palisades Park building, share it in the church cafeteria, and worship together. Currently, the social service mission they are accommodating to Hispanic brothers is teaching them English. Pastor Dong-Su Lee, responsible for this ministry, is fluent in Spanish. Also, the Hispanic brothers who speak English well teach them to serve. Teach the words and easy conversations necessary for working. Because Spanish is very similar to English, many brothers learn the language fast. Since it's not easy for them to attend school to learn English, it's been a great chance. Another way is to teach them different work skills for construction and more. My church and Korean community is deeply involved in

¹ <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/palisades-park-nj/#about>

² <https://www.nytimes.com/2003/02/02/nyregion/on-the-street-looking-for-work.html>

skillful working areas: construction, Dry Cleaners, Hair salons or nail salons, etc. Many church members are already engaged in teaching Hispanic brothers skills, and I will accommodate more of this kind of workshop.

Who can help:

1. Seunghun Jun – Constructor who’s willing to teach and hire Hispanic Workers. (Member of Zion City Korean Church)
2. Okhwa Oh – Dry cleaner owner, willing to hire delivery men and willing to teach dry cleaning works skills (Member of Zion City Korean Church)

GO FOR JESUS ministry focuses on serving men, and I want to focus on their family members. I will arrange an ESL class in church building for Hispanic women. For the work field, I have a beauty license and a 10-year of experience in operating a nail salon. Based on that experience, I can teach women some basic nail techniques. After teaching them the basic technique for free, I plan to connect them to a nail salon that can sponsor permanent residence. Koreans are famous for operating nail salons. Currently, some businesses sponsor working visa. It doesn't have to be limited to my church; I want to connect women who need jobs and nail salons that need workers in Korean Christian society. Also, some Hair salon owners can hire the workers.

Who can help:

1. English teacher – Julia Lee (Currently public school teacher) (Member of Zion City Korean Church)
2. Nail Salon – Jungsuk Kim, Kyung ah Kim, Sunhee Jung, Jinok Hong (willing to help) (Member of Zion City Korean Church)
3. Hair Salon - Daesung Kim (Member of Zion City Korean Church)

The next thing I want to focus on is the babysitting issue. I want to solve this issue because I know a huge problem for family. For couples receiving help from me and the GO FOR JESUS ministry, I would like to provide an after-school program to their child. I want to focus mainly on this part, where I need much help. I always have a heart for children. I am also serving nearly 20 years as a Sunday school pastor. I also believe that God gave me this heart. I want to plan a Christian preschool for them. Recently, my church purchased a small Leonia building close to Palisade Park. It is within walking distance of Palisade Park. I want to start an after school program in this building. I will not be able to accept many children, but it's for the couple's children who are receiving help from GO FOR JESUS. It will be a place to take care of the child until the parents are trained in their jobs and have a job. It is to help adults to adapt positions well without worrying about their children. I will worship with the children every day and teach the Bible-based curriculums. It will be a daily Sunday school worship service. I want to teach praise and dance and teach the Word of God. Fun Activities will fill their day with outdoor activities and delicious food. For older kids, I will involve church youth group members, college students, and young adults in tutoring, mentoring, and activities. I can provide community hours for them. I want to raise these kids with the love of God with a few people with the same vision as me. All of these plans are intended to receive the monetary fund of my church.

Preschool Children

Building: Zion City Korean Mission Center Building in Leonia, NJ

What skill will be needed: Pastor, Baby Sitting, Praise Leader, Art teacher,

Who's going to be on the team: Youth group members or College students

FUND: Outreach Fund from Zion City Korean Church

Elementary Children

Building: Zion City Korean Mission Center Building in Leonia, NJ

What skills will be needed: Math/English teachers/tutors, Pastors, Mentors

Who's going to be on the team: Pastor, Youth group members, College students, Young adults

FUND: Outreach Fund from Zion City Korean Church

Conclusion

What is needed for our Hispanic brothers on the streets right now? It is love and care. It is giving them daily work or food, asking them what their needs are, and being there for them. Not only the life on earth but life beyond it. We, as Christians, need to help them with the practical tools to help kindly. Christians need to lead them from the corner of the streets to the center of the church.

Bibliography

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<https://www.nytimes.com/2003/02/02/nyregion/on-the-street-looking-for-work.html>

Palisades Park, NJ

<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/palisades-park-nj/#about>