

Annual Report of the Director of Healthy Church Development

Dale Edwardson

I want to begin by again thanking you for allowing me to serve you as your district health director! It's a great privilege to work with you and your churches throughout the Central Pacific District. It's always good to work with Doug, Ray, Tom, Ken, O. B., Cindy and Luz! We are seeing excellent things taking place throughout the district because of a united effort. It's wonderful to see what happens when a team comes together! It's been difficult for all of us during these financially lean years. Some of our dreams and ideas are on hold until the economy turns around. But there's always work to be done as we wait on some of our dreams and aspirations.

I serve half of my time as the CPD Church Health Director and as the National Church Health Director with the other half of my ministry. And half of my national time is helping with our intercultural leaders and pastors throughout the Alliance. I love it! It's a great opportunity to serve the Lord both in the local church and with leaders across the nation. Please continue to pray that I will be useful and effective in all the opportunities that God has placed in front of me!

I'm continuing to learn as I work with you on church health issues. I've discovered the importance of focusing on you as pastors in order to see increased health in our churches. If we can help you get past the roadblocks that you face in your church, we can achieve those victories that we all want. This has caused me to refine my focus to these tasks.

Vision and Passion- Let me remind you of my motivation to do this job. I have an unending passion to see the Majority of our churches and a Majority of our people demonstrating genuine, God-empowered spiritual health. How in the world can we possibly achieve those goals? I continually wrestle with that question and keep refining my answers. Here's how I spend my time:

1) Championing the Vision- I still travel extensively throughout the district on behalf of Doug and the district leadership team. I meet with about 75 pastors a year and many of you multiple times. One of my purposes is to encourage you and to brainstorm about possibilities in ministry. I enjoy spending extra time with many of you as I coach and we strategize on specific steps needed to move your church to the next level of health and effectiveness.

2) Providing Intentional Training, Coaching and Focus Groups- One of our primary ways of building the vision and values that we believe will impact our district is through targeted training and affinity groups. We have worked aggressively to get our pastors to a variety of these events.

3) Assisting the Superintendent- Doug can't be everywhere at once and often asks me to assist him with churches going through difficulties or transitions.

3) Planning for District-wide Multiplication- My ultimate goal is to see pastors and leaders in one church multiplying their effort and influence by working with other churches to see the same fruitful results taking place. We want to build teams of pastors helping each other, building strong, healthy churches and actively involved in planting new churches everywhere! Pray with me that we will see more and more genuine church health throughout our district! Please commit yourself with me to this goal! Envision our district filled with pastors responding to that challenge. Be one of them! Let's change our world! Let's do it NOW!!!