

V+H

MAGAZINE



THEN & NOW:

CONTINUING THE WORK

TOGETHER

AS A MISSION

**REACH
BEYOND**
VOICE+HANDS, TOGETHER

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RACHEL'S STORY | WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE ON THE FIELD

Different but not Done

Dear friend of Reach Beyond,

This Christmas, we celebrate 89 years of ministry in Ecuador. We are amazed at what God has done during this time.

When the first HCJB radio broadcast aired in 1931, there was one evangelical church in Quito with just a handful of believers. Today, there are roughly 600 evangelical churches just in Quito, and that number is still growing. Some of the people reached by these churches desire to give their lives to vocational ministry. Some have taken on leadership positions, and even ownership, of our historic ministries there, while others desire to be sent as missionaries to some of the most difficult places in the world.

We've long looked forward to the day when Ecuadorians would be ready to take the lead. And it poses a very important question for us: How can we best serve them now?

When I rejoined the Reach Beyond staff in 2018, my role was to mobilize bi-vocational missionaries among Latin American churches to reach unreached people groups. God has given many a heart for missions, especially toward the Muslim world. It is not that big of a transition for Latin Americans to serve among Arabic populations as there are similarities in both culture and language. Many young people in the church have a clear calling, a very trainable cultural background, the ability to learn multiple languages, and are ready and willing to go.

JOHN 17:26 (ESV)

“...and I will continue
to make it known...”

"I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."



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Unfortunately, the Church is still in its infancy in terms of its ability to send. We need to play a role in mentoring and modeling missions to these local churches. The future of missions for these Ecuadorians may be in Latin America, Africa and Asia, but the path to getting them equipped and sent takes time. It takes time to train the church in how to sacrificially give to missions. It takes time to create a culture for missions within the Church. We see that God has uniquely positioned us to walk alongside and serve the Latin church in a number of different ways during this season.

“We are amazed at what God has done during this time.”

The work we are doing in Ecuador may look different today than it did in the past, but it is truly a continuation and expansion of what God has been doing through Reach Beyond since the beginning. I hope you enjoy this issue of V+H Magazine as we look at the “then and now” of our work in Ecuador and how it has impacted other parts of the world.

Thank you for being a vital part of this story.

Daniel Enns

Daniel Enns
President



HCJB began in 1931 using the latest technology—radio. Now an independent Ecuadorian ministry, Radio HCJB has FM broadcasts in Ecuador, online streaming, and Facebook live programs that reach the Spanish-speaking world.

LEARN MORE
REACHBEYOND.ORG

GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE MINISTRY



The Sub-Saharan Africa team tests and packs equipment for a new recording studio in Mozambique.

ASIA PACIFIC

Reach Beyond's staff in Asia Pacific just completed their first online training course for new radio announcers in the region—a collaboration between Reach Beyond's radio trainers and a partner in-country. The class had 18 students from 14 different radio stations around the country. The launch of the online course was timely since travel to do in-person training has been impossible during the pandemic. This was the first time these students had taken an online course. Although they were nervous, they were willing to try it so they could learn how to improve their skills as radio announcers.

One student said she "learned so much through the tutorial videos about how to use the broadcast playout software, RadioBoss." Other students said they enjoyed the challenge of seeing and understanding more about how they need to provide their communities with more helpful information about COVID-19. The instructors have been available to pray with the students and to give advice as needed. Because this pilot course was a success, a second course is now underway with 22 students.

INDIA

Reach Beyond Australia, in partnership with ChristianityWorks, launched a new project in May using WhatsApp, a free messaging application for mobile devices. It is widely used in India and is a tool that will reach thousands of people instantly. Initially the goal was to send short audio messages to encourage people during the time of the pandemic. The plan was to send messages to an initial

audience of three different groups totaling 780 people. The messages were produced in five different languages: English, Tamil, Kannada, Marathi, and Hindi. Within the first two weeks, the encouraging messages were listened to by thousands of people! Over the summer, the messages continued to spread so that over 20,000 people have listened.

"I am a taxi driver and not allowed to work during this pandemic and lockdown," shared Ramu, a listener in India. "I was helping a lady to open her clinic shutters when another man came and thanked me for my help since he was supposed to do that work. I was sharing about my situation to him. He then shared a WhatsApp message to encourage me before praying for me. He told me that God will surely bless me and will not leave me. I have now started receiving these messages instantly through WhatsApp. I should tell you that I was not a believer until I received this message. I am forwarding this message to so many people."

MIDDLE EAST

Our media partners in the Middle East recently shared a video highlighting a new believer's journey. The video has been viewed nearly 50,000 times and has received more than 2,300 comments leading to many discussions. Our partner reports, "Our worker was able to share his testimony and his life as a Christian breaking false stereotypes of Christians taught here in the country. It has provided ample opportunities for follow-up with comments and continued conversations with people who are seeking truth."

NEW ZEALAND

Reach Beyond NZ has been broadcasting radio over the Internet for the past six years. Website analytics reveal that people from all around the world have been finding and listening to one of the seven stations listed. The website has a 'Contact' link which allows listeners to send us an email.

Two months ago, we got an email from someone in Northern Africa called HM, asking us to tell him about Jesus!

Our initial fears that the email was a hoax were dispelled when HM replied to us and told us he was born into a church that prayed to Mary and the angels...but not to Jesus! Fears about COVID had caused him to seek God.



He knew Jesus was Lord but hardly knew anything about Him. He now wanted to learn to pray to Jesus.

We emailed HM a suggested prayer to receive eternal life and were startled by his reply: "OK, prayed that...what next?"

After many emails and Zoom calls, we were able to refer HM to one of our ministry partners here in New Zealand who is from HM's country. HM now has a Bible in his language, is growing in his faith, and will start attending a church in his area that worships Jesus as soon as COVID restrictions are lifted.

But...the story doesn't end there.

HM asked if he could put his friend M in contact with us. M is from a different religion. M told us he had been disturbed by dreams where someone spoke John 3:36 to him ("Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them."). The person in his dream told him he needed to tell this to other people in his faith community.

Last week, M emailed to say he has been praying and fasting and feels he should travel to a different town and preach the Gospel there. He says if he preaches in his home area, he fears the people from his faith community may kill him.

In his most recent communication, M asked if we would sponsor Bibles in his language that he can give to people when he preaches. We have arranged for the Bible Society in his country to send Bibles to him.

Please pray for HM and M as they grow in their faith, praying especially for guidance and protection. These are two young men hungry for God sharing their faith with others.

CENTRAL ASIA

In a Central Asian country that is predominantly Muslim, our team and partners run an online radio station that broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week in two Central Asian languages. An online listener called in and shared the following voice message:

"I am grateful to everyone who participated in running such a radio. This is a very good service for believers and for non-believers too. I often send your programs to my Muslim relatives. What makes this radio good is that you guys do not divide anyone in denominations. Therefore, the leaders

"These programs in my language encouraged us a lot...the Word of God, of peace and forgiveness, of reconciliation..."

from different churches listen to you. It is especially striking that your team serves the Lord wholeheartedly. Your voices are very important for all listeners. I, as a woman, really like your series designed for women with good tips regarding family relationships, helpful advice, and so on. May the Lord bless you."

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Reach Beyond has been able to broadcast evangelical programs over ten secular radio stations in a very difficult country. The three-month pilot project was the first time Reach Beyond has been able to broadcast in this particular region of the country, as it is a challenging location for missionaries and Christians. One listener responded with the following note:

"I live here with my wife and three children. These programs in my language encouraged us a lot. They speak to us of the Word of God, of peace and forgiveness, of reconciliation and of social cohesion. Through listening to these shows, I saw people who hated each other sit under the same tree and chat about the content of the show without arguing. And I said, 'glory to God!' I encourage you in this direction. Because these programs contribute a lot to the appeasement of hearts and to raising awareness towards living together in communities."

Pray for a long-term funding solution to continue and increase these broadcasts. ■

GET INVOLVED IN THESE MINISTRIES

REACHBEYOND.ORG/GIVE

CONTINUING THE WORK TOGETHER IN ECUADOR

ECUADOR

Ecuador is where it all began for Reach Beyond. That's where the ministry started. That's where the ministry grew. And that's where the worldwide impact began to be felt. Over the years, hundreds of missionaries have been sent to Ecuador to serve in and support media, healthcare, and discipleship ministries. Some of them spent their entire ministry in the country proclaiming and demonstrating the Good News as the church grew. Others spent time in Ecuador learning the necessary skills and tools that would eventually lead them to fruitful ministry in other unreached parts of the world. And some are working in Ecuador now, even as missionary efforts largely transition from evangelism to empowering the local church and mobilization.

When Clarence Jones started missionary radio station HCJB in Ecuador in 1931 to reach the world, there were few evangelical Christians in the country, and even fewer radios. Ninety years later, the country looks quite different. Ecuador's government has invested heavily in infrastructure, and the economy has grown. The city of Quito has also grown from a population of perhaps 60,000 people in 1931, to nearly 1.9 million people today.

Reach Beyond's footprint and ownership of ministries has drastically changed in Ecuador over the past 30 years as the mission refocused its efforts towards partnering with local believers around the world to plant radio stations. The goal was to provide everyone with the opportunity to hear the Gospel in a language they could understand. We also wanted

to empower local partners to use "hands" strategies of medicine and community development to demonstrate the Gospel in their own communities.

The mission also believed that the Ecuadorian church was ready and able to assume the leadership, responsibility, and ownership of many of its ministries to Ecuador.

Hospital Vozandes Quito opened its doors in 1955 "To the glory of God, and the service of Ecuador." That founding purpose continues today as the hospital, now an independent ministry, transitions towards total local ownership.



Career missionaries like Dr. Steve Nelson and Miriam Gebb continue to serve in Ecuador through family practice medicine and community health and development.



Today radio station HCJB is thriving on its own. HCJB continues to be a well-respected and well-known source of information and inspiration throughout Ecuador and the Spanish speaking world, thanks to its social media and online outreach.

Hospital Vozandes is made up of national physicians reporting to a national board and continues its legacy as a place where Ecuadorians can get the best spiritual care, as well as physical care. Most of the mission's former medical clinics, as well as the Shell hospital, are now owned and run by believers or Christian foundations, who continue to demonstrate the Gospel through compassionate care.

The biggest change in Ecuador, however, is the local church. In 1931, there was one church in Quito, and it had less than a dozen Ecuadorian believers. A country that was once considered unreached, has seen God at work in a powerful way. There are now more than 600 churches in Quito and over 15% of all Ecuadorians are evangelical Christians. The Ecuadorian church is thriving, and God is calling Latinos to global missions.

All these changes raise the question of whether there is still an ongoing need for missionaries in Ecuador. Should we be investing resources in a "reached" country?

For Reach Beyond, we've discovered that our work in Ecuador has opened doors and opportunities for us to do ministry in other more unreached areas of the world. But that doesn't mean our work in Ecuador stops. There is still a need for cross-cultural partnership, to learn from one another, and to disciple and model missions to the next generation.

Gary Gardeen, a Reach Beyond missionary who went to Ecuador in 1978, is currently serving as the director of the newly formed Voz y Manos entity (Reach Beyond's Country Office registered in Ecuador). He is also a member of Reach Beyond's Board of Trustees and a former hospital administrator for Hospital Vozandes. He acknowledges that while God calls some people away to serve in less reached areas, He also calls some people to stay. Gary says the faithfulness of long-term missionaries is important.

"There is an encouragement that people aren't forgotten," says Gary. "People appreciate those who have stayed here, that have been faithful and maintain these relationships. Ecuadorians have seen our faithfulness over time. That's a huge encouragement to church and ministry leaders."

“People appreciate those who have stayed here, that they have been faithful...”

Those missionaries who have stayed continue to provide support, mentorship, and discipleship. Rather than running ministries, they now work interdependently with national leadership, to continue to build and support successful ministry. They come alongside the national church and provide a model for sending cross-cultural missionaries.

And those who God called to ministry elsewhere around the globe have been able to take the lessons, skills, and relationships they developed in Ecuador to make an impact wherever God sends them.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE QUICHUA

Esther Neufeld, a long-time Reach Beyond missionary originally from Paraguay, acknowledges that interdependence isn't something that Western mission organizations have always done well. "Many Western missionaries came and took ownership without asking instead of working beneath local leadership from the beginning," she explains. "But the problem is from both sides. There is a dynamic where the humility and politeness of Latin culture often defers to foreigners, especially North Americans, as if they know how to do everything better. There is an attitude of, 'Oh, I don't really know how to do it. Better let them do it.' And that's not helpful either."

As Reach Beyond learned in Ecuador, it is important to come alongside local believers and work together in ministry. This isn't just to empower nationals. Missionaries actually have as much to learn as they have to teach.



Martin uses spring capture techniques learned from Quichua teammates while serving in Ecuador, to build a clean water system in Central Asia.



"It is really easy to fall into the mode of portraying missionaries as the experts having all the answers," Martin Harrison says. "A true missionary goes with an open mind and open arms and can learn so much. We don't want other nationalities dependent on us missionaries, nor independent. We were aiming for interdependence."

Martin and Ruth Harrison, missionaries sent from the UK, were first called to serve in Ecuador in 2006. They were passionate about integrating professional skills with missionary work, and at the time, there weren't very many mission organizations who were doing that. They started with community development projects in rural areas, including clean water installations, mobile clinics, and health and hygiene training.

After a couple of years, Martin became the Director of Community Development. He spent most of his time leading a multicultural, multilingual team, doing water projects, rural healthcare initiatives, and medical caravans. After gaining essential experience in the ministry, there was a desire to replicate it in other parts of the world, particularly among the unreached. So, the Harrisons returned to the UK and have used that as a base to go other places.

They admit they would not have had success in other unreached areas, however, if it hadn't been for what they learned in Ecuador. Ruth explained one such example. "There is the technical work of the water projects – the surveying, putting pipes in, pumps, etc., but the actual capture of the spring – we learned that from the Quichua people in Ecuador. Our Quichua teammates always said that capturing a spring is more of an art form than an engineering feat. So, we learned that art, and we have captured multiple springs in Central Asia based on what we learned from the Quichua people. We learned a huge amount from our Quichua brothers and sisters. It was a hard-goodbye leaving Ecuador, but it was an encouragement to our Quichua friends to know we are now doing this in Central Asia."



For more than 75 years, HCJB - The Voice of the Andes, was an international shortwave station with broadcasts in many of the world's major languages. Today, HCJB is an independent Ecuadorian ministry broadcasting the Gospel throughout Ecuador, to the Spanish-speaking world online, and using social media platforms.



...almost 70% of the station's income is from listener donations.

HCJB LEADERSHIP

Anabella Cabezas, the current director of HCJB Radio, first interacted with the station when she was 8-years old. "There was a program for kids where you could learn about the Bible through correspondence, and you got a diploma after you completed all of the work," she explained. "When I did that program, I never would have dreamed that I would one day be the director of HCJB!"

Twenty-years ago, Reach Beyond (then HCJB World Radio) was still broadcasting the Gospel throughout the world from its powerful shortwave ministry based in Quito. Although the broadcasts were produced in many languages, the common language for mission-wide meetings was English, making it harder for Spanish-speaking Ecuadorians to participate. And with over four hundred missionaries in Ecuador, the mission was perceived as mainly a foreign ministry, even though it was well-respected for its local work through the radio station and hospitals.

With Reach Beyond ending most of its international shortwave broadcasts out of Ecuador in 2007, Radio HCJB was redefined as a local Ecuadorian ministry reaching Latin America. While the mission had begun planning to turn the radio ministry over to local believers in the 1970's, government regulations on transferring frequencies, as well as other setbacks made the transition to an Ecuadorian board and Ecuadorian director take much longer than planned.

Anabella has been a big part of that change at HCJB, but it didn't happen overnight. Her first job was as a secretary in the English language department. She worked her way up through the ranks and completed her degree in administration studies. She was instrumental in helping HCJB to become a self-sustaining ministry.

"I saw that we needed to start raising funds from Ecuador to sustain the station," she recalls. "My boss said I was free to try, but they didn't believe the Ecuadorians and local churches were mature enough to sustain the ministry. I decided we would start it anyway."

Anabella held a radio share-a-thon – "but we called it 'Share the Mission' to emphasize that we are in the ministry together." Initially, the fundraiser had a good response, so they decided to keep it going. Now, almost 70% of the station's income is from listener donations.

While missionaries continue to provide support and mentoring to HCJB, HCJB in turn provides support and mentoring to the local church. Anabella explains, "Pastors recognize that people come to church on Sundays to learn about God and to grow. But HCJB is with them Monday through Sunday. Through this channel, they have learned more about missions, the Word of God, about music, and even our culture."

Reach Beyond President, Daniel Enns, knows the power that HCJB has to support the church. "HCJB has a reputation to unite leaders and draw people to their God-given callings," he says. "They hold pastor gatherings each year. They support Apoyo, which is Reach Beyond's discipleship program for pastors. They are leveraging their platform to speak into pastors' lives and help have them see the bigger picture. The station tithes 10% of their donations to send missionaries. They model this for churches, so they can understand how to send missionaries."

Not only does HCJB come alongside the church and support them financially, but they also help connect Latin missionaries to HCJB's audience. Anabella explains, "We interviewed a young couple who are serving in Spain. During the program we asked them if they needed support, so they gave us their contact information. Several listeners responded and said they wanted to support them. We are a platform to connect people interested in missions. Our ministry has always been mission-focused."



FROM EVANGELISM TO MOBILIZATION

Whereas most ministry in Ecuador was originally focused on evangelism, today most ministries focus on mobilization. In Latin America, young people on fire for the Gospel want to go into cross-cultural ministry. But there is still much work to do to come alongside the church and send out workers responsibly.

“The church is in its infancy stage in terms of its responsibility to send,” says Daniel. Prior to serving as president, Daniel served in a role that studied the options for mobilizing bi-vocational missionaries among Latin American churches to reach unreached people groups. “There are individuals who have a high calling, a very trainable cultural background, capable of transitioning from Spanish to English to other languages. Unfortunately, the issue is still about sending responsibly. If the church is not ready to support missionaries, they are destined to fail. Returning failures will quench the initiative of those who are wanting to go.”

Reach Beyond's Corrientes program, directed by Carlos Pinto, helps to answer that concern. The goal of the program is to come alongside Latin Americans interested in cross-cultural ministry and help them in their last phases before they leave for the mission field, to provide more sustainability.

Martin and Ruth were part of the team who helped launch Corrientes. One of the challenges they saw was helping the church understand the idea of incorporating profession into missions. “The thinking was that if you are a missionary, you do church work. It was interesting to see how many Latin

Americans have a heart for closed (creative access) countries, and the only way they could go is through their profession. One can not get a visa as a missionary, but one can get a visa as an engineer, teacher or doctor. It was good to show them this, and they could give examples to their churches.”

The Harrisons also helped provide mentorship for cross-cultural living and how to integrate faith into profession. “The Western church has separated the two, but people need to see that you not only proclaim the message through your words, but also through your actions and your work.”

As Daniel explains, the approach in Latin America must be different than the approach in the more affluent North America. “It's not just about money. We cannot think that if we just send the finances, then Latin America can send many missionaries. We need to come alongside and help them and the church to grow, to train and mentor them, and to share our experiences.”

2 TIMOTHY 2:2 (NRSV)

“...entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others...”

"And what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well."



The Iñaquito Evangelical Church was started in the 1950s as a result of Reach Beyond's hospital and medical ministry. It was the third church in Quito and just one of many started throughout Ecuador by Reach Beyond's missionaries and ministries. Today there are over 600 churches in Quito and more than 15% of Ecuadorians are evangelical believers.

Reach Beyond missionaries have discipled many Ecuadorian believers throughout the years. Today Reach Beyond's Corrientes program is mentoring and preparing Latin American missionaries for bi-vocational ministry.



“We need somebody to listen and understand and walk with us.”

It's these shared experiences that Esther Neufield sees as her contribution to the new mobilizing ministry focus.

Esther was born and raised in Paraguay in a Christian home. Her parents were refugees from communist Russia. “Somehow, there was a very strong feeling that God saved us for something, to glorify God in South America,” Esther explains.

As a teenager, Esther gave her life to Christ and asked how she could serve Him. She decided the best way would be to become a teacher so she could teach children to love Jesus. Eventually, her home church in Paraguay sent her to the eastern Paraguayan jungle to start a mission school.

“It was a time full of excitement, where I could put all my dreams and vision into starting a school, but the surroundings weren't that easy. Four years later, I was really tired,” Esther said. Burned out, she returned to the capital city to teach. During this season, Esther went to Europe where she attended a missions conference. It was there she realized that God had something new planned for her.

“I was attending a Trans World Radio seminar, just for fun, when all of a sudden, it struck me. The Lord wanted me in radio ministry. I was amazed, since I'd never been interested in radio ministry. But I just knew it was from the Lord.”

After volunteering for the local Christian station, Esther eventually landed in Quito, Ecuador, where her sister and brother-in-law were living and serving in HCJB's German language department. She completed a year of volunteer work with HCJB and then raised support to stay full-time.

“I worked in radio for many years and very much enjoyed doing children's programs. It helped me fall in love with God and Jesus, seeing them through the eyes of the children. But then, the burnout came again,” Esther recalled.

Each time, recovering from burnout was very difficult, both physically and psychologically. After a while, she returned to Quito, but this time she was invited to work in a new training program called Corrientes.

“The attrition rate of Latin American missionaries has been very, very high. Some 70% do not make it past the first term. So, Corrientes became very precious to me, to be able to come alongside the Latin American mission movement and help them to not make the same mistakes I had made,” Esther said. She encourages women in the program to grow, to practice lifelong learning, to have healthy relationships, develop deep roots in God, have a healthy view of themselves and to learn how to resolve conflict.

When Carlos Pinto asked Esther to join the Corrientes team, she questioned his invitation. She was still feeling limited at the time, unable to work a full eight hour day. “But he helped me to see it was just that experience that qualified me. I can help others, Latin missionaries who have gone through breakdowns, or had difficult experiences or abuse, and did not feel validated. We can walk together with Jesus, to call out the lies of the enemy. Let the Lord make something beautiful out of the pain.”

She learned that it wasn't just about having shared pain that provided support to these future missionaries. The fact that she had a missionary background provided a vital example.

“I used to wonder if Ecuador or Latin America still needed missionaries. Was I inhibiting the local movement? The church is well developed now; can't they send on their own?” Esther questioned. “But my friends in Latin America said, ‘in our churches, we do not have people who have had missions experience. Just knowing you, that there is someone who sits and listens to our experiences and understands that is precious to us. We need somebody to listen and understand and walk with us.’”

Corrientes has been incredibly successful in its one-on-one mentoring and individualized preparation of Latin missionaries to serve in difficult places. As a result, the attrition rate for graduates of the program is virtually zero. These Latin missionaries are thriving, and God is doing incredible ministry through them. ■

CONTINUING THE WORK TOGETHER IN ECUADOR

Reach Beyond's ministry footprint in Ecuador has changed as the mission focuses efforts on coming alongside church leaders, training Latin missionaries and working in rural areas through community development. Many of Reach Beyond's historic ministries are now under the leadership and ownership of the Ecuadorian church. While these ministries are independent, we continue to work together, with Reach Beyond missionaries serving under Latin leadership. The ministry in Ecuador continues, and it is thriving.





FIRE BRINGS NEW CHALLENGES FOR MORIA REFUGEE CAMP


On the night of September 8th, fires broke out in the Moria refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos. Stoked by strong winds and dry weather conditions, the fires quickly spread through the camp. 13,000 refugees had to flee as the tents that had become their homes went up in flames. Some were able to grab what few belongings they had. Others watched as everything they owned, including important documents related to their asylum cases, went up in smoke. They were forced to seek shelter wherever they could. They slept on the ground under olive trees, on the rocky edge of the road or the hard pavement of parking lots. They had no access to toilets or running water. In the aftermath of the fires, local volunteers worked hard to continue providing services even in the midst of the chaos and confusion.

Two of Reach Beyond's ministry partners, EuroRelief and Remar, lost their buildings in the fire. EuroRelief manages the assignment of accommodations and provides clothes, toiletries, blankets and tents. Remar distributes food and water to the women and children in the camp. Both had to adapt quickly, going out to the streets and passing out supplies in new locations, hoping that the refugees would find the new distribution points by word of mouth. EuroRelief worked to meet the needs of pregnant women and mothers of young babies, handing out nutrition packages, diapers and baby wipes. Refugees would point the EuroRelief workers to where mothers and babies had sought temporary protection. Remar continued to work with Greek authorities to bring in packets of food and pallets of water.

There is a new temporary tent camp to provide shelter. While this is an improvement, the camp is still not fully equipped with bathroom or wash facilities. Our third partner, All4Aid, has a women's center that provides a safe space for women and their children with shower and laundry facilities. Thankfully, it was not destroyed in the fire. Women, along with their children, have been walking an hour from the new camp to All4Aid's center just to get a shower while others have pushed strollers full of clothes

After fire destroyed the Moria Refugee Camp, a new one was built along the coast.



to be washed. In response, All4Aid now has a van to shuttle refugees back and forth. They offer 135 showers and 50 loads of laundry per day. All4Aid has also recently leased a space closer to the new camp with the hope of providing laundry and shower services for women and their children within walking distance.

Remar now has a designated food and water distribution point in the new camp and has built a large tent to provide protection from the weather. EuroRelief has helped to register and place families, single men, and single women in their new accommodations. These organizations are seeking to bring some sense of normalcy back to daily life after the disruptions caused by the pandemic, unrest and fires. There are now plastic bottle recycling awareness programs, English classes for kids and adults, and sport activities for men and women to play and have fun.

Reach Beyond has been in regular contact with our partners on Lesbos Island, providing emotional, spiritual, and financial support. Our first full-time workers arrive in Greece in November. Pray for Ray and Kitty as they transition to living in a new country and culture and begin exploring specific ways to support the refugee ministry. We are praying for the opportunity to send more teams in 2021 to share the love of Christ with refugees. Pray for each refugee living in the camps to meet Jesus, who is the true eternal Refuge and Provider. ■

WANT TO GO HELP REFUGEES?

REACHBEYOND.ORG/GREECE

URGENT OPPORTUNITIES

Do you have a passion to share Christ?

Do you want to make disciples among unreached people groups?
Are you ready to go long-term or serve as a career missionary or know someone who is?

CENTRAL ASIA

Community Development Engineers

Activities with our partner include providing solutions to problems identified by village communities, using materials and tools easily accessible to village people. This often involves building and testing appropriate technology and engineering-based solutions to water supply and pumping, fuel efficient heating and cooking, house insulation and construction methods, sanitation, alternative energy and other areas of technology, as well as training local people.

VARIOUS LOCATIONS + CENTRAL ASIA

Medical Professionals

We are looking for medical professionals to serve in, help develop, and even pioneer medical ministries including mobile caravans, clinics, hospitals, rehabilitation and work among refugees. We are also looking for medical professionals who are willing to train, coach and work alongside national medical staff. In this community-based work, the acquisition of some language skills is crucial to gaining credibility as a medical missionary.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES AT

REACHBEYOND.ORG/URGENT-OPPORTUNITIES

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FAST TRACK

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

MENTOR | EQUIP | DEPLOY



CONTACT US

800-873-4859

REACHBEYOND.ORG/FASTTRACK



WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE ON THE FIELD

Rachel is a new missionary who joined the Asia Pacific team in February. She has been ministering to Muslim refugee women in Southeast Asia, most of whom have been trafficked to be child brides. She meets with them weekly to learn about their stories, hear what their needs are, and develop a deeper friendship so she can share the love of Christ with them. Rachel invites us to see a glimpse of her friends' lives as well as share what she is learning about what love looks like.

I'd like to introduce you to a few of my friends. There is so much that could be said, but what I'd love for you to take away from this is a sense of beauty, brokenness and hope.

"B" is fifteen, HIV positive, with a new baby who she can't breastfeed. Her house consists of a boarded-up room barely big enough for a single mattress with an old fan as the only relief from the heat. Still, she invites me in and gives me a



smile and the best food she has. A few months ago, her husband beat her until her face was black and blue. I haven't seen her since he was arrested, but I remember how kind she was and the strength with which she carried herself.

"S" is sixteen and expecting her second baby. Her mother is dead, her father married her off and left before she turned thirteen. She tells me that she is lucky to have a good husband who doesn't beat her. To them, abuse is a fairly normal part of being a wife.



"J" is twenty-two and knows eight languages. She dreamed of being a doctor or a teacher, but here she will never be any of those. She hopes to one day be resettled to another country so that her daughter can have the future she always wanted. Instead of sitting around, she takes it upon herself to teach the refugee children in her neighborhood.

"H" is a hard woman. You can hear it in her voice and see it in the way she walks. She's been here for longer than most, having escaped the camps just to arrive in another country that doesn't want her. One day, we were able to webcam her elderly mother back in the refugee camps. She cried. They will probably never see each other again. But then she dried her tears and fed me some of her amazing curry, picking out each tiny fishbone by hand.



So... I'm new to this work, and my biggest question so far has been, "What does it look like to reach these women with the Gospel?" It's easy to talk in grand, vague terms - I did a lot of that myself, before coming here. We could throw money and programs at them, but is that enough? They aren't numbers to be counted, projects to complete or problems to fix. They are souls made in His image--dignified, valuable and complex, just like us.

Dignified and valuable and complex, just like us. 1 Corinthians tells us the better way. Love. Here's what that passage has looked like for me in the last few months.



Rachel demonstrates love to unreached women during visits where she provides perinatal care.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:10 (NIV)

“Love is patient,
love is kind...”

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.”

Love is patient. Love is kind. Love will sit on the floor for hours and eat curry so spicy it burns all the way to the next day. Love is willing to struggle and look like a complete fool, trying to learn a language that no one cares about. Love comes ready to listen—even if I only understand every twentieth word. Love gets burned fingers trying to learn how to make flat bread. Love takes the time to learn names and favorite colors. Love comes back, week after week, with a smile and a chunk of watermelon.

I often feel like these women love me. I am a stranger in this country, and they have welcomed me in as family. One day, I’ll have the words to tell them in their heart language about my Jesus. I hope that when I do, they won’t be too surprised because they’ve seen Him all along.

Please pray for my friends. Pray that the painful things in their lives would soften them towards God instead of turning them away. Pray for me that I can learn this tricky language and continue to love on these precious people. And pray for our little team, who is trying to meet their physical needs while caring for their souls. ■

6 REASONS TO PLAY YOUR PART IN GOD'S MISSION TO OUR WORLD

1 JESUS COMMANDED US TO DO SO
MATTHEW 28:18-20
Even though you might not be able to go, there are plenty of ways you can be involved in missions – like encouraging those who are studying to be ministers and supporting those who are willing to go.

2 HOW ELSE WILL THE UNREACHED HEAR? ROMANS 10:14-15
The fact that more than three billion people in our world today do not yet know of God’s love for them should be compelling enough for each of us to get involved. God has shown us mercy, and He requires us to show mercy and love to others.

3 BECAUSE WORKERS ARE FEW
MATTHEW 9:37-38
Every one of us is called to play our part in the process of planting, watering, and reaping God’s harvest. In 1 Corinthians 3:9 we read that “we are laborers together with God.”

4 MISSION WORKERS DEPEND ON US
PHILIPPIANS 4:10-18
Paul thanked the Philippian church for their contribution to his care. Like Paul, today’s mission workers and ministry partners depend on our prayers and financial support so that they can give themselves fully to the work of sharing the Gospel.

5 LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR
MATTHEW 22:36-40
Scripture commands us to not only love the Lord God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. Our neighbors are the people next door and those who are lost in faraway places.

6 ESTABLISHING HIS KINGDOM ON EARTH
MATTHEW 6:10
As we prepare for His return, we are to stay focused on the task of advancing the Gospel of Christ in all the earth. The urgent message to repent, heralds the coming of the Messiah as it did with John the Baptist, but this time Jesus will return as King.

REACH BEYOND

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