

# Generosity through accompaniment: God's invitation to relationship

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What does it mean to be generous?

“He dressed himself “all in his best,” and at last got out into the streets. The people were by this time pouring forth, as he had seen them with the Ghost of Christmas Present; and walking with his hands behind him, **Scrooge regarded every one with a delighted smile**. He looked so irresistibly pleasant, in a word, that three or four good-humoured fellows said, “Good morning, sir! A merry Christmas to you!” And Scrooge said often afterwards, that of all the blithe sounds he had ever heard, those were the blithest in his ears.”

- Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

Ebenezer Scrooge leaves his office and goes out into the world to rebuild his lost relationships.

To be generous is to build the common good by focusing on relationships.





The Good Samaritan, John August Swanson, 2002



**Only one person stopped**, approached the man and cared for him personally, even spending his own money to provide for his needs. He also gave him something that in our frenetic world we cling to tightly: **he gave him his time**. Certainly, he had his own plans for that day, his own needs, commitments and desires. Yet he was able to put all that aside when confronted with someone in need. Without even knowing the injured man, he **saw him as deserving of his time and attention**.

- Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*



To be generous is to give your time,  
your attention, your very being.



But how can you do this, right now? In Charlotte?

Our goal today is to explore how you might approach the world in the **spirit of generosity** to *accompany the poor* in an journey toward wholeness.

“To accompany someone is to **go somewhere** with him or her, **to break bread together**, to be present **on a journey with a beginning and an end**. There’s an element of mystery, of openness, of trust, in accompaniment. The companion, the accompagnateur, says: “I’ll go with you and **support you on your journey wherever it leads. I’ll share your fate for a while**”—and by “a while,” I don’t mean a little while. Accompaniment is about **sticking with a task until it’s deemed completed**—not by the accompagnateur, but by the person being accompanied”

- Paul Farmer



[Paul Farmer with Mom and Baby](#), credit: Cjmadson

# Accompaniment through four stages:

Engage

Assess

Intervene

Evaluate

# To Accompany is to Engage



The Mission, 1986

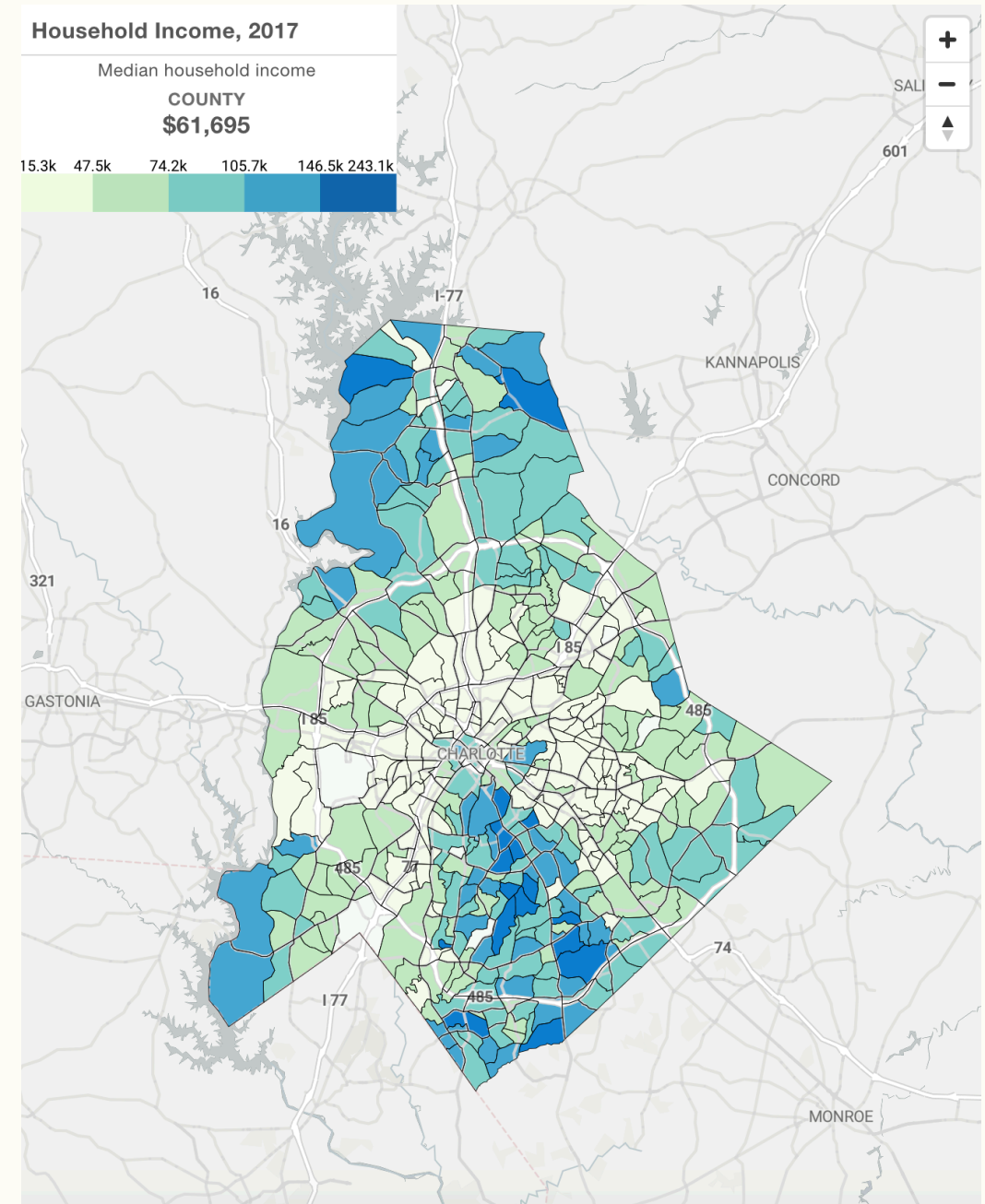


# Engage

- Centered in authentic human relationships
- Breaks barriers that divide communities by race, class, gender, and zip code
- Is not transactional, but seeks shared understanding
- Is long term
- Builds relationships and friendships that go beyond the “work” at hand
- Requires empathy and interpersonal skills

# Assess

- Uses qualitative and quantitative data to understand the nature of the social problem at hand
- Requires diverse voices and sources at the table
- Is a collective process when assessing at the community level



# Intervene

- Mutually defined goals, where the “accompagnateur” plays a critical role in choosing how to move forward
- Evidence based, but incorporates lived experience
- Emphasizes “together” over “us” and “them”

## PADRES UNIDOS / PARENTS TOGETHER

### WHAT/¿QUÉ ES?

Parents together is a group for parents interested in helping their children learn social and emotional skills to help them succeed in school and life.

Padres Unidos es un grupo para padres que tienen un interés en ayudar a sus hijos aprender las habilidades socio-emocional, para que puedan tener éxito en sus estudios y en la vida.

### WHEN/¿CUÁNDO?

English: Tuesdays 3:30-5:00

Español: Los martes 8:00-9:30

From 2/27 to 4/17 \*\*\* Desde 27/2 hasta 17/14

### WHERE/¿DÓNDE?

Hidden Valley Elementary School

Parent resource room & media center

**PARENTS  
TOGETHER IS FOR  
PARENTS WHO  
WANT THEIR  
CHILDREN TO:**

be empathetic  
manage emotions  
make friends  
work with teachers  
solve problems  
contribute to their  
community

**PADRES UNIDOS  
ES PARA LOS  
PADRES QUE  
QUIEREN QUE SUS  
HIJOS:**

sean empáticos  
manejen las emociones  
hagan amigos  
trabajen con maestros  
resuelven problemas  
contribuyen a su  
comunidad

### CONTACT/ CONTACTO

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# Evaluate

- What do you want to be able to do as a result of your work together?
- What evidence suggest that you've achieved this?

## A Child's Place Annual Impact Report FY 2018-2019

AUGUST 2019



### **Meg Allison**

Chair of the Board of Directors, A Child's Place

Prepared by:

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Grants and Data Specialist, A Child's Place



# Strategic Plan

Community Outreach	Community Engagement
Short-Term	Long-Term
Marketing	Relationship Building
What can A do for B?	What can A and B do together?
One Group Benefits Most	Community Benefits
Transactional	Connecting
Directional	Cyclical



“As a society, we are happy to help and serve the poor, as long as we don’t have to walk with them where they walk, that is, as long as we can minister to them from our safe enclosures. **The poor can then remain passive objects of our actions,** rather than friends, compañeros and compañeras, with whom we interact. As long as we can be sure that we will not have to live with them, and thus have interpersonal relationships with them . . . **we will try to help “the poor”—but, again, only from a controllable, geographical distance.”**

- Roberto Goizueta, Catholic Theologian

# Thank You

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