

ASCENSION TRUST

Synergy Network



In Partnership with Keep the Faith Magazine and Marcia Dixon PR



Synergy Network

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ABOUT THE SYNERGY NETWORK

Background

It is becoming evident that efforts to tackle serious violence amongst young people have been hindered by a lack of a joined-up approach in many community organisations.

With this in mind, Ascension Trust was awarded a grant from Jerusalem Trust to commission several key agencies in Lambeth and Newham to work together with a collaborative approach to the key contributing factors of violence; families, gang, teen pressure and education.

The Hope Partnership was launched at an event held at Clapham Methodist church on 4th May 2017. This partnership consists of four organizations who are working together to tackle serious violence in the areas of gangs, peer-pressure, education and family. The four organizations are CHIPS, New Choices for Youth, Spark2Life and Cassandra Learning Centre.

The Ascension Trust Synergy Network

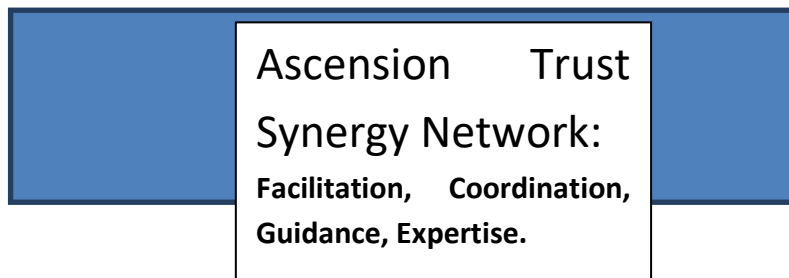
The HOPE 2017 event, which showcased this partnership, was a success with representatives from approximately one hundred organizations coming out to learn about the model of collaboration that was being presented. Going forward, many of the attendees expressed interest in staying connected with the network in some shape or form. This interest is the incentive behind the creation of the **'Ascension Trust Synergy Network'** which would consist of a wide network of organizations 'buying into' the concept of collaboration and partnership expressed at HOPE 2017.

The Synergy Network and Collaboration

An integral part of the HOPE 2017 event was networking. Networking allows organizations to increase their awareness of others engaged in similar work; to share expertise and knowledge and to improve their effectiveness by working to shared strengths.

We are stronger together is the mantra's for the Ascension Trust Synergy Network.

SYNERGY NETWORK AT A GLANCE



What do you do? Would you be more effective working in partnership, collaborating with likeminded organisations?

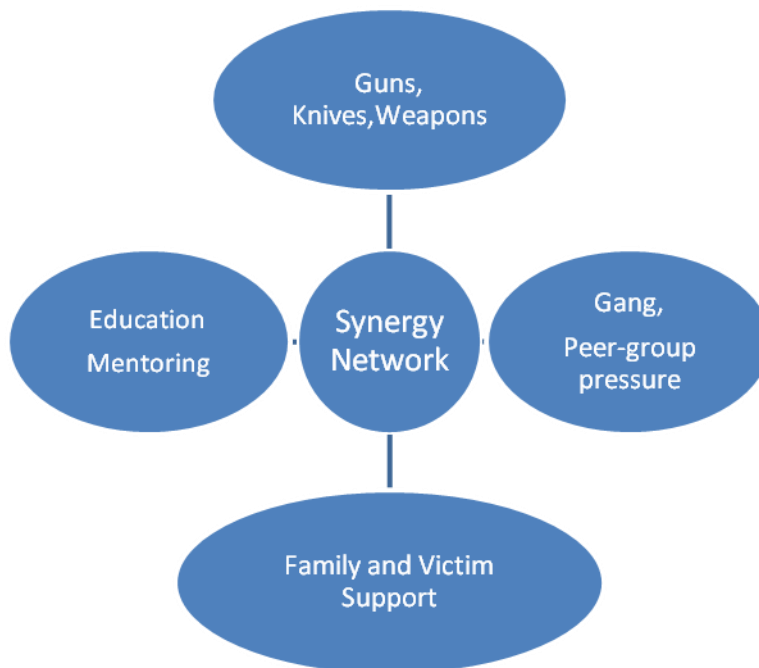


Fig. 1 *Collaborative partnership within the Synergy Network*

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP

There are many established network models such as the Evangelical Alliance, Churches Together etc., where membership is considered a mark of credibility. As a Network we need to demonstrate that we can effectively partner with others to achieve credible collaborative partnerships.

Members of the Hope Partnership are vetted to ensure connection is made with credible organisations and individuals.

Vetting criteria for those seeking to join the Ascension Trust Synergy Network are as follows. Organisations and individuals should be working in the field and/or disciplines set out in Fig 1 and have a keen interest in being involved in learning and are developing creative solutions to the problems of serious violence.

If you are a Organization, you should have:-

Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board of Trustees• Compliance
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainability• Integrity
Impact and Collaborative ethos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effective working in the Space• Willingness to work with others

Individuals will meet the following criteria and include:-

Interested in Crime Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Organizers, Pastors, Bishops, people who are passionate about the issues of crime
Academics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Researchers, Teachers, Lecturers
Professional Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lawyers, Probation officers, Police, Judges, Civil Servants

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Advertising & Publicity

Ascension Trust is working collaboratively with 'Keep the Faith' magazine and Marcia Dixon PR, who will use their resources to promote the work of the network, organizations and individuals.

In addition organizations and individuals that subscribe to the Ascension Trust Synergy Network will be featured in an online directory which has a wide circulation and online presence across key demographics in the UK.

Information

The Synergy Network portal will provide valuable information and advices about services offered via the network and publicize events that organizations and individuals are hosting. People will be able to see good practice and your organization/individual work being developed

Networking

Ascension Trust Synergy Network Board will host a number of networking events and dinners through the year with key organizations that are doing great work in tackling guns, gangs, peer-pressure, family breakdown and mentoring. Membership will guarantee automatic priority invitations to these events and access to influential speakers and authorities in the field of crime reduction.

Ascension Trust Positioned to Deliver Training in Collaboration

Over the past twenty four years, Ascension Trust has been engaged in activities to tackle gangs, guns and anti-social behaviour. The 'Guns Off Our Streets'

Roadshow, in 1993, had a significant impact upon communities as it birthed the now well established Street Pastor initiative. Today there are over 270 Street Pastor initiatives operating nationally and internationally.

It is therefore at the fore front of work which requires partnership, collaboration and how to effectively mobilise volunteers to impact the community in regards to issues on our street. To achieve this end, partnership with the Urban Trinity, (the police, faith community and local councils), is effective and securely established.

The task of effectively administering so many schemes both across the country and abroad requires a high level of competence in governance. Recognition of this organisations success has been acknowledged in the form of awards and accolades.

Ascension Trust, with its experience of putting together partnerships, networks and collaborating with organizations, is in a good position to deliver training and advice to organizations and individuals who want to increase their effectiveness and partner with others. This will include advice on funding, governance and legislation.

Ascension Trust is therefore well placed to share its expertise, knowledge and understanding to other organisations and individuals.

SYNERGY NETWORK - MEMBERSHIP FEES

Levels of Participation

We would hope that all organizations would aspire to full membership however, in practice, some would work their way from a general interest in the Ascension Trust Synergy model to a deeper interest and full membership.



Basic Membership

- Information, Online Directory, Invitations to Events, Referral to workers in the space. The Synergy Network is in Partnership with MDPR & Keep the Faith Magazine (see below).
- £35 p.a.



Premium Membership

- Online Directory, Governance training, Priority invitations to networking events, Access to key individuals in the field, mentoring, administerin AT Synergy Model
- £100 p.a