



# SEND Network VIRGINIA

**A New  
Church  
Planting  
Partnership  
Announced**



**SBC Virginia**  
*You are not alone.*



**North American  
Mission Board**



## *Send Network Virginia will leverage the best of our resources and relationships...*

**The** SBCVirginia (SBCV) has always been about making disciples and planting new churches. A recent development demonstrates a doubling down on this effort as the SBCV and North American Mission Board (NAMB) announce a new partnership called **Send Network Virginia**.

### **A GOSPEL PRESENCE**

For years, NAMB has been directing increased resources and church planters to places identified as high-need cities. These are cities with large and growing populations of people who do not have enough of a Gospel presence. But there are also many communities that lie between these cities that need to hear the good news of the Gospel. And that's where a targeted church planting focus through Send Network Virginia comes in.

George Ross of NAMB's Send Network explains, "It is the vision of NAMB that every community in America have a vibrant Gospel presence through church planting." The SBCV and NAMB have recently committed to a new agreement, making Virginia a "Send" state in a partnership called Send Network Virginia. SBCV's executive director, Dr. Brian Autry, puts it this way, "The Send Network Virginia church planting partnership between the SBCVirginia and NAMB will leverage the best of our resources and relationships as we strive to see even more churches planting churches."

### **STRATEGIC PLANTING EFFORTS**

There are currently over 4,400 Send Network churches in the US, which amazingly account for 18% of all SBC baptisms. Virginia is a strategic location for Send Network church planting efforts as the state grows and we see more and more ethnic groups from around the world call Virginia and Metro Washington, DC home. Autry shares, "We want churches to know they are not alone as they seek to make disciples and plant churches in a state with over 100 different people groups, a growing population, and opportunities to make disciples in rural, suburban, and urban communities. For example, more Ethiopians live in Virginia than anywhere else in the world other than Ethiopia. We are seeing a great movement among Hispanic churches. We have growing college campuses, military communities, beautiful countryside communities, expanding towns, and cities."

People in the United States without a relationship with Jesus number 246,000,000. Many of them have families living in other countries and could be missionaries to the world one day. As a family of churches committed to the Great Commission, let's commit to pray, give, and go as we make disciples until Christ returns! Praise God for churches continuing to plant churches! ■