

Community on Mission



AFTER ACTION REVIEW
FOR OUR COMMUNITIES ON MISSION

AFTER ACTION REVIEW (AAR)

After each Community on Mission outreach meet briefly with your team and review the following three questions. These meetings should typically take about 15 minutes, unless there was a critical situation during the outreach, that would require more time.

AAR MEETING OUTLINE

- Question #1: What went well?
- Question #2: What could have gone better?
- Question #3: What should we change for next time?
- Closing prayer

WHY IS AN AAR MEETING IMPORTANT?

Taking a few moments to share about your experience at the end of a CoM outreach can be one of the most helpful and enlightening activities for your team. Not only does the meeting help you celebrate joys and address difficulties as they arise (and are still fresh in the minds of the team members), it also helps your team improve the quality of your future outreaches.

Here are five reasons you and your team should hold regular AAR meetings:

REASON #1: PEOPLE ARE FORGETFUL.

Over time, we all have a tendency to forget things. A short meeting right after the outreach helps you keep any difficulties you experienced in mind and allows you to correct and address any complaints or criticisms you hear before your next outreach.

REASON #2: YOUR TEAM SHOULD TALK.

Tackling problems directly can help foster good communication within your team and create an open platform to voice complaints and ask for solutions to specific problems. Each team member has a different view of your outreach. Good communication gives your team members the opportunity to gain different, creative perspectives on how to improve your outreaches and to make your efforts more effective.

REASON #3: YOU CAN REACT DIRECTLY.

Problems can be dealt with immediately and you as a leader can react in real-time. This saves time and energy and helps you to lead your team more effectively.

REASON #4: EVERYONE NEEDS AN UPDATE.

The people with whom your team is sharing community are best served when your team knows their needs. By sharing who is experiencing problems, training on new processes, or keeping each other apprised of an individual's journey (when pastoral confidentiality is not required), you empower your entire team to enter your next outreach prepared.

REASON #5: SHARING BINDS YOUR TEAM TOGETHER.

Meeting after your outreach gives your team the feeling of a common "mission." Everyone has positive experiences, but also goes through difficulties and needs to process their experience. You can celebrate together, share burdens together, and above all, pray together.

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