



DIACONAL  
MINISTRIES  
CANADA

## Mini Workshop

### **Be a Participant with Partners** **“Operation Manna” January 2004**

When the needs in our communities seem so much greater than our abilities and resources, let's remember that God is already at work in the lives of people who do not yet know Him. He blesses our churches and our communities with many gifts and then reveals how we can use them to reach out to people with the healing love of Jesus.

The resources of Operation Manna are available to support churches and as they build relationships with people in their communities. The following exercises may provide your diaconate with some Outreach **C P R**.

- 1. Consider** for a few minutes the text “The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighbourhood” (John 1, The Message). What do you find interesting or insightful about this translation of John 1:14? Who are some of the people Jesus would meet and minister to if He lived in your community? (10 min)
- 2.** Turn to the Partners issue for “Operation Manna”. Divide into groups so that all may **participate** (10 min). Discuss:
  - A. How have 1<sup>st</sup> Vancouver CRC and Guelph New Life CRC connected with people in their community?**
  - B. Is your church involved in similar ministries? What are the similarities and differences between your ministries and those in Vancouver and Guelph?**
  - C. What other ministries supported by Operation Manna are you familiar with?**
  - D. What changes could be made to an existing ministry of your church, or what new ministry opportunities are there, that would provide an opportunity to build relationships with people in your neighbourhood?**
- 3.** Come back together as a large group and share a summary of your various discussions. **Resolve** to discover and embrace the potential opportunities for your church (Question 2 C) (10 min). If a particular idea resonates with your diaconate, assign someone to act on it!
- 4.** Other ways to continue learning on this subject are:
  - A.** Visit the website [www.diaconalministries.com](http://www.diaconalministries.com).
  - B.** Contact the Outreach Ministry Developers in Eastern and Western Canada, or the Diaconal Ministry Developer in your classis.
  - C.** Read the 2004 Open Doors brochure highlighting some of Operation Manna's ministry partners.
  - D.** Commit to further devotions and learning on the subject. Review the recommended reading list on the DMC website.

Diaconal Ministries Canada is your resource!

**Call us at 1-800-730-3490 or email at [info@diaconalministries.com](mailto:info@diaconalministries.com).**

**[www.diaconalministries.com](http://www.diaconalministries.com)**