

That's the FAQ's



Important
things
for you
to know...



Commonly asked questions about HDC's capital stewardship campaign



Q: Why is HDC undertaking a capital funds campaign?

A: The scope of this project is well beyond anything HDC has ever undertaken. It would be nice if all we had to say was, "Hey, we need a children's building," and the resources would flow in. But most people need a little more than a suggestion before they are ready to invest a significant amount of the money that God has entrusted to them.

This campaign is, quite simply, an educational campaign. It is our desire that, when the time comes to make decisions, we will have a well-informed constituency. We want everyone in our church to know what this project means to the future spiritual formation of the high desert community. We want everyone in our church to know what God's Word says about financial investment. And, eventually, we want everyone to be confident in knowing what part God wants each one of us to have in the project itself. Hundreds of our people have been trained and mobilized to disseminate information and be prepared to answer questions.

Q: What would happen if we didn't increase ministry space for our children?

A: Children's ministry space, seating and parking capacities are the three primary factors that frame a church's ministry potential. The smallest of those three becomes the "ceiling" for growth for any church. That is, a church will experience a burst of growth, bump its head, so to speak, on that "ceiling," and settle back to a comfortable level. HDC has bumped our head on the children's ministry space ceiling regularly for the past several years. Not increasing our children's ministry space simply ensures a longer season of stunted growth. We have consistently been willing to add services to our weekend schedule to avoid this inevitable "ministry space showdown." We now provide five Harbor Community worship services to minimize this restriction, but there is simply no more room on a weekend to add more services. We need more space.

As our leadership team analyzes the future for ministering to children, there are three reasons for concern:

1. The projected population growth within the Victor Valley

Presently, the Victor Valley is home to approximately 300,000 people. Construction projects are accelerating by the day. The pace would be even greater, except for the ever-growing bottleneck for plan approvals in our municipal building departments. 5,000 new homes are occupied every year. By the year 2025, it is projected that the valley's population will be over one million. If HDC services the spiritual needs of the same percentage of the valley's population, then, that we service today, there will be a total of over 25,000 regular participants involved in our generational communities. Keep in mind, those numbers only reflect population growth, not evangelism strategies.

2. A continued spiritual awakening within our oikos networks

The stated purpose of this ministry is to prepare people to reach out to their relational worlds for Christ. As you know, every one of us has, on the average, anywhere from eight to fifteen people, whom God has supernaturally and strategically placed in our direct sphere of significant influence. If God was to give each one of HDC's regular participants success in reaching even one of those eight to fifteen people, then the scope of our ministry would double, without any population growth in the Victor Valley.

3. The inability to service all of the families who already call HDC their home church

Today, we are unable to service all of the young children who would be present if Powell Auditorium was filled to capacity with their parents. That's why we provide so many worship services. We don't need more auditorium seating, we need more children's ministry space.

In short, we are already in trouble because of our present need for more children's ministry space. If a small percentage of our people take their purpose seriously over the next few years, we will need much more children's ministry space. If the valley's population grows anywhere near projections, we will need much, much more children's ministry space. This is not the time to wonder about the need, but the time to move rapidly toward the most efficient solution.



Q: What are the components of the project?

A: Pointe Discovery will cover much of the East parking lot and extend South past the block wall. Before we can begin construction, we need to replace the parking we will be eliminating as well as add additional parking. The new parking lot will extend southeast from our current campus over to Arlette. This will provide us with around 1,000 parking spaces as well as an east egress. Once the parking is completed, we can demo the old education building and the south wall and begin construction of Pointe Discovery. As part of this project, we will add new walk ways, landscaping and two unique water features.

Q: How much will it cost to build this building?

A: The Pointe Discovery building is only one part, albeit certainly the biggest part, of the total price tag. \$18,300,000 is the estimated price tag for this project.

Q: Why do we have to build such an expensive building?

A: The short answer is, quality buildings are really expensive to build. A children's building contains quite a few "kid-friendly" requirements that can add up in a hurry. Likewise, Pointe Discovery contains a significant amount of state-of-the-art technology. And, it's important to also keep in mind that, for the first time in HDC's history, we are proposing a "turn-key" project, which means the cost includes all furnishings and appointments.

And, to help you keep the total price tag in its proper perspective, here are some comparative statistics. This facility will contain 64,200 square feet at a cost of \$285 per square foot. Powell Auditorium contains 45,500 square feet and was built at a cost of \$7,700,000 or \$169 per square foot. That was six years ago. The question, then, would be, has the cost of construction increased 69% over the past six years. Most construction analysts will tell you that the increase in costs has been much more than that. So, in comparison, Pointe Discovery is not nearly as daunting as an initial glance at the price tag might indicate.

Q: Isn't this more than HDC can do?

A: Yes. This project is not possible for our church family to accomplish. But we are not the only ones involved. Any project that we engage should have a supernatural requirement built into it. Certainly, there are projects that would require little if any faith. On the other end of the spectrum, there are those projects that would be rather ridiculous to even consider, presuming on God for success that He has never indicated He is interested in providing. We believe that the scope of this project finds balance between those two extremes. A standard rule for capital campaigns suggests that, if a campaign's goals do not exceed an amount three times the church's annual budget, then it falls within that range of what is considered realistic.

Q: Why not just raise \$18.3M for missions?

A: The best answer would be a form of the old saying, "Give a man a meal and you feed him for a day, but give him a job and you feed him for a lifetime."

Pointe Discovery is an investment in missions. We will be training tens of thousands of children over the next several decades. All of them will not become vocational missionaries, to be sure, but Pointe Discovery will give them a place to learn the value of missions, as well as strategies for supporting missionaries and mission interests. Over the years, we believe this facility will provide exponentially more than the total of its cost to global missions, by building a "missions consciousness" in the minds and hearts of multiple generations of kids.

Q: What if the gifts and pledges received are more or less than the project goal of \$18.3M?

A: If less money is given and/or pledged than the present plans for Pointe Discovery require, then our leaders will make a proposal to the church family, whether to scale back the plan and build a smaller version of Pointe Discovery, to postpone construction entirely or to borrow the balance needed to complete the project as planned. We believe that any one of those three options, if done in the appropriate way, could have merit. Of course, it would be necessary to see how much is eventually given and/or pledged before we could know which one would be the best option.

If more money is given and/or pledged, then we would be given a head start on the next phase of campus development.

Q: What is the long-term vision for our campus?

A: Pointe Discovery is one of four facilities designed to provide ministry support for our four generational communities. The other support facilities on our master plan for future construction are (1) a student ministries center (for junior high and senior high students), (2) an administration complex and (3) "The Island," a fellowship and resource complex.

Two additional worship venues (auditorium buildings) will also eventually be added to service two new generational communities, fulfilling our Gen2Gen vision, which is to simultaneously prepare four generations to change their worlds for Christ.

Q: What if I already am giving to the last campaign for Generation2Generation?

A: Each of our development phases has incorporated three-year pledge strategies. If you were involved in our last one, which began in 2003, then your present commitment will end next summer. If you would like to be a part of this Pointe Discovery project, but cannot actually contribute until that time, then that would be fine. Simply note that on your pledge card. Many will, perhaps, just wrap a new extended pledge into whatever they are presently doing and begin participating immediately. Since this is really a pledge between you and God anyway, however He would direct you to be involved is fine with us. But the overwhelming majority of our people are not presently involved in fulfilling any pledged commitments.

Q: What if I have more specific questions about the campaign?

A: Feel free to submit them through our website, highdesertchurch.com. Just click the Pointe Discovery icon, go to the project page and e-mail your questions. A member of our leadership team will respond with an answer as soon as possible.



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