

BUILDING YOUR TEAM

Building a team is one of the most effective ways to bring about social justice. Building collective leadership through teams means building collective ownership and a collective vision for the organizing work. We need everyone's experiences, ideas, and gifts to make this collective vision a reality.

A team is a group of people that:

- is connected by a shared passion for an issue, love for people who are affected, vision for change, and commitment to work together to bring that change about.
- is in regular contact with each other (usually face-to-face, occasionally by phone).
- builds one-on-one relationships with each other, in addition to meeting face-to-face together as a team.
- studies and reflects on their life experiences and world around them, together.
- builds relationships with those affected by the issue they are working on.

A team is not:

- an email list or listserv.
- a committee that does little outside of meeting times.
- a group of people mandated by some other power to be on a committee.
- a group of people that are more interested in being “the representative” or some other role in a formal structure than they are in building relationships and working together.
- disconnected from the people affected by the issue they are working on.

Return to *Creating Change Together* at www.umcjustice.org/toolkit for tips on crafting and sharing your public story before you begin building your team. For step-by-step guidance on building your team, visit www.umcjustice.org/BuildingPowerTogether.



United Methodist ministry leaders gather in Orlando, Florida for Rooted in Relationship: A Ministry WITH Gathering for skill building workshops on relationship-based ministry.