

Alaska Field Report
07/20/2022

What IS going on:

Potential Staff increase

- A number of potential staff transfers from SEND North. Three “units” attended our annual conference and there was good times of fellowship and discussions.
- Another couple are interviewing in July, scheduled to be involved with discipleship through LEaD, possibly EnGage, etc.
- A single gentleman residing in Alaska has submitted his application, with a potential for joining a church-plant team in a village.
- We continue to pursue one couple at Frontier School of the Bible

LEaD Alaska

- 4 students began the program 2021-2022, all requiring scholarship funding
- We helped 1 returning student transfer to a more relevant ministry discipleship program in Washington
- 3 students completed the program and are back in their villages
- 1 student has requested to return 2022-2023 and work on employment, driving license, and participate in other classes as appropriate
- 7 other staff (or ministry partner staff) were involved on a regular basis in terms of teaching, driving, and participating in some capacity
- Actively working with individuals to form a new leadership team
- Our prayer and plan is to release LEaD to this team in August, with Jill and I in advisory capacity

New Staff Training- Pilot Project

- George Walker directed and developed the program
- New-to-InterAct-Alaska staff were required to attend
- All staff completed 4/4 weeks of training
- Training material was geared specifically to our kinds of ministries
- Cost was significantly lower for our missionary staff

Annual Conference

- May 31-Jun 3, with Covid making things a bit more challenging
- Keynote speaker was Dr. Kevin Carson, addressing the theme, “Growing Together in the One-Anothers”
- Worship was provided by Wasilla Bible Church
- Program included: field reports, Dale’s report and my report, prayer times, break-out sessions which included a panel discussion featuring our retired missionaries, (very well received) and the traditional barbecue and family fun night.
- A missionary work team from Cortez, Colorado, provided all meals /MK program
- Total attendance was @81
- We have exceeded our capacity on campus, and I am working with Victory Ministries to finalize our 2023 conference at Victory Bible Camp
- Jill worked with the “A” team on conference planning

EnGage! Alaska

- 1 intern this year, the youngest intern to date
- Ministry experience was in Grayling, with Daltons housing and mentoring
- She returned early due to an injury
- Jill completed her debrief time
- Our debrief with Daltons will help improve our 2023 Alaska EnGage!

Staff supervision and mentoring

- Meetings with campus staff (weekly)
- Meeting with the A Team (once every two weeks)
- Meeting with campus maintenance team (once every two weeks)
- Working with Toby to supervise campus maintenance & hospitality
- Regular meetings, face to face and zoom, with Copper Center team
- Phone meetings with Ross, Moles, Zooks (as needed)
- Daltons have started *A Novel Approach* consultations
- Martins were given a dedicated laptop for ANA filing
- Copper Center team doing limited ANA filing
- Keep up to date on pastoral staff in Anchorage churches, meeting with Derrs and Richardsons
- Scheduling face-to-face meetings in the fall
- Scheduling team building with Copper Center team for August
- We will return to a monthly Zoom meeting for staff, focused on a variety of topics- volunteer participation

Campus Services

- Working to release the campus supervision to Toby
- Working with Toby and Cherie to improve hospitality services
- Working with Toby and Marcus to improve maintenance for campus

Member Care

- Mark and Rose Mowery are formally our member care providers
- Their specific focus will be support and help, pre-SpA meeting and debrief after SpA or any ministry transition, as well as intensive respite or counseling
- I will be working with Mowerys to develop a plan for the field member care, and for mentoring the DeVries into more of this ministry

Villages requesting missionaries

- Chignik Bay
- Shageluk

Potential Villages to be developed

- Chignik Lagoon
- Chignik Lake

Property-related exploration or needs

- Tanana property
- Continued repair of Grayling house
- Chignik property upgrades

Miscellaneous

- Development of Field Advisory Council is progressing
- 5-year field strategic plan drafted and being defined and scheduled
- Formal mentoring of new staff being revised for next implementation
- Jill and I are mentoring the Petersons
- Jill will instruct 2 courses at Alaska Bible College this year, as adjunct faculty

Ministries to launch fall of 2022

Counseling Center

- Jill nearing the last phase of the MABC Graduate program
- Toby and Cherie have begun ACBC certification process
- Counseling office operational (being used a couple days a week)
- Counseling library initial phase assembled and in utilization
- New-to-Alaska staff had several modules on the application of gospel-centered conversations (Biblical Counseling) their ministry context

Professional Educator's Network

- One teacher attended conference this year
- Jill is using August for networking to set up a steering committee
- Infrastructure is close to "publication" and announcement phase
- Components will include: regular network meeting addressing relevant educational topic and missionary-skill to better impact the community, potential winter retreat, building networking among educators, summer educator's conference, potential to become InterAct members with fee and greater participation in our mission or as team members