



BECOME A PARTNER OF

ALONGSIDERS EUROPE



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OUR DREAM

**Every Child Welcomed
Every Youth Equipped
Every Church Engaged**

We dream that no child is alone, but each child has an Alongsider. We dream that through these Alongsiders every child will experience the unconditional love of Jesus. We dream they embrace the Gospel and choose to live for the Lord Jesus. We dream that these children will in turn also reach out as an Alongsider to a younger brother or sister.

We dream of a generation of young people who take Jesus' mission seriously and are committed to it. A generation that reaches out to the next. A generation that hears Jesus' words and does them thus putting into practice what the Lord Jesus taught and lived before.

We dream of a church that actively reaches out to the world around it. A church that is aware God has chosen it to share the good news. A church that makes disciples.

This is our dream. Will you dream with us?

"We dream that no child is alone, but each child has an Alongsider."



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WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARTNERS

We don't DREAM alone.

With both feet on the ground, we are committed to making this dream come true. We mobilize young people and make them aware of the mission Jesus gave - to make disciples.

We equip young people who embrace the vision and want to get started. We train and help them discover how Jesus made disciples, and how we can follow His example. Once we get started, we regularly meet as the Alongsiders family, celebrating what the Lord Jesus is doing through us. We learn together, share a meal and celebrate His goodness in a relaxed setting.

We don't dream ALONE.

We need partners who help make this dream come true. Partners who pray, think along, collaborate, and make finances available. As an African proverb says: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." We want to go far.

We had a great start in 2020 and we are already seeing the fruits appear. Read the stories in this brochure yourself - an Alongsider makes all the difference!

"We need partners who help make this dream come true."



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Loneliness gives way to friendship, young people find their fulfillment in the Lord Jesus, and the church - Jesus' bride - shines. Don't we all want that?

In the Netherlands we have started several groups of Alongsiders and young people each chose a younger brother or sister. They now visit them faithfully. The relationship is growing and the first sounds are encouraging. We are thankful to see Alongsiders moving towards other European countries as well, eg. Albania and Russia. In Cambodia we have seen that it works, and it works in the Netherlands too. That is not surprising, because it is actually very simple. It is exactly what Jesus himself did.

Years ago someone said to me:

"Blessed is he who finds out which way God is moving and then starts going in the same direction."

We are looking for partners who want to move along on this wave of His guidance.

Will you dream and participate with us?



Mart-Jan van der Maas
Director, Alongsiders Europe

"The relationships are growing and the first sounds are encouraging."



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WHAT DOES ALONGSIDERS EUROPE DO?

Alongsiders Europe has three activities: mobilizing, equipping and organizing.

01

MOBILIZING

Alongsiders Netherlands mobilises and inspires young people. We awaken people to the great mission of the Lord Jesus for every believer to be His disciple and to make disciples (Matthew 28). We do this through training, speaking in churches and communities and workshops.

02

EQUIPPING

Alongsiders Europe equips Christian youth for discipleship. We believe that we must follow both the teachings of the Lord Jesus and His method. That means discipleship must be relational. We equip the Alongsiders by means of training and challenges, so they can walk next to one vulnerable child in their own environment. We choose this 1-to-1 approach because every young person can participate in this way.

03

ORGANIZING

Every person has the need to belong to someone / something. Just as a family comes together to celebrate, share, eat and hang out, the Alongsiders family also meets regularly. We do this during events where we receive, give training, and go through challenges together that help us grow and get to know each other better.

GOALS

These are the goals we set for ourselves...



10.000 ALONGSIDERS

By 2030, there will be 10,000 Alongsiders in Europe.



EACH EUROPEAN COUNTRY

We dream of and work towards an Alongsiders movement in each of the more than 50 European countries in the world.



MODERN CONTENT

We create content that connects to the world of young people, helping them in their discipleship journey. Modern, current and in places where young people are.



SOUND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

What we have received we use to help young people in their Alongsiders journey and to build Alongsiders as a movement. In the budget you will see where and how you can support us.



TOGETHER WITH PARTNERS & AMBASSADORS

We work to build a broad base of partners & ambassadors who support, advise, help build Alongsiders and - last but not least - carry us in prayer.

PARTNERS

Some of our current partners.



BECOME A PARTNER

Does this brochure make you enthusiastic to be involved with Alongsiders Europe? Then join us by becoming a partner.

There are a number of ways to do this:

First, we mention prayer. We do this consciously because we know and believe that prayer makes a difference. Alongsiders Europe can only exist if it is carried by prayer. We would like to keep you informed of current developments via our newsletter and / or the prayer app.

Will you pray?

Alongsiders Europe also needs **finances** to function. We rely on the Lord for this. Looking back over the past few years, we see how He brought people into our path in different ways with a desire to joyfully share what God gives them for the building of His Kingdom.

We hear back that many people need concrete information. You can find this information on pages 4-6.

Depending on how you want to be financially involved, you will find two options on the next page.

“Alongsiders Europe can only exist if it is carried by prayer.”



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DIFFERENT OPTIONS

OPTION 1

One-off or periodic financial support

This speaks for itself. You feel involved and support Alongsiders Netherlands with the financial contribution the Lord gives you in your heart. This is super cool, because with these financial resources we can make a difference in the lives of young people and children. Check the last page of this brochure for the bank details you can use to transfer your donation. In this way, you will be a partner of Alongsiders Netherlands and Alongsiders Europe.



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DIFFERENT OPTIONS

OPTION 2

Fixed financial support

With this option, we enter into a conversation and express the desire to walk side by side for a bit longer. In this way, you will be an 'Alongsider' for Alongsiders Europe. That's great! You help create a stable base with which Alongsiders Europe can grow. Choose one of the possibilities you see below.

YOU RECEIVE...

Invitations to (online) meetings

Your logo on the Alongsiders Europe website

Space on the Alongsiders website to describe your business in 2-3 sentences

A cool Alongsiders gift that reminds you of our partnership

An inspiring presentation every year

€100
/mo

€150
/mo

€250
/mo

€500
/mo

OTHER
contact us

BECOME A PARTNER?

Events for regular partners

If you help Alongsiders as a permanent partner, we would really like to work together, because we believe that a partnership works both ways. As partners we want to help each other and receive input.

That is why, twice a year, Alongsiders Europe invites all permanent partners together. During these moments we celebrate, around a meal, what the Lord is doing. Together we look at the plans for the coming period and we are open to your input. And that is vice-versa: we

would like to listen to your plans, think along with you, and help develop ideas. We will also have an inspiring moment: a (guest) speaker, sharing best practices, training.

Would you like to help make Alongsiders' dreams come true? Become a (permanent) partner!

Contact me at:

mart-jan@alongsiderseurope.org



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TESTIMONIES FROM THE NETHERLANDS



WILLEM & JOHN

Rotterdam



DEMY & AMY

Middelburg



RIANNE & MARIS

Groningen



DAVID & AMIR

Almere





TESTIMONY

One of the first messages we received from Alongsiders in The Netherlands:

“My time with John is good, I enjoy the time that we spend together very much and so does he. This is special for John, since he is not used to this. His mother was a little hesitant at first, saying “you know, I give him enough attention already”. But now she has heard from John himself how valuable our times together are and she is completely supportive. She even asked me to help discuss things with him like gaming, cursing and violence. This is so special! John also sees how things are different in our family. For example: we share meals and eat together. And we pray and give thanks before the meal. Now John’s family have invited me to join them for a meal as well. They spoke to me about purchasing a dining table soon. And they even began to give thanks for their meals as well. Very special indeed.

A prayer point is time. My schedule is very full. Literally from Monday ‘till Saturday is packed and even Sundays are pretty full. To meet with

John I often stop working early so that we have time. Since I am self-employed I can do this, but the problem is also that John’s schedule is very full as well. He is not always available and - like his peers - has responsibilities as well. Please pray for a good solution forward to meet regularly and keep spending time together.”

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TESTIMONY

AVAILABLE - Read the story of David and his "younger brother"!

David and Amir have been exercising together at a Sports Community for a number of years. David is on the Sports Community team and Amir is a young guy who visits there every week. Amir loves soccer, David loves Jesus and sees the importance of good friendships. At one point, there was a click between the two. That click made David wanted to mean more to Amir. To be an Alongsider to Amir.

David made a conscious decision. He told Amir what his intention was; to always be there for Amir when he needed him. That's how David and Amir became buddies. Amir even calls David his 'big brother'. They like to just chat or play games together. Sometimes they go for coffee or something to eat in town. Then they talk about all kinds of things: about food for example or what's part of their cultures. Sometimes easy talk, but also about religion. "Sometimes we just sit next to each other and then we can have a good time," says David

satisfied. Because Amir was not born in the Netherlands there are also practical things with which David can help him. For example, he recently helped him to apply for an OV card. Even when Amir needs him in the middle of the night, David will be there for him. Amir sometimes makes use of this. But it is the same the other way around. Amir regularly tells David to let him know if there is anything he can do for him. David's desire for Amir is that he gets to know Jesus. He knows that this is difficult for Amir; he has a Muslim background. He also does not have an easy home situation. That is why David prays a lot for Amir. That he will find his place in society, may get an honest chance, may make his own choices and that David may continue to help him if Amir wants to. If something else comes up, that's okay too. But the most important thing is that he gets to know Jesus. Although that will take a miracle, according to David. "But, God is bigger than I can imagine", he concludes.

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TESTIMONY

CLASS MATES - Read the story about Alongsider Amy and her "younger sister"!

Amy was looking for christians her age with whom she could talk about her faith. She didn't find any in her area, but through the BEAM church services she ended up at an evening of Youth Alpha. She liked it so much that she decided to take the course, which gave her exactly what she was looking for. When the end of the Youth Alpha course came near, Amy heard about Alongsiders for the first time. For if she wanted to grow further in sharing her faith with others there was the option of joining Alongsiders. Amy became interested, signed up, and started looking for a younger sister.

In her neighbourhood, she didn't have anyone in mind. But when she talked about Alongsiders to her classmate Demy at her college, she noticed that the latter found it quite interesting. Suddenly she got an idea and asked Demy: "Would you like to be my younger sister?" Since then, Amy and Demy meet every Monday

morning to do something together. Because Demy is not a christian, Amy decided to do one of Alongsiders' challenges with her. They are now doing the Challenge "Secret Bless", in which they secretly make others in the class happy with some sweet words written on a bill and many other things. This way Amy can show Demy that the Christian faith is not 'following a man with strict rules'.

The other day Demy asked why it is actually so important for christians to bless other people and to make them happy. Amy hadn't thought about that before, because to her it's so normal it comes natural 'You just know things and it's just like that, but now I'm really going to think about it!' she said about it. Together with Demy, she is learning new (or old) things about her faith herself. What's better than learning in that way?

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TESTIMONY

BIBLE - Meet Alongsider Rianne and her younger sister!

Rianne and Maris know each other through the Overstag Sports Community in Lewenburg, Groningen. Every summer vacation they hold a sports week. During that week Maris came along with a friend to play soccer. At one point Maris had to step aside; her ankle hurt. Rianne went over to chat with her and finally got to pray for her and her ankle. During that prayer, Maris' ankle became completely pain free! That is where the special bond between these two girls began. Maris kept coming back to Overstag's weekly sports events. On a regular basis, Rianne was allowed to pray for her ankle.

When Rianne participated in Next Move's prayer 40-day last spring, she prayed for Maris. As a result, she became more and more desirous of making Maris familiar with Jesus. At one point she simply asked her, "Do you feel like reading the Bible together?" Since then, Rianne goes to Maris' home every week to discover the Bible together. Because they do this, Rianne notices

that a sisterly bond really develops between them. She even feels like a sixth family member in Maris' family. "I'm kind of the family pastor," she jokes. How cool that giving time and space can be such a blessing.

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CONTACT

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Gifts

Stichting Alongsiders (ANBI)

IBAN: NL97 BUNQ 2054 8200 32 BIC/SWIFT: BUNQNL2AXXX

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*“We walk
alongside those
who walk alone”*

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