

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

2024 GOALS

Executive Board goals for 2024 have been planned by the teams. Approved by the Program Committee on July 11, 2023 and Executive Board on August 15, 2023.



3 Essential Intents

The Executive and Administrative Team (EAT) directs the overall strategy for the ministries of the ABSC. The EAT ensures that all of our efforts are focused on our mission: working with Arkansas Baptists to accomplish the Great Commission. Our ABSC Executive Teams strive to make every person, dollar, and hour count towards that end.

Therefore, it is imperative that we do everything with purpose. We prayerfully developed **3 Essential Intents** as a guide to focus our strategies and planning. While there are lots of good things that we could do, these essential areas are what we must do to reach our goals. This focus is reflected in every Team's goals. The **3 Essential Intents are ...**

1. Strengthening churches
2. Impacting the next generation
3. Reaching the unengaged, unreached, and underserved

First, our Teams are intent on **strengthening Arkansas Baptist churches**. Every church is important in reaching Arkansans with the gospel. The task is too great without every church being vibrant and on mission. Each team engages churches to strengthen and support their efforts toward health and fulfilling the Great Commission.

Second, we are intent on **impacting the next generation with the gospel**. Clearly, the church has struggled to reach the Millennial generation. It is imperative that we impact successive generations. We are redoubling our efforts to impact students with the gospel. This includes a greater emphasis on evangelism partnerships and revitalizing churches to reach students. We are developing new ways to connect with students being called to ministry through Explore Your Call. We are training high school and college students in apologetics through efforts such as Lead/Defend. We are intent on **reaching students before losing another generation**.

Finally, we are intent on **reaching the unengaged, unreached, and underserved with the gospel**. Arkansas Baptists are becoming increasingly aware of the vast numbers of people around the world that have no way to effectively learn that Jesus is the hope of the world. We are continuing our expansion of partnerships in areas of the world that **are unengaged and unreached**. For example, our churches are partnering with missionaries in Southeast Asia to work with unengaged people groups, and college students are being mobilized for short term mission trips to those areas of need.

Moreover, we are intentionally focusing our evangelism partnerships on those **peoples who do not have access to the gospel**. There are too many people groups in Arkansas with too little access to the gospel, such as low income families and internationals living in our state. We also have numerous geographic areas that have far too little access to either churches or vital gospel ministries. Through both church planting and evangelism partnerships, we are focused on bringing the gospel to those **underserved** people and areas.



Church Planting Team

2024 Goals

Vince Blubaugh, Team Leader

The Church Planting Team assists Arkansas Baptist churches to discover, develop, and deploy disciples in order to plant churches that plant churches.

1. Planting Goals

- Assist ABSC churches in planting 14 new churches
- Assist church plants in averaging 12 baptisms per plant

2. Partnership Goals

- Mobilize and equip 35 churches and pastors and 10 Associational Missionaries by hosting the following 4 broad vision casting events: Annual Church Planting Dinner (October), Missions Connection @ECON (January), Send Network AR Summit (April), and a Dinner prior to Statewide Prayer Gathering (August/September).
- In the 2-3 months after the above broad vision events, host 3 regional meetings (in-person/Zoom) to follow up with people who expressed interest in church planting partnerships for a total of 12 regional meetings with 10 pastors/staff/associational missionaries/lay leaders at each event.
- At the regional meetings, connect a total of 12 participants to a specific affinity-based or strategy-based team member: Hispanic, Cowboy, Diaspora, Inner City, Delta, Rural, Micro-church, etc.
- Create and utilize clear, unified, relatable resources for all church sizes that define processes and church planting models (bi-vo, co-vo, micro, replant, etc.).

3. Pipeline and Residency Goals

- Host 2 trainings a year using one or more of the following strategies:
 - NAMB's Multiplication/Pathwright Resources: Level 1, 2, 3
 - Heart and Four Fields
 - Gen Send Resources
 - The Institute
- Assist 5 churches and/or associations in developing a church planting residency.
- Mobilize 4 ethnic leaders through pipelines designed for internationals and in reaching the diaspora.
- Obtain certification as an official nationally recognized Send Network Assessment Center.

4. Planters Goals (mobilizing, training, and caring for planters)

- Provide resources to help 30 church planting couples discover their gifts, leadership skills, systems, evangelism and community engagement strategies, and SBC/NAMB terminology and resources.
- Equip 20 coaches to come alongside church planting couples for them to grow in leadership skills, teams, etc.
- Assess 15 church planters at 2 Send Network Arkansas assessment retreats.
- Train 15 sponsor churches at Send Network Arkansas assessment retreats.
- Host 12 fellowship/care meals and 4 Planter Care Events for Send Network Arkansas endorsed church planters: Marriage Retreat (February), Men’s Soul Care One Day (May), Family Fun Day (June), and Church Planting Wives Retreat & Inspire Women’s Conference (September).
- Create and utilize clear, unified, relatable resources for church planting candidates and church planting couples (including the new church planting podcast, “The Battleplan”) regarding the assessment process, coaching resources, planter care resources, and other topics related to help them grow in the Send Network values:
 - o Seek first the Kingdom
 - o Deepen devotion
 - o Stick together
 - o Think multiplication
 - o Engage your city



**College + Young Leaders Team
2024 Goals**

Chris Larmoyeux, Assistant Team Leader

The College + Young Leaders Team serves Arkansas churches by reaching next-generation leaders with the Gospel on the most strategic mission field in the world.

From the Church - On the Campus - For Every Student

1. CYL will assist churches in the spiritual formation of collegians.

- Make significant contact with 15,000 collegians.
- Involve 750 collegians in Bible study or discipleship small groups.
- Train and involved 500 collegians in evangelism.
- Mobilize church volunteers to engage underserved students on the 20+ technical school and community college campuses in the state.

2. CYL will assist collegians in finding a church in their college town/city.

- Assist 500 churches with the transition of high school seniors to college town churches.
- Engage 2,500 freshmen in the opening days of the fall semester.
- Make 1,000 meaningful church leader contacts.
- Every BCM with full-time staff will implement a transition strategy for graduates as they move as young professionals into their new cities and churches.

3. CYL will assist churches by developing leaders:

- Gather 2,000 students for the Lead>Defend apologetics conference targeting high school seniors, collegians, and young professionals.
- Assist 300 churches by providing BCM students to assist in leading Disciple Nows, worship teams, retreats, student and children's ministry, etc.
- Involve 400 collegians in ministry leadership.
- Identify and develop 100 Called to Ministry students through local BCMs.
- Assist 35 partner churches in providing an international student conference.
- Provide 10 international student ministry training and vision-casting events for local churches.
- Cooperate with the Missions Team of ABSC to identify and engage young professional internationals in Arkansas.

4. CYL will assist churches in mobilizing collegians to missions.

- Mobilize 600 collegians and staff in missional lifestyle experiences such as gospel conversations, short-term mission trips, planning and leading special outreach events, etc.
- Mobilize 100 collegians to apply for summer service through NAMB, IMB, or Arkansas Partnerships.
- Mobilize 10 Young Professionals for 2 years of service through NAMB, IMB, or Arkansas Partnerships.



Evangelism and Church Health Team

2024 Goals

Warren Gasaway, Interim Team Leader

The Evangelism and Church Health Team exists to serve Arkansas Baptist churches through the three essential intents of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention: strengthening churches, impacting the next generation, and reaching the unengaged, unreached, and underserved.

1. The ECH Team helps to strengthen churches through:

- 5,000 evangelism and/or discipleship consultations.
- 250 churches trained in evangelism, discipleship, and/or leadership principles.
- Facilitating 10 leadership networks in worship, associational, and women's ministry.
- Regional and statewide church health events such as the Statewide Conference on Evangelism (ECon), Inspire Women's Conference, Young Leaders Lunch (at Annual Meeting), Regional/Associational EQUIP events, and ministry specific roundtables.

2. The ECH Team helps churches impact the next generation through:

- 400 training sessions in children and student ministry principles.
- Training and/or consultations in children and student ministry with 20 associations.
- Facilitating 7 leadership networks with youth and children church leaders.
- Equipping 150 students discerning a call to ministry with Explore Your Call events and resources.
- 20 regional and statewide events, camps, network meetings, roundtables, and partnerships focused on youth and children ministry.

3. The ECH Team helps churches reach the unengaged, unreached, and underserved through:

- Training 50 church leaders through The Institute church training network.
- Training churches for evangelism in a post-Christian culture through the statewide Conference on Evangelism (ECon).
- 3 regional small church training conferences (EQUIP).



Missions Team

2024 Goals

Sam Roberts, Team Leader

The Missions Team assists Arkansas Baptist churches and members to impact lostness statewide and globally by encouraging and equipping them to be engaged in mission discipleship and mobilization.

1. Equip churches for mission mobilization by providing state, national, and international mission opportunities and support.

Action Plan: Equip 750 churches for mission mobilization.

- Provide resources, training, and opportunities for 625 churches to mobilize 5,000 members to reach their local community (including: Serve Local, Block Party Ministry, Multi-Housing, Hunger, Pregnancy Care Centers, Medical/Dental Missions, Christian Women's Job Corps, Recovery).
- Equip 600 churches to mobilize 4,500 members to actively engage lostness in Arkansas through statewide mission opportunities (including: One Day, Disaster Relief, Arkansas Baptist Builders, Campers on Mission, Partnership Missions).
- Engage 300 churches with national and international mission mobilization opportunities (Including: Mission Connection, Partnership Missions, People Groups Prayer Initiatives).

2. Strengthen and revitalize churches through missions discipleship with an emphasis on next generation ministries.

Action Plan: Impact 600 churches through missions discipleship training and resources.

- Provide 500 mission strategy consultations for churches & associations (including: Evangelism, Follow-up & Assimilation training/workshops, Chaplaincy, One Day training, Community Needs Assessment and Missions U).
- Equip and resource 225 churches to engage 800 adults in missions discipleship training (including: WMU, Man Up, Traditional on-going missions discipleship, Hispanic WMU, Literacy Missions, Bible Storying).
- Equip and resource 200 churches to engage 1,500 children/students in missions discipleship training (including: Traditional on-going missions discipleship, Connect Student Missions, Engage Missions Camp, Disaster Relief for Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Mother-Daughter Missions Camp, One Day).

3. Promote prayer and financial support for missions among ABSC churches.

Action Plan: Impact each ABSC church with multiple contacts encouraging prayer and financial support for missions while personally contacting 350 churches.

- Promote missions in 350 churches/associations through speaking engagements.
- Promote SBC and ABSC mission offerings and Weeks of Prayer to all ABSC churches.
- Encourage 500 churches to begin prayer and financial support for the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.