6 principles we expect from our friends when we are in partnership in our neighborhood.

**1.**     **These are God's people.  Act like it.**

**2.**     **Everything begins with and builds on the gifts of these neighbors.**

**3.**     **Parents and guardians are the first and best teachers.  Respect this.**

**4.**     **We invest first and most in the good the people of the neighborhood seek.**

**5.**     **Money must flow to the neighborhood.**

**6.**     **Practice neighbor love.**

LONG Version

1. We believe all people are beloved children of God – so we try to treat people accordingly.
2. We are committed to finding the gifts, capacities, talents, dreams and passions that people have and investing in those - so we expect our friends not to ignore those, but to, at the least, acknowledge and think about how to use the gifted people in the neighborhood **first** of all (but not exclusively). We say all the time “nothing about me, without me.”
3. Because we know that the parents and guardians are the first and best teachers of any child - we will do all we can to show children that we see and acknowledge the value, primacy and gifts of the parents. So, when working with children - we expect our friends to talk with the parents and guardians, learning about them and who they are and at the least informing them - before involving the children in some activity.
4. Because we believe (based on our experience) that things have not worked (been successful in changing the reality on the ground) in doing things for people and involving them in what "we" (as institutions) do - we try to find our ways to invest in the good things that our neighbors are doing - before we try to involve them in what we are doing.  We would like our friends to think about this as well - that is to say not asking first "how can we involve people" - but asking "how can we be involved with people?"
5. Our neighborhood is low-income - which means we don't have a lot of money.  So, if money is going to end up in the hands of someone, most, if not all, should end up in the hands of people who live in the neighborhood.
6. Practice hospitality.  Treat each other as neighbors. Talk with each other like we would talk with someone at our dinner table.  In fact share meals together as often as possible.