



FCA MASSACHUSETTS POD MINISTRY
VOLUNTEER ROLE PLAYBOOK

CHURCH CONNECTOR

Build bridges between the POD and the local church.

CHURCH CONNECTOR

ONE TEAM. DIFFERENT ROLES. ONE MISSION.

MISSION

The Church Connector helps build strong relationships between the FCA POD and the local church. Your assignment is to help churches understand what God is doing in the schools, how they can pray, how they can serve, how they can provide volunteers, and how they can welcome coaches and athletes into Christian community.

THE WIN

POD Volunteers are supported. Huddle Leaders are prayed for. Church members are serving. Students are welcomed into Christian community. Pastors understand FCA. Practical needs are being met. New volunteers are emerging.

Your role strengthens the POD so Huddle Leaders and student-athletes can flourish.

01

PLAY

YOUR CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. KNOW THE POD

- Understand the schools, current Huddles, POD Volunteer, ministry opportunities, existing church relationships, and areas where church support would help.
- You should be able to explain the POD clearly in two minutes.

2. KNOW THE CHURCHES

- Identify churches geographically connected to the schools.
- Learn who the pastors are, who leads youth ministry, who oversees outreach or missions, whether there are coaches, teachers, parents, or FCA alumni in the congregation, and whether the church already has relationships with these schools.

3. TELL THE STORY

- Help churches understand that FCA is not simply asking for money. We are inviting the church to engage a mission field that is already in its community.
- Share appropriate stories of Huddle Leaders growing, coaches being encouraged, students hearing the Gospel, volunteers serving, ministry needs, and opportunities for prayer and service.
- Protect student confidentiality.

4. CONNECT NEEDS WITH PEOPLE

- When the POD needs something, ask: "Who in the church might God have already prepared for this?"

- Need prayer? Find a prayer ministry. Need Huddle Coach candidates? Talk with mature believers who understand students and sports. Need snacks? Connect with a hospitality group. Need mentors? Identify trained, appropriate adults. Need event help? Recruit a church serve team.

5. HELP CREATE A CHURCH PATHWAY

- FCA's mission includes helping coaches and athletes grow in relationship with Jesus Christ and His church.
- Help answer: "If a student wants to get connected to a local church, what happens next?"
- Help churches make that pathway welcoming and understandable.

02

PLAY

CHURCH CONNECTOR RHYTHM

WEEKLY

- Pray for church relationships and ministry opportunities.
- Communicate with the POD Volunteer as necessary.

MONTHLY

- Have at least one meaningful church conversation.
- Update the POD Volunteer on church relationships.
- Share appropriate ministry needs.

QUARTERLY

- Bring churches and FCA together when beneficial—for example, a pastor breakfast, prayer gathering, volunteer information night, or Huddle Leader celebration.

ANNUALLY

- Review partnerships and ask: Which churches are truly engaged? Which relationships need strengthening? Where should we develop a new church connection?

03

PLAY

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

CONVERSATION STARTER

- "There are three high schools in this POD. Students are already leading FCA Huddles. Our volunteer is coaching those leaders, but we need churches behind them. Would your church consider praying for one school and helping us identify one or two adults who could serve?"

STUDENT CONNECTION

- "We have several Huddle Leaders who are looking for deeper Christian community. How can we help them become connected appropriately to your student ministry?"

04

PLAY

WHAT YOU ARE NOT

ROLE CLARITY

- You are not the pastor's FCA salesperson.
- You are not the school liaison.
- You are not the POD director.
- You are not the Huddle Leader.
- You are not authorized to promise something on FCA's behalf without FCA staff involvement.
- Your role is relationship + communication + connection.

05

PLAY

FIRST 60 DAYS

DAYS 1-15

- Learn the POD.

DAYS 16-30

- Identify churches and existing relationships.

DAYS 31-45

- Begin pastor/church conversations.

DAYS 46-60

- Connect at least one church resource or volunteer opportunity to the POD.

06

PLAY

CHURCH CONNECTOR SCOREBOARD

TRACK

- Churches contacted.
- Churches praying.
- Churches providing volunteers.
- Churches providing resources.
- Students connected into church community.
- Pastors who understand the POD strategy.
- New volunteers referred to FCA staff.

SIDELINE CARD

LISTEN

What does the POD need?

IDENTIFY

Who could help?

CONNECT

Bring the right people together.

COMMUNICATE

Keep FCA and church leadership aligned.

MULTIPLY

Help churches mobilize more people.

FOR HIS GLORY. FOR A GREATER TOMORROW.