



Village Green Collective

CHURCH PLANTING TRACK

How the Village Green Collective comes alongside the local church to train, send, and support church planters in the small places of New England

VILLAGREENCOLLECTIVE.COM

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VISION

The Village Green Collective is a group of small-town New England churches planting small-town New England churches together.

1. Gospel-saturation of New England small places

We see community-engaged, Christ-centered churches in all the small places of New England.

2. Gospel-calling of New England church planters

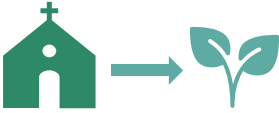
We see the Lord raising up missionary-minded church planters from within New England and calling missionary-minded church planters to New England from other places.

3. Gospel-investment of New England churches

We see New England churches investing generously and sacrificially by training planters as well as incubating and sending church plants.

CONVICTIONS

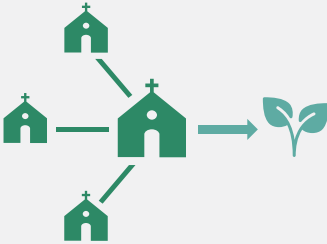
The defining principles that shape our planting track philosophy



CHURCH-CENTERED

Churches plant churches

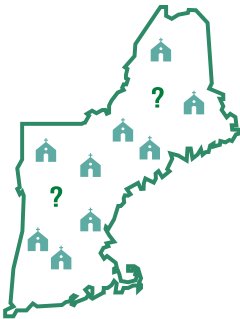
We believe the training, sending and supporting of missionary-minded church planters for small-town New England is primarily the work of the local church.



COLLECTIVE-MINDED

Churches best plant churches *together*

We believe that a collective of local churches can (and should) aid, enhance, and supplement this local-church work.



SATURATION-FOCUSED

Churches plant churches *together* best when they are *regionally* and *relationally* close

We believe a collective of churches within a region can (and should) collaborate to saturate their area with more church plants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

How our convictions are realized in the planting track



BASED IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

VGC Planters embed themselves in the life and ministry of an existing VGC church. They work with the elders of that church to be trained and sent out to plant. Other VGC churches encourage and collaborate in that process.



ASSESSED THROUGH BENCHMARKS

VGC Planters are assessed and trained towards benchmarks, developed and guided by VGC churches for the planting of a healthy, small-town New England church. In sending out a fully-equipped planter, benchmarks matter to us more than a particular timeline.



FOCUSED ON CHURCH PLANTING

The VGC will come alongside the local church with supplemental training related specifically to church planting. Additional training resources from respected planting organizations are also used.



DRIVEN BY CONTEXTUAL COACHING

VGC Planters are assigned coaches from the VGC member team to help guide, invest in, and care for the planter. Coaches are assigned based on who is the best fit for the church planter, based on their needs and the needs of the potential plant.

BENCHMARKS

Our assessment and coaching is determined by benchmarks

WHY BENCHMARKS?

We aim to coach church planters through the achievement of benchmarks because we want to:

1. Send out church planters who feel confident to begin the long-haul journey of small-town New England ministry.
2. Welcome healthy church planters into our collective who can endure with joy within our brotherhood of pastors and planters
3. Equip church planters to successfully complete an external Church-Planting Assessment.
4. Steward wisely the church-planting resources God has entrusted to VGC.

HOW DO WE CHOOSE PLANTERS?

Church Planters are vetted to establish a pathway to planting based on their gifts and calling in our **pre-assessment process** where we:

1. Assess the strengths, weaknesses, and experience of the potential planter
2. Assess the calling and direction of the potential planter
3. Assess theological, philosophical, and relational chemistry with the VGC
4. Establish next steps in a catered pathway for the potential planter

BENCHMARKS

The areas in which VGC planters are assessed and trained



Home Church Apprenticeship

Assessed, trained, and serving as a leader in a small-town New England church



Organizational Development

Coached through all the steps needed to launch a new organization



Philosophy of Ministry

Prepared with a strategy for, and culture of, discipleship and mission



Preaching & Teaching

Equipped to contextually teach God's Word to believers and non-believers



Calling & Conviction

Able to communicate a clear and compelling call from God for this endeavor



Missional IQ & Lifestyle

Prayerful, knowledgeable, and intentional in engaging the local community with the gospel



People & Team

Has cultivated teams and leaders to partner in the work of church planting



Fundraising & Budget

Has developed financial resources and structures to support the work of planting



Sending & Commissioning

Sent with confidence, joy, and generous support for the long haul

EXAMPLE TRACKS

How various planters might be assessed and equipped



JONATHAN

Needs contextual training

1. Went to seminary
2. Wants to plant in Maine
3. Is from the West Coast
4. Wants to be bi-vocational

TRACK

1. Moves to VGC church in Maine to serve and learn
2. Training focuses on small-town New England ministry
3. Paired w/ bivocational coaches for practical training
4. Needs extra coaching in Organizational Development

TIMELINE: 2-4 YEARS



BRANDON

Needs church-planting training

1. Currently a pastor in VT
2. Wants to plant in small town
3. No church-planting training
4. Needs brotherhood

TRACK

1. Works with close VGC churches in VT
2. Training focuses on church-planting
3. Emphasis on relational intimacy w/ VGC coaches
4. Needs extra coaching in People & Team, Fundraising

TIMELINE: 2-3 YEARS



DAVID

Needs theological training

1. A member in VGC church
2. Wants to plant nearby
3. No theological training
4. Needs pastoral experience

TRACK

1. Does pastoral residency in home VGC church
2. Training is more broad and includes theological and pastoral development
3. May utilize online seminary classes, as needed
4. Needs extra coaching in Preaching, Phil. of Ministry

TIMELINE: 3-5 YEARS

FUNDING

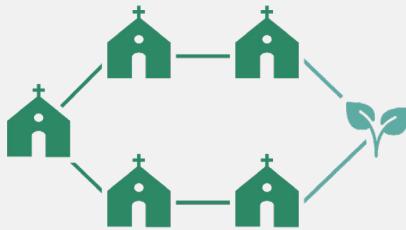
How the Village Green Collective comes alongside the local church and planter financially



THE PLANTER-IN-TRAINING

The VGC can come alongside the local church that is sending out the planter by assisting with financial provision while in training. **Factors** that may affect this:

1. The financial needs of the planter-in-training
2. The financial needs of the host church
3. The length of time funds are needed



THE CHURCH PLANT

The VGC commits to generously supporting our church plants for the long haul. Funding is available six months prior to the launch date of the church plant.

1. VGC church plants receive **\$18,000/year**
2. Funding is provided for as long as needed
3. Amount of ongoing funding is assessed by need