



# Partners for Sacred Places

**Texas  
Regional Office**

Fort Worth has a strong faith community, a strong tradition of celebrating history and culture, a strong philanthropic and civic community, and innovative community and economic development.

## **WHAT IS PARTNERS FOR SACRED PLACES?**

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Founded in 1989, *Partners* is a national, non-sectarian, non-profit organization that provides resources for congregations in older and historic buildings. *Partners* sees congregations as generators of community services, and sees buildings as assets for mission.

## **NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN FORT WORTH**

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Fort Worth has a strong faith community, a strong tradition of celebrating history and culture, a strong philanthropic and civic community, and innovative community and economic development. It's the perfect place for *Partners'* first regional office in the nation.

Having developed a strong track record for its support of local congregational efforts across the nation, *Partners* is eager to bring its resources to the Fort Worth community and learn from the Texas experience.

## **WHAT DOES *PARTNERS* PROVIDE?**

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### **INFORMATION**

- Resource center of published materials
- Clearinghouse of experts and resource organizations

### **EDUCATION**

- Presentations and seminars
- Entry-level consultation
- Intensive *New Dollars/New Partners* training

### **FUNDING**

- Matching grants for technical assistance
- Seed grants for repairs and capital projects

*Partners* also seeks to develop new projects with local and regional organizations around community development, congregational development, history and culture, and economic development. *Partners* can help convene stakeholders and provide its national contacts, expertise, and small seed funding for such projects.

A strong local team of religious, community, historic preservation and design organizations have worked to bring *Partners* to Fort Worth.

## WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Offers and inquiries are welcomed from congregations, community groups and others on training, technical and financial support. The office is co-located at the United Community Centers.

Please contact:

**James Nader**

**Executive Developer**

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## HOW WILL THE OFFICE OPERATE?

A strong local team of religious, community, historic preservation and design organizations have worked to bring *Partners* to Fort Worth, led by local architect and civic leader James Nader. *Partners'* Fort Worth Office will operate with a small staff, an Advisory Board of community leaders, and a roster of dedicated experts in construction, stewardship, and community ministry, all supported by the national organization.

## WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE?

Initially, *Partners* will concentrate its work in the Fort Worth area. These efforts may expand regionally in two or three years.

## WHAT IS THE TIMING?

The office began its work in 2006 via a *New Dollars/ New Partners* training program involving 6 Methodist, one Catholic, and 6 Baptist congregations.

## WHAT ARE PARTNERS' GOALS ?

### HAVE AN IMPACT ON CONGREGATIONAL RENEWAL

- Over 150 congregations receive capacity-building support
- Dozens of congregations
  - complete intensive, *New Dollars/New Partners* training
  - receive training and technical assistance matching grants
  - receive capital seed grants totaling over \$300,000
- An additional \$6M in support for congregational stewardship is leveraged

### DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- Seed funding and in-kind match is secured to help develop 4 local or regional partnership projects and 2 national partnership projects
- \$2.5M in matching grant funding is leveraged

## WHO IS FUNDING THIS?

Initial funding for the Texas Regional Office comes from the Dick Bundy Donor Advised Fund at the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation.