

2018 Mission Partners

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JPOW PARTNERS



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Opportunity International (Opportunity) // www.opportunity.org // GLOBAL PARTNER

Opportunity responds to Jesus Christ's call to love and serve the poor through microfinance, community based relationships, and business training. The organization currently serves over 4 million loan clients, 95% off which are women, in order to alleviate the cycle of poverty, strengthen families, and enable willing entrepreneurs. Their effective program emphasizes sustainability and support in order to transform communities.

International Rescue Committee (IRC) – Oakland, Center for Economic Opportunity // www.rescue.org/united-states/oakland-ca // LOCAL PARTNER

The IRC in Northern California resettles refugees and asylees from all over the world who have been

forcefully uprooted from their communities as a result of war, poverty, disease, natural disasters, or famine. IRC Oakland annually resettles over 450 clients and provides many services that help them to rebuild their lives in the Oakland area. In addition to meeting the legal needs of their refugee and asylee clients they also work to ensure that people can become self-sufficient by engaging in safe and decent work and by managing and saving their resources.

EDUCATION

Congo Initiative (CI), *Dr. David and Kaswera Kasali* // www.congoinitiative.org // GLOBAL PARTNER

As a response to the humanitarian disasters of poverty, corruption, despair, and hopelessness, Congo Initiative is an envisioned community of Christ-centered Congolese leaders and global partners united for the holistic and long-term transformation of lives and a flourishing Democratic Republic of Congo. Based in Beni, Congo Initiative (CI) educates indigenous Congolese leaders through The Bilingual Christian University of Congo (UCBC) of which more than 50% of their students are women. CI also empowers young women through vocational training and counseling; equips Christian communities through pastoral training and holistic community development; engages in service learning and contextualized research; and develops grassroots initiatives for peace, hope, and justice. A favorite expression of theirs is the Swahili phrase “tuko pamoja” — “we are together.”

Oakland International High School (OIHS) // www.oaklandinternational.org // LOCAL PARTNER

OIHS provides a quality alternative education in English language acquisition and in preparation for college for traditionally underserved, recently arrived immigrant students. The students come from 33 countries and speak over 32 different languages. 100% of OIHS students are English language learners and the school facilitates an environment in which they can improve their reading, writing, and speaking skills in an engaging environment. Their diverse student body becomes active participants in the community while learning in small groups through collaboration and interdisciplinary multimedia projects.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

Project Mercy // www.projectmercy.org // GLOBAL PARTNER

Project Mercy holistically seeks to alleviate human suffering as a result of the lack of infrastructure and aid programs in the Yetebon, Cha Cha, and Legatafo communities of Ethiopia. Through concrete developments in roads, water systems, and building as well as in education, healthcare, and food security programs, Project Mercy loves people in the name of Jesus Christ. The rural and mountainous area where Project Mercy is located makes their housing and medical care services all the more important for women and mothers who may not otherwise reach medical help in time to meet their needs.

RotaCare-Richmond // www.rotacarebayarea.org/clinics/richmond.html // LOCAL PARTNER

RotaCare Richmond, a non-profit started by Bay Area chapters of the Rotary Club, is a volunteer driven clinic with a mission to “provide free medical care in the Bay Area and surrounding communities for those who have the greatest need and the least access.” Their services, designed to support the health of local residents, include urgent care services, diagnostic tests, and referrals to community resources, physicals, and educational classes. Housed in Richmond’s Family Justice Center, RBA is also in a great position to offer care in cases related to domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, and human trafficking. Since opening their doors in March 2013, they have provided more than 3,600 clinic encounters, operating initially one night a week, and expanding to two Saturdays per month in 2016. Their patients are uninsured, two-thirds are women, and 90% live below the poverty level.

REFUGEES AND THE DISPLACED

1951 Coffee Company // www.1951coffee.com // LOCAL PARTNER

1951 Coffee is a non-profit seeking to promote the well-being of the refugee community in the San Francisco Bay Area by providing job training and employment to refugees and asylees while educating the surrounding community about refugee life and issues. In 1951 the United Nations first defined and set forth guidelines for the protection of refugees. These protections were further expanded in the 1967 Protocols giving the UNHCR a global mandate. 1951 Coffee Company was founded in 2015 in the spirit of these conventions to give refugees assistance in starting their new lives in the San Francisco Bay Area through training and employment in the rapidly expanding coffee industry. First Pres warmly welcomed 1951 to the First Pres campus in January 2016.

Together For the Family // izkassis@gmail.com // GLOBAL PARTNER

Together for the Family, run by Izdihar Kassis in Lebanon, provides family counseling, leadership training, and social services to traumatized Syrian Christian children and youth. Together for the Family is a nonprofit organization founded and registered in Lebanon in 2010 as a response to the dire needs and challenges that families face in our society. The organization has held many training workshops in Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

TRAFFICKING

International Justice Mission (IJM)- Thailand and Guatemala Offices // www.ijm.org // GLOBAL PARTNER

In nearly 20 communities throughout the developing world, IJM works to serve victims of violence by collaborating with local governments and communities to transform broken justice systems. Their effective model protects the poor from crimes like human trafficking, rescues victims, restores survivors, brings criminals to justice, and strengthens and restores confidence in justice systems.

MISSEY // www.missey.org // LOCAL PARTNER

A community-based organization in Alameda County, MISSEY provides comprehensive services to victims of commercial sexual exploitation. MISSEY provides case management services, a mentorship program, and a foster youth program in order to provide accessible and comprehensive support to at-risk youth and survivors. Since its inception, MISSEY has served nearly 1,000 young people in an area the FBI has identified as one of the top hubs for human trafficking in the nation.

HISTORIC/ONGOING MISSION PARTNERS

Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BFHP) // www.bfhp.org

BFHP provides homeless and struggling members of our community with a comprehensive range of food and housing services, without judgment or restrictions. Their unique approach includes partnering with clients to help them develop the skills they need to move forward in their lives. In 2016, BFHP served 100,000+ nutritious meals, provided 23,314 nights of shelter, assisted 320 homeless veterans and families, placed 272 members of the homeless community in permanent housing, and served 2,000 clients in total. Executive Director Terrie Light expressed, “To shelter the vulnerable, house the homeless, feed the hungry, and empower the “voiceless” is a responsibility we take seriously.”

Campus Crusade for Christ, *David and Bethanne Moles* // <https://give.cru.org/0118899>

Cru, formerly Campus Crusade for Christ International, has been on campuses for over 60 years, helping students come to know Jesus, grow in their faith and share the Gospel of Christ. First Pres Berkeley directly contributes to the support of staff members David and Bethanne Moles who are currently serving together in the Mid-Atlantic Region. David serves on the Leadership Team, overseeing 250 staff and 50 interns who carry out the mission of Cru on college campuses and internationally. It is their dream to see campus ministry movements established on each of the 540 colleges representing the 1.7 million students in the Mid-Atlantic.

CityTeam Ministries Oakland // www.cityteam.org/oakland

Cityteam is a non-denominational Christian non-profit serving the poor, the homeless, and the lost in Oakland and the San Francisco area. Almost 30% of those suffering from homelessness in Oakland are women – many of them are elderly, fearing for their life at night while they sleep in back alleys or BART stations. Cityteam welcomes women every day into their dining hall for healthy meals where they feel safe. Cityteam is currently developing a new program in which they will provide showers, clean clothes, lunch, and a Bible study for the women to feel loved and discover God.

Faith Network // www.faith-network.com

Faith Network is a collaboration of Christian ministries, community-based organizations, and individuals, mobilized to support under-resourced urban public schools in the East Bay. Through reading programs, hands-on STEM learning experiences, weekend food programs, and career mentorship, Faith Network works to prepare youth for a life of service in their communities. Today, with the assistance of over 200 regular volunteers who work directly with students, 150 occasional volunteers who lend a hand with short-term projects, and nearly 60 diverse community partners, Faith Network is able to serve over 35 schools in the Oakland Unified School District, the Alameda Unified School District, West Contra Costa School District, and Berkeley Unified School District.

Free Burma Rangers, *Dave and Karen Eubank* // www.freeburmarangers.org

Free Burma Rangers is a multi-ethnic humanitarian service movement with 71 relief teams that provide emergency medical care, shelter, food, clothing, and human rights documentation in the conflict zones of Burma, Iraq, and Sudan. Each team conducts two to four missions per year to bring help, hope, and love to the region. Since 1997, over 500,000 patients have been treated and over 1.1 million people have been helped.

Habitat for Humanity – East Bay/Silicon Valley // www.habitatbsv.org

Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley brings hopeful community volunteers and resources together to build affordable and sustainable homes, empower families through successful home ownership, and revitalize neighborhoods. The innovative nature of the East Bay / Silicon Valley branch can be seen in its

position as the first Habitat affiliate in the Bay Area to build green homes, of which there are now over 200. Additionally to date, nearly 60,000 volunteers have contributed over one million hours to help construct homes built by Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley.

Harbor House // www.hhministries.org

Harbor House is a multiethnic Christian social services organization located in the diverse San Antonio area of Oakland, a neighborhood with a large refugee and immigrant population. To overcome the socio-economic obstacles including refugee statuses, illiteracy and inadequate educational preparation, Harbor House provides educational programs, work opportunities, and Bible studies for youth of all ages. In addition to managing Olive's Closet which retails high-quality, low-cost used clothing, Harbor House also has two community gardens, and provides emergency food and clothing aid. Last year, Harbor House distributed 4,289 bags of food to an average of 742 people in 282 households per month, and opened their doors to 60 elementary children from the neighborhood for their high-quality afterschool program.

Langham Partnership // us.langham.org

Langham Partnership is a global and interdenominational fellowship working in pursuit of the vision God entrusted to its founder, John Stott. It seeks to strengthen the church in maturity and Christlikeness by raising the standards of biblical preaching and teaching. Langham partners works with national leaders to nurture indigenous biblical preaching movements for pastors and lay preachers. It provides majority world pastors, scholars, and seminary libraries with evangelical books and electronic resources. In addition, it supplies financial support for evangelical doctoral students from the majority world so that, when they return home, they may train pastors and other Christian leaders with sound, biblical, and theological teaching.

Max Martinez Scholarship, *collaboration with Faith Network and UC Berkeley*

In collaboration with the University of California, Berkeley and Faith Network, First Pres Berkeley awards scholarship funding to first generation college students coming from historically under-represented communities. This fund was created to honor the passing of the husband of a former church member, Charlotte Martinez.

Near East School of Theology // www.theonest.edu.lb

Near East School of Theology is a Protestant Seminary serving evangelical churches in the Middle East. NEST prepares men and women for the work of ministry by providing qualified candidates with the necessary theological knowledge, spiritual formation, pastoral training, educational skills, and leadership aptitude.

New Life Center Foundation (NLCF) // www.newlifecenterfoundation.org

New Life Center Foundation is a faith-based and grass-roots activist foundation that works with young, ethnic-minority women throughout the Mekong sub-region (Thailand, Burma, China, and Laos) who are at risk for, or victims of, human trafficking, forced labor, domestic violence, and sexual abuse. By providing education, vocational training, therapeutic activities, basic business skills, and shelter to women, NLCF engages with communities to prevent exploitation.

Oasis Africa, *Gladys Mwiti* // www.oasisafrica.org.au

Oasis Africa provides community mental health care services in Kenya and beyond. Recently, suicide and homicide have been on the rise and females are at the highest risk of sexual abuse and gender violence. Oasis Africa seeks to provide support and positive intervention in the lives of these women.

PC(USA) Duta Wacana Christian University, *Bernard & Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta* //

www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/drs-bernard-and-farsijana-adeney-risakotta

This Indonesian university attracts faithful and intelligent leaders who are committed to serving God and the people of Indonesia. To further its reach, the university provides scholarships to pastors from all over Indonesia to study theology at the graduate level so that they are prepared to lead the church in the midst of rapid social change.

Project Peace East Bay // www.projectpeaceeastbay.org

Project Peace East Bay exists to create partnerships between local churches, schools, and social service providers that work together for just and sustainable communities in Berkeley, Oakland, and surrounding areas. In addition to an annual speaker series focused on social justice issues, Project Peace coordinates Days of Service – volunteer opportunities throughout the year that link groups within the community to work on projects involving “sweat equity” across the East Bay. Annually in February, First Pres Berkeley partners with Project Peace for Do Justice, in which 300- 500 volunteers worship God through acts of service in our local communities.

Roblealto Child Care Association // www.roblealto.org

The Roblealto Child Care Association is a Christian non-profit organization in Costa Rica with a mission to serve children from critical economic and social conditions. By supporting three child care centers, a temporary shelter, and an alumni group, they share the Christian vision of life, provide children with much needed supports, and work to break the cycle of poverty.

ScholarLeaders International // www.scholarleaders.org

ScholarLeaders exists to encourage and enable Christian theological leaders from the Majority World for service to the Global Church. Rather than send missionaries and teachers from the West, ScholarLeaders supports indigenous leaders in obtaining advanced theological education, mostly in American seminaries, to then return home as highly respected and uniquely effective Christian leaders.

Young Life Berkeley, *CJ Peterson* // www.berkeley.younglife.com

Young Life's national mission is to reach out to all high school students so every youth has the opportunity to hear the Gospel, know Jesus Christ, and realize just how valuable, worthwhile, and meaningful their lives are. Volunteer leaders educate students on the teachings of Jesus, as well as provide homework help, college preparation assistance, and basic life skill mentoring for independent living. Locally, First Pres partners with Young Life staff serving at Berkeley High School.

Youth Engagement, Advocacy, and Housing (YEAH!) // www.yeah-berkeley.org

YEAH! – Berkeley is a now year-round homeless shelter for youth in Berkeley, the only shelter of its kind in the area. Their mission is to support young adults (18-24) who are currently homeless by providing basic necessities, case management and counseling, linkages to education, employment and housing, and opportunities for meaningful community involvement. YEAH!’s programs focus on creating community with young people to help them establish the stability, wellness, and personal goals they desire to achieve. With their help, some of the youth have been reunited with family or moved into permanent housing.

Retired Mission Partners Continuing Support

Wycliffe Bible Translators, *Nadine Burns*
Wycliffe Bible Translators, *Peggy Wheeler*