

## Launch Team

The launch team's task is entrepreneurial, essentially leading the start-up phase of the coalition. Some key tasks of the launch team include identifying and establishing:

- Mission, vision values
- Geographical boundaries and coalition name
- Initial focus (e.g., readiness, recovery, critical community need)
- Strategy for continued church engagement
- Communications platform and rhythm for coalition gatherings
- Budget, fundraising, and staffing plan, as needed
- Plan for transition to leadership team and fulfillment of essential functions

### Leader Profile

Launch teams usually have five to ten members, primarily pastors and other church staff. Entrepreneurial skills are essential, along with relational, organizational, and strategic planning skills.

### Representation

Ideally, the launch team represents the ethnic, socio-economic, and geographic diversity of the coalition community and continues developing a representative coalition of churches.

### Partnerships

The launch team develops a coalition that seeks not to duplicate or compete with other entities but to partner with them to amplify what they do and address the community's unmet needs.

### Time Commitment

The launch stage usually runs three to six months, including regular team meetings and tasks, with the frequency depending on the availability of leaders and desired timeframe to complete the launch.

### The Church Responds Advisor

The advisor helps identify and orient leaders, integrates shared principles, ensures completion of launch team tasks, cultivates a collaborative team-based approach, and guides transition to a leadership team.