



2014 Report – NAB International Missions



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Brazil

- **Missionaries on the field** **100 % in pledges**
- **Number of NAB Missionaries** **1**
- **Missionaries left the field** **2**
- **Missionaries added to field** **0**

In 2014, we completed a three year transition of Chain of Love (COL) into a Brazilian-led, Brazilian-staffed ministry. The first phase of this transition took place in 2011 when we began to establish a Brazilian Board of Directors. In 2012 this board began to function with regular meetings. In 2012 Ken Bayer selected and mentored Telmo to be his successor as the Director of COL. In 2013 Ken and Jerilyn Bayer resigned from NAB missionary service, firmly establishing Telmo as the Director. Now in 2014 Christopher Kidd resigned as the Administrator of COL after mentoring a new Administrator to fill his role. Chris and Ingrid Kidd returned to Canada in August of 2014 and are completing their Home Assignment responsibilities with NAB in February 2015.

This has been a tremendously positive process for COL. Transferring ownership of a national ministry to national leaders is a good thing. We do want to state very clearly that the support of NAB churches for the sponsorship of COL children remains unchanged. COL will continue to have close ties to NAB churches and donors, donations will continue to be processed through the international office, and COL will continue to seek the financial support that has so generously been shared to this point.

Lyndell Campbell-Requia is now NAB's sole missionary in Brazil. She will continue to devote some time to COL, but her primary responsibilities remain in the realm of theological education and leadership development. In 2014 NAB hosted both spring and fall EQUIP training events. These were the fourth and fifth in a series of six seminars anchored by NAB pastor Dr. Dana Goodenough from Pittsford Community Church in New York.

Lyndell has also initiated discussions with the leadership of the Brazilian Baptist Convention regarding a model where NAB participates in theological education similar to what NAB does in Russia, or with BCCL in the Philippines. Lyndell has been instrumental in developing a new Pastor Formation program for the Baptist Seminary, which may provide a setting for further NAB participation.

Cameroon

- **Missionaries on the field** **100 % in pledges**
- **Number of NAB Missionaries** **10**
- **Missionaries left the field** **2**
- **Missionaries added to field** **1 + 4 currently in support stage**

The Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) celebrated their 60th anniversary as a convention of churches in December 2014. It has been 60 years since NAB recognized the independence of the CBC as a self-governing organization. Over these past six decades we have continued to serve alongside our Cameroonian brothers and sisters, and our role has changed dramatically. NAB's role with the CBC is almost exclusively a training and equipping role in areas of expertise that are not available within the convention. We endeavor to do nothing for the CBC that they are able to do for themselves.

The missionary staff of NAB serves in four distinct areas.

- The medical work of NAB missionaries has a primary focus. To provide advanced medical training to national medical students. Dr. Julie Stone serves at the Bango Baptist hospital teaching internal medicine. The impact of this training has been evident in the current Ebola crisis. Dr. Stone writes, *"The hospital was very devastated by the death of Dr. Martin Salia – a surgeon and PAACS graduate who had worked among us in BBH for over 6 years. His loss has really made the Ebola epidemic ravaging the countries of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia very personal. BBH held a memorial service in honor of Dr. Salia on November 29th – which corresponded with the date of his funeral in the U.S."* Drs. Dennis and Nancy Palmer are leading the Mbingo hospital in steps towards becoming a premier referral / teaching hospital in Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Rick and Debbie Bardin are also stationed at Mbingo developing a Histo-Pathology lab and providing nursing care. We have also had significant discussions toward the construction of a hydroelectric project which would supply clean electricity to the hospital.
- Theological work of NAB missionaries takes place at the Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary (CBTS) in Ndu. In 2014, Lance and Debbie Rundus resigned from their teaching position at the seminary and have relocated to the U.S. Dr. Nancy Palmer also serves the seminary as she is able. CBTS is taking steps toward accreditation. The Presidents of Taylor Seminary (Canada) and Sioux Falls Seminary (USA) travelled with me to Cameroon in February 2015 to explore how we might all work together for theological education. We are also seeking missionaries to join the faculty of CBTS.
- Cal and Susie Hohn, and Walter Grob, serve in dual roles providing administrative support and leadership both for the NAB, and for a significant portion of the CBC. Cal serves on the Executive Committee of the CBC as a liaison for all mission organizations desiring to partner with the CBC, and Walter leads the Central Accounting Office (CAO). In 2014, the CBC ratified a new constitution in which they are reorganizing the responsibilities of their Finance Department, and as a result we hope to see a Cameroon national leading this department in 2015. This is one of the final areas of Executive leadership to be assumed by CBC national.
- We also have NAB missionaries that focus on the education of missionary children. We simply cannot place quality missionary families in situations where their children's education is compromised, so we invest in quality education for missionary children. In 2014, the Ericksons resigned their position as hostel parents and returned to Canada. In November, we found new hostel parents that will take their position in September 2015. Kristi TenClay teaches at RFIS, and Elsie Lewandowski coordinates the Home School education for NAB, World Team, and BGC missionary families.

East Asia

- **Missionaries on the field** **100 % in pledges**
- **Number of NAB Missionaries** **2**
- **Missionaries left the field** **0**
- **Missionaries added to field** **2 currently in support stage**

Nick and Iris have been in East Asia for almost two years and have established a growing network of ministries and national ministry partners. They continue to spend considerable time as life coaches, mentoring individuals and couples in personal relationships. They have also developed mentoring relationships with two national workers who are effective in sharing the gospel. We as NAB provide encouragement, support, and some financial aid to these national workers.

The Nick and Iris have hosted a number of NAB visitors and teams in 2014 and have begun to connect churches with needs in the area. One of our NAB churches has established a fund to provide education for the children of an impoverished widow. Nick and Iris will oversee the distribution of funds.

In 2014, God also provided a second couple to join them. We have begun raising the support budget for Bud and Lois and hope to see them alongside the Nick and Iris in the fall of 2015.

Hungary

- **Missionaries on the field** **100 % in pledges**
- **Number of NAB Missionaries** **2**
- **Missionaries left the field** **0**
- **Missionaries added to field** **0**
- **National Missionaries** **4**

NAB's strategy in Hungary is to partner with the Hungarian Baptist Union (HBU) to reach the ROMA people (Gypsies) by utilizing Community Health Education (CHE). After just three years partnering in Hungary, the Secks have not only hosted training events in multiple countries, but have recruited and trained four national missionaries in Hungary and Serbia who are partially funded by NAB. Two of these have travelled to the Philippines to become international certified trainers of CHE. (See #10 below for more on National Missionaries)

We envision a team of at least four NAB missionaries as certified CHE trainers in Hungary to set the foundation for Central Europe ministries. NAB (Ron and Jeannie Seck) has been asked to play a lead role in developing a coordinated strategy of multiple mission organizations reaching impoverished villages in Central Europe. We will play a lead role in hosting leaders from various countries in Albania in April 2015.

Part of the NAB vision for Central Europe includes having NAB local churches enter into partnerships with national churches, and together develop a ministry relationship with a particular ROMA community. Gateway Teams is working with the Secks to host vision trips in order to facilitate this model.

Japan

- **Missionaries on the field** **100 % in pledges**
- **Number of NAB Missionaries** **4**
- **Missionaries left the field** **5**
- **Missionaries added to field** **0**

Our work in Japan is undergoing tremendous transition, both in staffing and in strategic presence. In four years our Missionary team in Japan has gone from thirteen missionaries to four. Seven of these losses have been as a result of retirement age, one was to pursue marriage, and one was a short-term commitment that came to completion. These are all normal life stage transitions.

We now have four missionaries in the Osaka region, and they carry a heavy load. The Japan Baptist Convention has come to depend on NAB missionaries in certain situations, and we simply are not able to meet these expectations with our limited staff. But I would also suggest that this is not a bad thing. One of our goals in every country of missionary partnership is to help the national church develop its own leaders, and if we continue to step in to every crisis, we work against our objectives.

These are days in which our missionaries need great wisdom to know when to help meet a need, and when to establish boundaries that nurture the growth of our national partners. We have changed our focus from “doing things FOR the Japanese church”, to equipping the Japanese church to do the work of ministry. There are numerous historical and cultural pressures that make this an especially difficult transition in Japan, but we are already seeing tangible evidence that our shift in strategy is bearing results, and we are confident that scripture gives us this mandate, so we press on.

Romania

- **Missionaries on the field** **100 % in pledges**
- **Number of NAB Missionaries** **2**
- **Missionaries left the field** **0**
- **Missionaries added to field** **2**
- **National Missionaries** **2**

We are excited to have formalized a new NAB International Partnership agreement with the Hungarian Baptist Convention of Romania. Paul and Tanya Gericke took up residence in Romania in October 2014. NAB churches and leaders from the Edmonton area have a long standing relationship with some of the pastors of Romania that goes back to the fall of communism some 25 years ago. This relationship was forged when NAB families responded to the humanitarian cry to adopt abandoned children living in horrendous care facilities. Out of this great need, a lasting partnership was formed.

In 2000, these same leaders began to pursue a common vision for a camp ministry in Romania. Land was purchased as a gift to the churches, but no facilities were developed. These men and women have been partners in ministry for over 20 years, but in 2014 we took the step of formalizing our partnership, sending NAB missionaries Paul and Tanya Gericke.

God has moved in His marvelous ways to weave a tapestry of relationships, vision, and the discernable calling of God indicating that the time to develop the property has come. The camp board has hired a Camp Director and Administrator, Tamas and Tunde Modi. NAB is partnering with the HBU in Romania to make them National Missionaries of NAB, giving NAB churches the opportunity to support them, and develop a partnership with them and the camp.

What is also so encouraging in all of this is that some of the leaders we met in Romania are already working with Ron and Jeannie Seck reaching the ROMA of Romania. The ministry of CHE has expanded from Hungary, to Romania, Serbia, Croatia and this next spring we venture into discussions in Albania. We are already dreaming of how a team of NAB missionaries in Central Europe can serve with various roles, in various countries, yet as a unified team for the sake of the Kingdom. These are very exciting days with many open doors. Please pray for workers for this harvest field.

Hispanics for Christ

Hispanics for Christ has had a part in 12 new Hispanic churches across the Americas over the last year. They facilitated 20 evangelism campaigns, many with teams from churches from within Latin America. These campaigns have led to 31 groups of new believers gathering for discipleship with the goal of becoming self-sufficient churches in the next 1 to 3 years.

In addition to the actual planting of churches, our Field Coordinators also facilitated 15 church planting/pastoral retreats in California, Mexico, Argentina, and Paraguay. There are over ninety churches today in North and South America connected together through their relationship with HFC, and therefore connected with NAB. A number of these already have partnerships with NAB churches through Gateway Teams.

In the coming year we hope to better financially support these Field Coordinators to continue doing what they have been called to do, and possibly pursue opportunities to expand into El Salvador and Cuba.

Bicol Center for Christian Leadership – Philippines

This past year BCCL hosted eight guest instructors from North America with 171 students attending classes (33 for credit; 138 audit). The ministry offers classes in the primary location of Legazpi City, as well as a satellite campus in Naga City. These are the two principle cities of the Bicol Region. BCCL graduated 27 students from two programs.

- Graduate Certificate in Urban Ministries – GCUM: 7 graduates
- Christian Leadership Foundations – CLF: 20 graduates

Mayette Ativo-Bueno also launched a new Ministry Enrichment Program (MEP) in response to some of the perceived needs and opportunities in the region. The MEP opens BCCL classes to non-credit students (no papers, no exams, and no grade).

BCCL was also instrumental in providing hurricane relief in 2014, and God has honored that response by opening new doors for ministry. After an initial typhoon relief visit to Leyte and Samar Provinces in December 2013 (immediately after the super typhoon in November), BCCL staff made two more relief visits in 2014 and also established BCCL extension sites. BCCL (through the generous giving of NAB churches) was able to rebuild three churches and have two more slated for rebuilding in 2015. The BCCL training programs were introduced during the third visit (June, 2014) and the pastors requested the BCCL be started in their area.

Mayette will be teaching the first class (Experiencing God) in both sites in February 2015. Three visiting teachers from North America have already given their commitments to teach at the new sites: Dr. C Richard Wells, Dr. Dave Glass, and Pastor Bill Lambert.

Pressing needs: The present BCCL building is deteriorating due to termites. Ceilings and walls are mostly hollow and some beams and floors are in the same condition. Mayette has pails in the office to catch water coming in from leaks in the roof. The old building has served us for about 25 years, but there is now a need to transfer classes, office, and library to the guesthouse. That transfer will require some remodeling estimated at about \$22,000.

Eventually there will be a need to move to a new site or construct a new building on the present site. BCCL needs a new building, whether bought elsewhere or built on the present site. The cost of operating a new building will be offset with a self-supporting ministry to generate revenues in the new facility, actually reducing NAB support in the long run.

Gateway Teams

- **Current Gateway ministry support 52 % in pledges**
- **Number of Gateway staff 2**
- **Staff who left the ministry 1**
- **Staff added to ministry 0**

2014 was a year in which the International office of NAB spent considerable time reviewing our practices of communication, recruitment, and equipping for International Missions. It was clear that Gateway Teams needed to become more closely aligned as a strategic resource in these areas, and we have taken initial steps to bring Gateway into a position that maximizes their contribution to our International Office objectives.

Gateway's primary objective is to equip the local church for effective participation in international settings. It is not just about helping groups experience international missions, but rather to do so in a way that does not harm the international partner, and does not create a distorted message about international missions to the team participants. The North American Church is making many mistakes in HOW we send short-term teams. NAB, through Gateway, is committed to standards of excellence that reduces the risk of harm, and maximizes the potential for long-term healthy partnerships.

In order to best facilitate this alignment between Gateway and the IO, we have chosen to restructure our staffing into three positions. Randy Schmor is the Director of Gateway, Shelly Schmor is now serving as the Administrator of the teams, and the international office is providing additional administrative support particularly in the area of tracking finances. This restructure has had impact on the budget and resources required for the ministry so we are seeking additional support for the Gateway ministries in this 2014-15 budget year.

National Missionaries

National Missionaries are indigenous leaders in a region where NAB missionaries are serving. NAB will contribute up to \$5,000 of salary support. This support will often amount to about 40% of the total salary and will enable the national worker to enter full time ministry. NAB is committed to empowering and equipping national leaders for the work of ministry, and in some cases, the equipping includes limited financial support.

The criteria to appoint national missionaries are as follows.

- They have been selected and approved by NAB missionaries
- They are working directly with NAB missionaries in the fulfillment of NAB objectives
- NAB will contribute 50%, to a maximum of \$5,000 of annual salary

New NAB Missions Website

As part of our desire to better communicate about our missionaries and to recruit new missionaries, we developed a new Micro-website devoted to our NAB international Missions. This website went live in February 2015. I would encourage you to spend some time learning about our vision to equip individuals and churches for international missions.

Visit www.nabonmission.org