

Parish  
Partnership  
*Pathway*  
Reference Guide

Anglicare's Reference Guide for a Partnership Path in a shared project/ministry implementation.



# Welcome

Welcome to a shared journey & co-design model of ministry implementation. Thank you for seeking out Anglicare as a potential partner for the glory of Christ. Anglicare sees a partnership as an active relationship between itself and you as an Anglican Parish or Ministry Unit that seeks to reach a mature, defined stage of co-operation outlined and governed by a formal agreement.


Such an agreement aims to combine the resources and expertise of all partners to carry out a specific set of activities around a common purpose. The co-creation appreciative inquiry model is based on wise practice research.

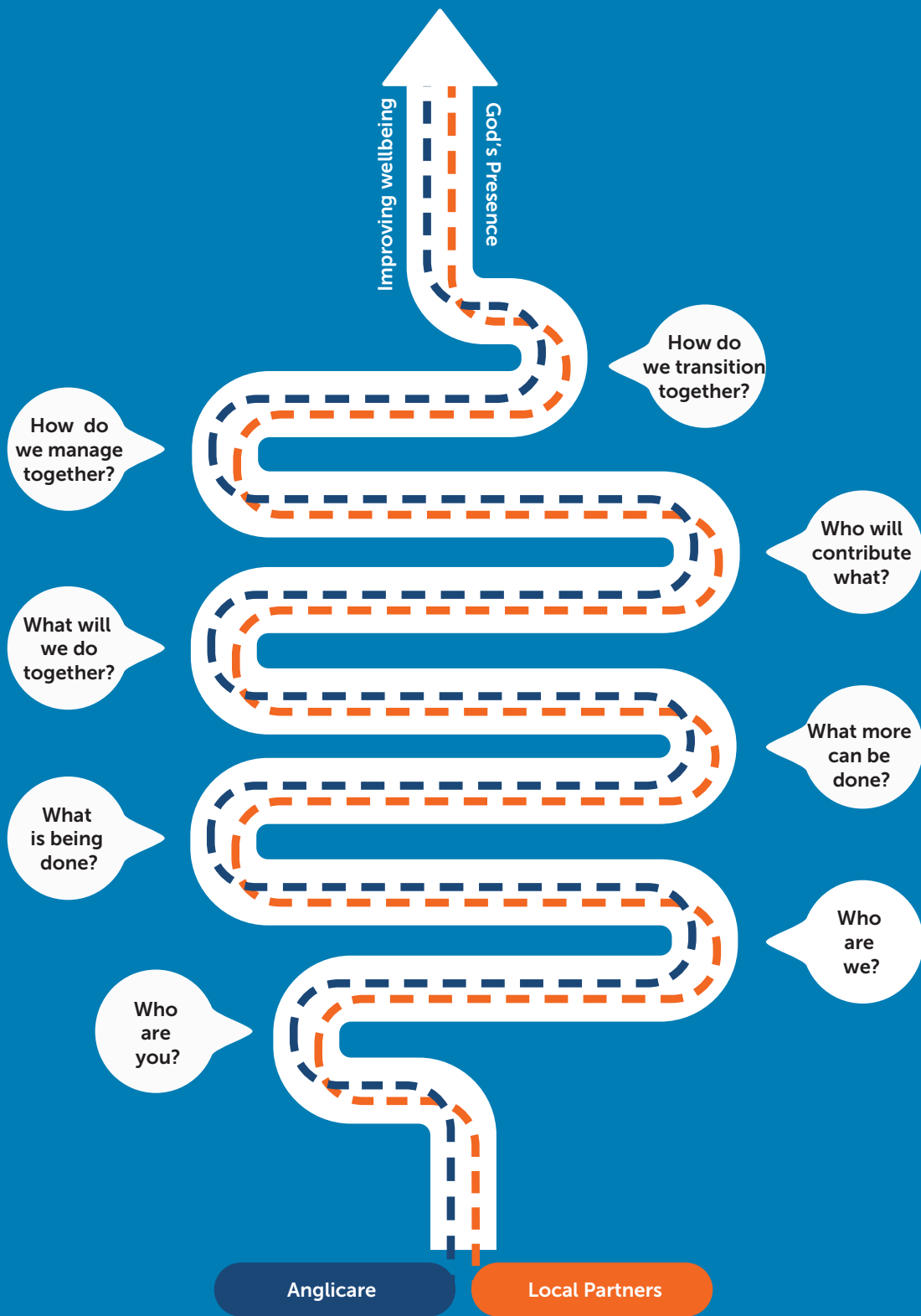
A partnership path provides a clear consistent way for Anglicare to engage with local churches that is also dynamic and responsive to change in the local context. The path can be applied differently in different contexts and steps can be revisited when significant changes occur. It is a key piece in making sure your ministries still have the same parish priority and are sustainable.

Anglicare will seek to be a catalyst in your ministry and walk along-side the ministry for a period of time to empower and enable the ministry to become self-sustainable. If it is all mapped out at the start and talked through it helps all stakeholders to be prepared.

We want to be a catalyst for as many churches and ministries as we are able. So we plan to journey alongside each Parish or Ministry Unit and then withdraw from regular oversight and engagement to then walk alongside another.

Appreciative Inquiry is what shapes this pathway. Appreciate Inquiry co-creates a vision based on collaboration and open dialogue.





# The Critical Path

This is an integrated ministry model that contributes to a culture of well-being for all, is effective with partners and stakeholders, equips the local level staff/volunteers and has clear program parameters and expectations in order to become empowering and sustainable.

# Foundationally and continuously

we seek to embrace God's presence and work.

A partnership path that has a foundation of God's Presence, our prayers and work for discerning humble hearts that depend upon God all the way is not always an easy path. At times we may need to let some good things go in order to allow God to create new things in our midst.

What prayer and discernment has taken place at the start of this possible project? (Anglicare's Strategic Prayer Journal – What reflections were noted if used) Who are the voices speaking into this ministry need and who have you listened to and why? Are there marginalised voices that still need to be heard?

**The following stages contain guiding questions and suggested timeframes.**






# Stage 1

## Preparing

Estimated  
timeframe  
(2 months)

This stage involves assessing the current landscape to prepare both parties to assess the feasibility of the project and develop terms of reference for the development process.”

This is the needs analysis:

- How have the needs of the community and Parish changed over time?
  - What are your parish priorities in this season?
  - What are your parish capacities in this season?
  - What is a clear appreciation of who each party is and what existing perceptions need to be adjusted and what resourcing is realistic over what time frames?
  - Who are the key stakeholders?
  - What key stakeholders have approved this project?
  - Parish Council approval?
  - Ordained leadership approval?
  - Community leadership?
  - Area Deanery?
  - What other approaches have been made for funding this ministry or project?
  - Will Diocese approval be needed e.g. for the use or lease of property?
  - What are the questions you want asked in this preparation?
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# Stage 2

## Engaging & Envisioning

Estimated  
timeframe  
(10 weeks)

Engaging and visioning together:

- What is the vision for this new initiative?
  - What are the ministry goals and how do they intersect with the mission of Anglicare?
  - How is the Parish or Ministry Unit organised and which stakeholders are already involved in what?
  - What would be lost if this was picked up?
  - What existing activities might need to be ceased or reduced in order to make capacity for this new initiative?
  - What is already being done?
  - What roles and responsibilities in envisioning, engagement, planning, programming with the church to sustain the vision are needed?
  - What is our ability to multiply and thrive, who else can we include and grow: other partners or capacities, micro finance ventures, social enterprise issues, sustainability frameworks for the long haul so that the starter catalyst agency Anglicare can slowly withdraw resources?
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# Stage 3

## Planning and Partnership

Estimated  
timeframe  
(6 weeks)

- So is this something we can do together?
- Is this something we will do together?
- Who will contribute what and for how long?
- When can resourcing be allocated to this project?
- At this point Anglicare and the Parish or Ministry Unit will draft the formal documents for the co-creation of a Memorandum of Understanding and a Parish Partnership Plan. What does each party understand will happen if circumstances change?






# Stage 4

## Managing and Transitioning

Estimated  
timeframe  
(1-5 years)

- How do we manage together?
  - How does Compliance Reporting occur?
  - How do we manage together and for how long?
  - Who is accountable for what?
  - How do we transition together as two separate entities so interdependency evolves into the Parish or Ministry Unit assuming responsibility for the entire project?
  - How are the responsibilities, roles and assets handed over?
  - How are documents kept and shared and recorded?
  - What are the shared learnings?
  - How do we celebrate all that God has done together at the end of this partnership, which is at the same time the launch of your continued ministry?
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# Anglicare's locations

Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT is a member of the Anglicare Australia network. Our locations fall within 3 Anglican diocese: Canberra/Goulburn, Riverina and Bathurst.

