



# “How To” Guide

Everything you need to know to start a new  
Curbside location.

1222 N. Lee Drive  
Bowling Green, KY 42101  
[www.curbsideministries.com](http://www.curbsideministries.com)

## Section 1

BEFORE boots on the ground.

### Location/Community, Leadership Team, Loyal/Local Contributors

#### "Terri Talks" Starting Up

Let me begin by saying that I'm moved beyond measure that you are considering this God-Given idea! The single most important snippet of information I can share with you is that Curbside is ONLY a vessel. You and your team become the foundation of the vision in your area. There is no right or wrong way to go about street ministry. As long as you are a Bible/Jesus believing people accepting God's instruction to Go and make disciples... you're in!

It's important that you think of ways to incentivize your new friends' participation. Relationships are the goal.

Therefore, always be considering who you know and how they could get involved. It really is amazing how many people would rather GIVE gifts "in kind" and monetarily before giving of their time, etc.

Before entering a community, key steps need to be taken.

#### - Location and Longevity

- o Your game plan is SIMPLE.

First, you and your team present a location (together, we will discuss opportunities and challenges). Team Curbside embraces the neighborhood, owning the idea - Long-term. Weekly is the goal! NO TURNING BACK!

#### - Secure a Foundation Team

- o VAN Drivers -the most committed. Initially, your Drivers become the face of Curbside for the given community. They are responsible for driving the Van to and from the site fully equipped with supplies for a night of fun and faith.

- o All Volunteers -facilitate the evening as your leader advises. Every site/location will look different according to the needs of your participants. Feel

free to try new methods. Ideally, you will have enough volunteers to host several stations (i.e. fingernail polishing, play-doh, board games, bubbles, basketball, kickball, etc.)

Use your imagination and utilize the skill sets of each volunteer. If your new friends would like to enjoy a game of rock, paper, scissors, you want to be more than willing to oblige.

### - **Local and Loyal Contributors**

- Ice Cream – (Bowling Green sites secured an ice cream donor.) Your Curbside team will have contributors. If not, we are committed to supplying your needs.
- Station Supplies – Bibles, Board Games, Card Games, Sporting equipment, fingernail polish, Art Supplies, Coloring
- Books, Cards, Beads for jewelry making, etc.

## Section 2

### Week 1 to Week ???

#### Starting Right

##### - **Prayer is our promotion**

- Promotion (in advertisement/flyer forms) can be pushy, so we choose to just show up on site.
- Curbside T-shirts become your visual.

##### - **On Site Responsibilities**

- You will drive the van into a chosen neighborhood with music blaring.
- The personality of your driver will set the tone for a great night: high energy, smile, enthusiasm, etc.
- Set up ASAP:
  - Curbside road signs placed for safety and new recognition
  - Sound system (microphone, iPod, and speakers) set up
  - Name tags - volunteers and children

##### - **FIRST: Ice Cream**

- FREE Ice Cream for all! Your first impression! Conversation is easy and natural when ice cream is free!

##### - **SECOND: Selfless Interaction via Games**

- Befriending is the next obvious method. Your conversations should reflect your genuine interest in them and their lives. Encouragement on all levels is more inviting.
- Make a point to say, "We will be here every \_\_\_\_\_ night! We want to come hang out with YOU!" This statement alone speaks volumes as so many churches, clubs, camps, etc. come for a ONE-TIME visit/event. You want them to know Curbside is long term and unlike all the others.

## - NEXT????

- Only you and your team will know your next step. You will sense the stability in your relationships and know when it's time for more substance >>> JESUS! For your information, we stayed in the "ice cream giving --- game playing" mode for 2 years at one site and an easy 4 years at the other (language barriers here).
  - We recommend special events delayed until year 3. It takes a deliberate and intentional amount of time to establish genuine trust with Curbside and our volunteers. Your weekly time on the streets needs to be at an "all time" high before you add on any new challenges.
  
- Corporate messages encouraged after 2 years - not before.
  - Your participants will not collectively sit down for devotion or message the first couple of years. Please trust us on this! Your new friends truly want to know how much you care before following a leader/learner mentality. You are the outsider. This is their community. It's important that you gain their acceptance one ice cream-one conversation-one game at a time.
  - Love abounds during this time! It doesn't get any easier than this phase right here. Enjoy the journey! You can't love on them enough! You can't invest in them enough. Your volunteers can't engage enough. Never lose sight of their needs >>> TIME!

## Section 3

### Trust is established

#### After time...

##### - Gospel Messages Arrive!

- It's time for kid friendly messages. Visual/object lessons work best. Three minute messages recommended! Most of those you are serving are free to come and go. Someone or something is always competing for their time. Know that God is working in and through you via your actions as well as your words.
- More intentional conversations pointing toward Jesus are initiated by you and your volunteers moving forward.

##### - Choose Your Method

- Share the Gospel via: praise and worship, drama teams, puppet ministries, etc. If one method doesn't seem to be working, try something new. Your methods will forever be changing, your message will not! This is another area where you will OWN your ministry. No two mission minded outings look alike!

#### "Terri Talks"

I'm taking this opportunity to drive home the idea of PATIENCE. God is going before you whether you feel it or not. Be in close communion with Him and know that He ultimately owns this ministry. No need to get in a hurry with any one piece or time line. This was the most difficult season for me. I had a real sense of urgency to share the gospel during this phase. Please consider getting out of God's way and letting him work out all the details. Reflecting as I type this, I'm reminded of just how quickly we have gotten from point A to point B. Now, if a message is not shared, our children/families want to know why. Most know the routine better than we do. Never lose sight of our ultimate responsibility. We are mere people being used by God for God. As Curbside, the ministry, we desire to Show Love and Share Truth. We desperately want to meet people right where they are, hence, "...bringing it straight to you." That's our calling. By doing these two things, God will be glorified and we will be making disciples.

## - Special Events

- Your ministry team needs to be aware of upcoming Holidays! Kids and Adults love the Holidays and a reason to celebrate.
- You and your team will foster similar and different activities. You will look to the needs of the community you're serving and accommodate/initiate accordingly.
- Be generous in the celebrations!
  - Summer Water Nights
  - Back 2 School Block Parties
  - Mother/Father Days
  - Easter
  - Curbside "chair2chair" candy craze
  - Thanksgiving
  - Christmas Bag of Blessings
  - CAMP Curbside
  - Praise (Prodigal) Parties



## Section 4

### Support from Curbside Corporate

This is YOUR ministry.  
We want to support YOU.

#### - Creativity

- Create your own ideas
  - Pay attention to the needs of the community you serve. Look for best Outreach opportunity.
  - Keep the games current and exciting. Specialize in keeping ALL involved and participating.
  - Serve Food from time to time. This becomes especially important around Holidays and Special Events.

#### - Support from other teams

- Volunteer Appreciation – Curbside wants to support your volunteers and appreciate them. Weekly updates from you on “above and beyond” volunteers are encouraged.
- Volunteer Gatherings (both new and now serving volunteers are encouraged to come) – These quarterly volunteer meetings will allow us to help your team, get to know your team, and brainstorm with your team.
- Volunteer Gathering Expectation -
  - Free meal provided.
  - “Ice breaker” to begin meeting. (We want current volunteers and new volunteers to feel comfortable immediately.)
  - Door prize given >>> encourages better attendance.
  - Overview of the ministry is presented.
  - Curbside Swag bag given to all new volunteers.
  - Curbside Corporate will hear of your needs and do everything we can to oblige.



## - Social Media

- Your new site will be included in our social media outlets – Facebook, Instagram, website, and emails. You will want to communicate with us as to what you would like to see advertised and posted.
- Send pictures weekly to [stsheldon@bellsouth.net](mailto:stsheldon@bellsouth.net).

## - Financial Needs

- Your team leader will receive a Curbside Expense Form. You will be responsible for keeping all receipts for reimbursement. We will need a description of specified expenses. You will be given a zippered bag to keep all receipts in. These receipts, along with the completed expense form, will need to be exchanged monthly.
- Donations you receive will need to be given in the bag.

### “Terri Talks”

As a leader of this ministry, it is of the utmost importance to all involved that YOU lead by example. Your example is on display every minute of every day. Yes! It's incredibly important that you SHINE on Curbside nights, but it is equally important that you SHINE in your workplace, social settings, ballgames, etc. Whether you know it or not, you are the moral authority of your local Curbside ministry. Your behavior is transferred over to your volunteers. If you show up complaining about any piece of the ministry, God is not honored. Your influence is huge! While today you may think I'm jumping the gun on these comments, I assure you I'm not. Today is when it counts most! Whatever behavior you set in motion today is the very behavior you will receive in the future. Because we are a volunteer based ministry, leadership is all the more important. Leading volunteers can be trying, after all, they are the means to the mission. Your prayer is that God sends passionate people to serve. Your prayer is that God burdens them for the lost just as he has burdened you. Your prayer is that God places a desire in them to “own” areas of the ministry that you are weakest in. I could go on and on with suggested prayers. These are the requests to God I make most. Ha! Anyway, know that I am here to encourage and equip you based entirely on what I've learned and experienced through this journey. Each day looks and feels different. Some days are exhilarating and some days are exhausting. Any way you slice it, I wouldn't trade the sacrifice for anything secular. Be prepared to fight Satan on every turn. And, in the midst of fighting off Satan's fiery darts, recognize that he just doesn't want you being about God's work! THAT'S AFFIRMATION of your calling and this ministry!!!