



AN INITIATIVE OF THE COVENANT CHURCH

# CORE VALUES

**As the Covenant, we seek to join God in God's mission to see more disciples, among more populations, in a more caring and just world. Through the FREE initiative, the Evangelical Covenant Church is committed to collectively opposing violence against people who are vulnerable to sex trafficking. From our inception, the Covenant has been concerned with helping hurting people (love mercy), and addressing the causes of that hurt (do justice). Our goal is to resource/equip the local church in its call to love, serve and work together with people at the margins toward wholistic individual, family and community transformation.**

**The following values guide how the FREE initiative seeks to carry out its mission and are particularly important in evaluating grant requests and discerning how funds are allocated.**

## **Biblical and Prophetic Witness toward the Kingdom of God**

Engaging in ministry of both Word and deed (proclamation and demonstration, evangelism and biblical justice) is a prophetic signpost of the Kingdom of God; pointing others toward the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; the one in whom everything is being made new.

## **Involvement and Empowerment of the local community**

We believe most solutions for a community already exist within that community. Every neighborhood is full of potential, much of it unrecognized, unappreciated and untapped. Where possible, utilize resources (human, relational, material, financial) already present in the community and focus on unleashing the potential of indigenous leaders.



### **Celebrating and Serving alongside Image bearers at the margins**

We strive to recognize, affirm, and celebrate the God-given dignity of those most likely to have that dignity denied or overlooked. We seek to fund ministry strategies that achieve this standard. Thus, we place a strong emphasis on a demonstrable mutuality in mission (working with/alongside rather than doing for the community).

### **Transformative Justice**

We affirm the need for transformation of the whole individual, family and community. To that end, we resist the division between the 'spiritual' and the 'physical' and encourage the development of a fully integrated ministry vision seeking holistic transformation. This is done most effectively by addressing root causes and focusing on systemic issues, not just symptoms.

### **Working in Mutual Partnership**

We partner with established local organizations, relying on their expertise, experience, and networks. We prioritize Covenant connected relationships.

### **Affirming Dignity**

We believe that all people are made in God's image and are worthy of being treated with dignity and respect.