

Guidelines for Partner Churches Doing Projects Together
(adopted by Partnership Committees of Presbyteries of Suchitepequez, Sur Occidente, WNC)

Preface: Each year the PWNC partner church sends \$300 to its Guatemalan partner as a gift. Most churches also have children's scholarship programs. Neither of these are considered projects under the guidelines below.

1. If sister churches want to do their first project, they identify what they'd like to do together. Then each church makes contact with its own Presbytery Partnership Committee about the proposed project. The partnership committee in both presbyteries works with its church in the pair to help strengthen the plan and its benefits. **Both presbyteries must approve the written plan before the project can begin.**
2. **Sister churches can do only one project together.** If a pair has done one project together, *all new projects need to include another sister church pair*, preferably a pair that hasn't been able to do a project together yet. *It may also be possible to pair with the health program or secular education program to do something to help the local community*, such as build latrines or paint a school.
3. **Sister church projects to build church buildings are discouraged. Also pastors' salaries are not subsidized by PWNC churches.** The current partnership covenant for the partnership includes the objective that "projects must focus on community development..." Before a project to build can be approved, there must be a commitment and plans by the Guatemalan church on how the building will be used to improve the quality of life for the whole community, not just members.
4. **All money transfers must go through the Presbytery system for the sake of accountability and transparency.**
5. **5% of the money for all partner church projects goes to the Guatemalan Presbytery and 5% goes to IENPG.** This is in accordance with the agreements between the three partner presbyteries and our two denominations IENPG and PCUSA.