

...at a glance

helping  
deacons  
discern

START  
WITH  
PRAYER

KNOW THE  
MISSION  
AND  
VISION

DO  
THE  
RESEARCH

CONSULT  
THE GIVING  
CALENDAR

LOOK FOR  
MUTUAL  
BENEFIT

CREATE  
GUIDELINES

which  
ministries  
should my  
church  
support?



DIACONAL MINISTRIES  
CANADA

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# which ministries should we support?

*Choosing who to support and how should be bathed in prayer and discernment.*

*Be thoughtful.  
Be creative.*

*Understand your church's mission and vision*

*...including the interest and passions of your congregational members.*

## Do the research:

- What does the ministry do?
- How does their work align with your church's mission and vision? (This will also help you communicate more knowledgeably to your congregation)
- Do they apply practices that build on people's strengths and avoids creating unhealthy dependency?
- How are they accountable? (Do they have a healthy organizational culture and leadership oversight?)
- Are they a registered charity?

## Consider:

- Balance local, regional, global and denominational ministries.
- Use the offering calendar published by the CRC office ([www.crcna.org](http://www.crcna.org)). It lists ministries recommended by the denomination.
- Determine the local geographical scope you can impact.

## Prioritize...

- organizations where there is opportunity to foster a relationship beyond financial contributions (How will you benefit/grow from the partnership? Are there mutual learning, serving, and networking opportunities?)

After discerning which ministries you will support and partner with, create OFFERING GUIDELINES:

- Name who you support, what they do, and why you partner with them.
- Write out the criteria you are prioritizing to aid in discerning/filtering future requests.

This can be passed on to future deacons, making their discernment process easier.

*...and pray*

for all the ministries you encounter -both the ones you financially support and those you do not.



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