

2018



Adopt-A-Missionary Support Request



SUMMARY

TITLE OF PROJECT: Adopt-A-Missionary

START AND END DATES OF THE PROJECT: November 1, 2017 – October 31, 2018

OVERALL PROJECT COST AND REQUESTED FUNDS: \$42,300.00

CONTACT DETAILS: Reginald D. Harris - (469) 523-1396 - Email: rharris@telinternational.org

THE SITUATION

It is estimated that of the 7.2 billion people alive in the world today; 3.0 billion of them live in unreached people groups with little or no access to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to the Joshua Project, there are approximately 16,300 unique people groups in the world with about 6,500 of them considered unreached. The vast majority (95%) of these least reached groups, exist in the 10/40 window and less than 10% of missionary work is done among these people.

The 10/40 Window is a term coined by Christian missionary strategist to refer to those regions of the eastern hemisphere, plus the European and African part of the western hemisphere, located between 10 and 40 degrees north of the equator, a general area that was purported to have the highest level of socio-economic challenges and least access to the Christian message and Christian resources on the planet. The 10/40 Window concept highlights these three elements: an area of the world with great poverty and low quality of life, combined with lack of access to Christian resources. The Window forms a band encompassing Saharan and Northern Africa, as well as almost all of Asia. Roughly two-thirds of the world population lives in the 10/40 Window.

The 10/40 Window is populated by people who are predominantly Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, animist, Jewish or atheist. Many governments in the 10/40 Window are formally or informally opposed to Christian work of any kind within their borders. The nations of the 10/40 Window represent:

- 82% of the poorest of the world's poor.
- The least Christian resource investment and least sharing of the Christian message.
- 84% of those with lowest quality of life (life expectancy, infant mortality, and literacy).
- The hub of the world's major non-Christian religions (Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism).
- Close to 100% of those who are both most-poor and have least-access to Christian resources.

The Church has a history of cross-cultural missions. This is a traditional strategy for doing missions whereby missionaries are sent to a nation, people group, or culture outside their own. Cross-cultural mission's is biblical, historical, and necessary, because there will always be a people group completely devoid of the Gospel message or where the Church is still struggling to take root in a culture or people group. In many areas of the world today, there are entire people groups that have no knowledge of Christ. For them to be reached, Christians must leave their own peoples and lands and go to them.

Unfortunately, after 2000 years of missionary activity, over half the world has still not heard the Gospel. The traditional mission method of only training and financing North American and Western European missionaries is not sufficient in itself to reach the world. There are simply not enough missionaries or available economic resources from the West to reach all the nations of the world. A solution to this problem is to support indigenous missionaries to work within their own countries and people groups.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

There are many people groups that have not heard the Gospel in a way to respond to the offer of eternal salvation. These unreached masses must be disciplined; and no discipling is possible without interpersonal involvement. Missionaries we commission and support are uniquely qualified for this task.

- They live within reach of the unreached villages and they can disciple their own people.
- They instinctively recognize cultural norms within which they can contextualize the Gospel message.
- They know the local language and customs of their own people.
- They are able to illustrate the Gospel in ways that relate to the life and circumstances of the people they serve, and
- They understand how to approach their own people with the Gospel.

There are several mitigating factors as to why we have chosen to nurture, equip and support indigenous missionaries to work within their own countries and people groups.

Identification – There is much anti-American and anti-European bias in many of the least evangelized countries. In many people groups, it is virtually impossible for a Western missionary to preach the Gospel, because he is rejected for his nationality long before he has the opportunity to communicate his message. In contrast, the indigenous missionary has little problem with such bias.

No Difficult Transitions – For the cross-cultural missionary, church planting is often not as difficult as the later transitional period, when he bids farewell, and the church comes under national leadership. Having experienced the prestige of a Western missionary as pastor, the church is often no longer willing to accept one of its own. This is not a problem when the church is planted by an indigenous missionary and is under his leadership from beginning to end.

Human Resources – The amount of human resources available to carry out a task is important. If every Christian in America were a foreign missionary, there would still not be enough missionaries to preach the Gospel to all peoples. If we continue to depend only upon missionaries from the West, much of the world will never hear the Gospel.

Financial Resources – It costs a great deal of money to send and support North American and Western European missionaries. In contrast, the indigenous or native missionary is able to live on the same salary as his fellow countrymen, which is often less than \$150 a month.

Language and Culture – Any cross-cultural missionary will testify that language and culture are two of the greatest obstacles to the work. It often takes a cross-cultural missionary his first term (4-5 years) just to learn the language and adjust to the culture. In contrast, the native missionary has no need to learn the language or adjust to the culture. From his very first day on the mission field, he can concentrate on his two priorities – evangelizing the lost and planting churches.

PROJECT TIMELINE/BUDGET TIMELINE: November 1, 2017 – October 31, 2018

BUDGET

Funds donated to the adopt-a-missionary program, are designated to the support of indigenous or native missionaries so that they might dedicate themselves full-time to their calling. The budget will provide the support they need to live with dignity and simplicity among their people.

COUNTRY		# OF MISSIONARIES	ANNUAL BUDGET
Angola	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Belize	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Benin	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Botswana	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Burkina-Faso	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Chile	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Cuba	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Democratic Republic of Congo	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Dominican Republic	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
The Gambia	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Ghana	\$900.00	12	\$10,800.00
Guinea	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Haiti	\$900.00	5	\$4,500.00
India	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Ivory Coast	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Jamaica	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Kenya	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Liberia	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Mozambique	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Nigeria	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Peru	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Philippines	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Sierra Leone	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
South Africa	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Swaziland	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Tanzania	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Togo	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Uganda	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
United Kingdom	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Venezuela	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Zambia	\$900.00	1	\$900.00
Zimbabwe	\$900.00	1	\$900.00

HOW TO GET STARTED

Contact TEL International and inquire about mission personnel who need financial support. When you receive the recommendations and make a decision, complete the attached Acceptance Agreement and Renewal of Support form and MAIL, EMAIL, FAX or hand deliver form to the office of TEL International.



COVENANT RELATIONSHIP PROGRAM
Acceptance Agreement/Renewal of Support

Name of Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Pastor: _____

Church Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please note that while your covenant is with the missionary you list below, your gift will support the entire missionary community.

MISSIONARY'S NAME: _____

COUNTRY OF SERVICE: _____ FINANCIAL GIFT: \$ _____

Length of Covenant Relationship commitment: _____ 3 years _____ 1 year

Beginning: _____ and Ending: _____
Month Year Month Year

If this is a re-designation, please indicate missionary formerly supported:

NOTE: *It is only necessary to renew your acceptance form at the end of your commitment.*

Write the missionary's name and advance number on the memo.

Mail or Fax original completed form to:

TEL International
610 Uptown, Suite 2000
Cedar Hill, TX 75104
Bus (469) 523-1396 · Fax (469) 523-1301
rharris@telinternational.org

<p>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL</p> <p>ACCOUNT # _____</p>
