



Quick Glance

Group Name: *Connect Group*
Facilitator: Brett Anderson
Donation Amount: \$25/month
Time Commitment: 6 months
Status: Open to new members

Welcome to Common Change

We are thrilled to have the *Connect Group* on CommonChange.com. If you ever have questions about the website or how to enrich your experience do not hesitate to reach out to us at support@commonchange.com. You are not just joining a group but also a community of people who are pooling money with people they know, sharing ways to help those that they care about.

While each group and its members agree to the terms of service of Common Change, each group is unique in expression, and this is outlined in the group description or covenant. Below is your group's unique description.

Welcome to the Connect Group

We are excited that you are joining or considering joining the *Connect Group* on Common Change, joining others who hope to connect across economic and geographic barriers, pooling money and sharing with people you know. This is a great place to get your feet wet and experiment with collaborative giving with other individuals who share a similar heart and vision.

Group Description and Commitment

Because I share the hope of a relational transformation in myself and my community, and because I desire a collective sharing of resources to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, heal the sick, and visit the imprisoned, 1) I commit at least \$25/month of my financial resources to the Common Change Connect Group Fund for 6 months. 2) I commit to honestly sharing the needs of my community and those I am in relationship with. My commitment to Connect is an effort to create personal relationships with others across lines of class, race and geography. It is an attempt to participate in the needs of the larger human community in a more intimate and financial way. 3) I commit to reconciliation through relationships. 4) I commit to sharing myself in meeting the needs of those brought before the community by other members of Connect. 5) I commit to participate by actively making myself informed on the needs brought before the Group, and am committed to sharing questions, ideas, and blessings to best collectively decide how to meet the need. 6) I invite all other members of Connect to encourage and stretch my understanding and practice of collaborative giving based on relationship. Our collective participation helps make the voice of a new way be heard throughout the country and the globe.

Group Facilitator

The *Connect Group* has a designated group Facilitator who will introduce you to the group, help you get set up and started, and assist as you navigate making and responding to needs. Your group Facilitator will walk alongside you for six months. They will support you through email or telephone check-ins, being available to answer questions, encouraging you as you make your first request, and reading through a draft of your first request. At the end of this six months, your group facilitator will help you as you discern whether to become a permanent member of the *Connect* community, transition to a new existing group based on geography or community, start your own group, or transition out.

Contributing to the Group Fund

The Group Fund is the combined amount contributed by each participant of your group. If you become a member of this group, you can setup your contribution by login-in to your account, clicking on "My Account", navigating to "My Finances" and setting up your contribution via our secured donate page. You may also make contributions by check or bill pay by mailing to Common Change 484 Lake Park Ave #665 Oakland CA 94610. If you would like to contribute to this group without becoming a member, you may use the following PayPal link: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=KPUVQT68KTXN8

Making, Discussing, & Closing A Request

To make a request navigate to "My Group" and click on "Submit a need request"

There are three guidelines for making (posting) requests:

- You are personally in relationship with the recipient
- The recipient is an individual
- You are not the recipient of this request, directly or indirectly



Discussing

The *Connect Group* uses the Common Change platform to make, discuss and close requests. Once a request has been submitted, it is automatically forwarded to all members via email. Members login to their account and respond to the need by clicking on the “Weigh in” tab.

Decision-making process for financial requests:

The Common Change platform works on an automated matrix which determines when a need is “met”. In the simplest terms, this matrix looks at how much the request is for, as a percentage of the total amount in the group fund, and determines the minimum percentage of approval needed to meet the need (for the typical need this is around 75% of the group).

Closing a request

After a request has been closed and approved for distribution, the person who originally brought the need before the group will need to login and update the recipient and payment information on the request page. Common Change will send the money and provide a letter to the recipient.

Support Common Change

Your individual contribution makes all the difference. 100% of every dollar you give to the Group Fund goes to fund requests that you participate in. Common Change does not charge for the use of the tools and services provided to your group. Common Change believes that generosity begets generosity and encourages members of groups to provide a “tip” donation to help support the ongoing operations and growth of Common Change. Contributions are tax-deductible and if you have any questions regarding finances, please contact support@commonchange.com

Note: when there are third party credit card processing fees, the net amount will be processed. Typically these fees are 6%.

Next Tasks

1. Email Brett at brett@commonchange.com to indicate your desire to join this group
2. Update your Profile information on your “My Account” page
3. Locate the Common Change *Connect* group and join by hitting “Request to Join” – the group facilitator will approve your request.
4. Setup your monthly contribution into your Group Fund
5. We ask that new members commit to the following:
 - a. Sharing a minimum of \$25/month into the Group Fund for 6 months
 - b. Take time to observe how requests are made and responded to, and get a feel for how the Group operates
 - c. In your first month you should weigh-in, comment on and respond to needs that other members present.
 - d. At the beginning of your second month you are welcome to submit your first request to the group. We suggest you run this by the Group Facilitator who can help you in crafting the request and clearly defining how you are inviting the Group to meet the need
6. Introduce yourself to other members in the group. Navigate to My Group/Discussions and find the discussion titled “Get to know the members of CONNECT...” – read all about other members in the group and then comment with a short bio introducing yourself.

We trust you have fun, learn much and that you experience a radical shift in how you interact with your resources and those around you as you experiment in collaborative giving with this group.