
CROSS ROADS BIC

MISSIONS OUTREACH

Function of the LAUNCH Team

Living And Ushering Nations to Christ's Heart

I. **OBJECTIVES:**

- Promote Missions outreach to invest in the promise of Revelation 7:9 and the mandate of Matt 28:19-20
- Foster a continuing awareness of missions in the congregation
- Support Short- and Long-Term Missionaries, financially and otherwise
- Training and/or preparing team members and teams for service
- Facilitating the Re-Entry process for Short- and Long-Term Missionaries
- Promoting projects and fund raising activities for approved non-profit charities
- Arranging for guest Missionary speakers for the congregation

II. LAUNCH Team will **PROMOTE MISSIONS** within the congregation by:

- Providing regular updates to keep the congregation informed of the status of missionaries sent or sponsored by Cross Roads BIC.
- Organizing and sponsoring an annual Missions Event (weekend, seminar, dinner, etc) to present opportunities for service to the congregation and to highlight participants' service over the preceding 12 months.
- Providing regular informational, prep and/or training opportunities for Cross Roads members and others who are interested in missions service or deepening their awareness of or participation in missions service.
- Arranging two missionary speakers to visit during the calendar year according to the pastors' schedules, and a fellowship meal following presentation by missionaries the LAUNCH Team has invited to speak in a Cross Roads service.
- Hosting send off and re-entry events for those who participate in missions service.
- Providing re-entry workshops and follow-up training opportunities for returning participants and their families.
- Help Cross Roads members promote special projects for approved non-profit charities.
- Maintain a bulletin board highlighting LAUNCH Team Missions Participants and activities.

III. Requests for **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** from the LAUNCH Team will be considered from:

- Short- and Long-Term missionaries and speakers.
- Members of Cross Roads BIC and others who have a strong relationship with the church, are regular attenders and serve or participate in church activities and projects.
- Persons serving in Short- or Long-Term missionary capacities where the primary goal is spreading the gospel among those who have not heard.
- Other applicants may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- All applicants are encouraged to also apply to BIC Missions.

IV. LONG-TERM (LT) Missionaries

- Applicants serving in missionary capacity that necessitates a monthly commitment for a period of time of 8 calendar months or longer.
- Long-Term applicants/commitments are reviewed annually before support is revised and/or renewed.
- Applicants must attend at least one missions-prep meeting (like Doug giving a membership meeting) and one re-entry meeting or event.
- LT Missionaries receiving support are required to send regular updates to the LAUNCH Team by periodic email or newsletter.

V. SHORT-TERM (ST) Missionaries

- Applicants serving in missionary capacity for a period of time of one week up to 8 calendar months for a single specific time of service that is not ongoing for the participant.
- Each case/event is considered as an independent event.
- Applicants must attend at least one missions-prep meeting and one re-entry meeting or event.
- ST missionaries will send regular updates by email or newsletter and a follow-up letter or report to the LAUNCH Team in addition to any requirement to the congregation by pastors or leadership.
- A ST Missionary converting to a LT context will need to submit an application for LT support. Each application will be reviewed and considered independently of previous applications.

VI. PROCESS FOR REQUESTING Financial Support

- Applicants, especially Short-Term applicants, must attend any Missions-Prep meeting/s offered
- Applicants will submit a copy of their support or informational letter to the LAUNCH Team mailbox.
- If a member of the congregation is not requesting financial support from the LAUNCH Team, an informational letter should be submitted to the LAUNCH Team and the missionary should attend an informational Mission-Prep meeting for the benefit of the congregation.
- Applicants may or may not be contacted for an interview, again for the benefit of the LAUNCH Team and the congregation.
- Each application will be reviewed independently.

- Applicants will receive either short-term or long-term support but not both.
- One time gifts for specific need will be reviewed on case-by-case basis.
- Missionaries desiring to solicit the congregation must follow current Cross Road policies.
- Mass mailings to mailboxes must be approved by church office. *(these 2 points will be included in material covered at Missions-prep meetings)*
- Checks will be written only to confirmed 501-c-3 non-profit organizations, not to individuals.

VII. YOUTH MINISTRY MISSIONS

- Working in concert with the Youth Minister, the LAUNCH Team will carry out prep/training, debrief/re-entry, orientation and other preparatory or follow-up coaching or instruction.
- Ideally, this coaching would be an ongoing teaching/meeting/workshop with a goal of preparing youth for Short-Term Missions Service before graduating High School.
- Youth Minister is responsible for the setting, agenda, itinerary, work focus and fundraising with youth participants.