**SERVICE & OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

**PURPOSE:** Service and Outreach provides FinD members the opportunity to help those in need, shine God’s light while serving the community, and share FinD with other men seeking the Lord.

**RESOURCES PROVIDED:**

The committee develops service and outreach opportunities for FinD men that can make a positive impact in our community and in the lives of our members. The committee determines

* Where community needs exist and opportunities for outreach for the Lord
* How to communicate with FinD members those needs and the plans to address them
* How to engage FinD members in serving (as individuals, small groups, all FinD members)
* How to respond quickly to spontaneous community needs (in response to disasters for example)

FinD provides support to the community through these service and outreach projects:

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| **Annual Day of Service (ADOS)** | This is a major annual service and outreach project that all FinD groups could participate in together, local, one day event, that benefits a local benefactor like Family Point Resources (2021). <https://finddiscipleship.org/photos/ados-2021/>  |
| **Planned Events** | These service and outreach events are based on ongoing community needs and are often determined based on FinD member relationships with church and community partners. Examples include FinD’s traditional annual volunteer day at the East Spring Branch Food Pantry the Saturday before every Thanksgiving.  |
| **Spontaneous Events** | These service and outreach events are in response to a time critical need (like storms or medical pandemic). They require FinD to quickly move into action to support those with urgent needs. Examples include the FinD “Navy” (rescue boats) and “Army” (mucking crews) after Hurricane Harvey, relief efforts to Grand Lake, LA and Golden Meadow, LA (<https://finddiscipleship.org/photos/golden-meadow-la-relief/>) after hurricane devastation.  |
| **Job Seekers (Job Portal / Job Search Resources)** | Job Seekers is an online portal allowing FinD members and their “2nd Level” friends to post resumes to the FinD website. FinD members routinely review the website to identify any possible connections that help bridge a job seeker to a resource. The FinD website also provides resources to support those in job search. [JobSeekers - FinD (finddiscipleship.org)](https://finddiscipleship.org/jobseekers/) |

**GOALS FOR 2022**:

* **ADOS (FinD’s Annual Day of Service):** Identify at least one major, one-day, annual service and outreach project that all FinD groups could participate in together. General time of year will be mid-October on a weekend with the fewest day-time college football game conflicts as possible. For 2021, the committee determined the annual service project would support **Family Point Resources.** <https://finddiscipleship.org/photos/ados-2021/>
* **Planned Opportunities:** Utilize FinD member connections to community partners and churches to identify additional opportunities for FinD to go alongside those ministries in supporting the community (example – Fuente Food Pantry, East Spring Branch Food Pantry).
* **Spontaneous Opportunities:** Develop a plan to enable FinD to more quickly respond to urgent needs (as was done for Hurricane Harvey in Houston and after hurricanes hit Southern Louisiana in 2020 and 2021). Ideas include:
	+ Building a Service Response Team with one member from each FinD group who could quickly reach out to share needs and identify resources to help.
	+ Utilizing the FinD NEON CRM data base to alert men via texts of short notice opportunities
* **International Mission Trips:** long-term outreach focus could include organizing a large group of reps from each small group to do an international mission trip like Living Water International.