

InterAct Ministries Joint Boards
Executive Director's Report
January 31, 2020
Corbett, OR

My passion has never been administration. My heart beats to see people come to Christ, grow in Him, gather in local churches and ultimately reproduce – both personally and as churches. Seeing this happen in remote places and among resistant people just makes it more of what thrill me. Add the chance to as clearly as possible present the gospel across cultural barriers to people of other worldviews – well let's just say that is something worth investing one's life doing. That's what drives me and that's what I seek to continue leading our organization toward! I believe God's glory justifies all the administration required to run an organization!

It has been said, "Of the writing of reports there is no end!" (OK, I took a little liberty there.) Before changing direction, I was writing a report that had already grown to five pages in length and I wasn't done. No one should have to read that much. So here is the summary. Taken with the reports from the fields and offices you should have a good idea where the two organizations are moving, struggling or standing still.

Advances:

- New finance director, Mike Hubbard (June 1998), is growing with the job
- Mobilization is now being led by a new Mobilization Team led by Dan Mayerle and is comprised of the three field directors
 - Systems are now in place to be sure there is weekly contact with each inquirer, applicant, candidate and appointee
 - The Mobilization Team has laid out a strategic plan to target the best schools for recruiting
 - Prospective new mobilizations director, Andy Chinn, is moving to Crossfield from Anahim Lake to begin tracking toward role of mobilization director
- Three couples are raising support for Alaska, or soon will be (two more couples and a single are in the pipeline)
- Alaska mid-term couple, Jamie and Beth Roderick, have served a year and will be going back to raise full support at year end
- Frankie Emrick married a Buryat lady from Ulan Ude, Ira, and they are mobilizing (with the Buryat church) to reach out to Buryat villages in Russia
- Urban Fire is up and running in Calgary, AB and have their first young adults
- Carol Smith is serving as interim Communications Director
- We are now mailing InterAction to approximately 7000 individuals, churches, schools and homes, four times annually (up from 2500). We are also sending out appeal letters to this same audience twice a year.

- *InterAction*, email version, is going to a readership of approximately 1800
- InterAct's Facebook presence continues to tell stories of His work in InterAct
- Prayer is being ratcheted up via increased followership of InterCessor prayer guide:
 - 1800 online
 - 300 snail mail
- Monthly prayer meetings at the U.S. office
- InterAct staff from all three fields attended training in use of A Novel Approach (ANA) – a worldview discovery system developed by Mike Matthews
- George Walker has done training in several venues regarding implementation of ANA on our fields
- George has also represented InterAct at several schools and has had invites to teach classes and even be the keynote mission speaker for a Bible school's annual mission conference
- Three staff are enrolled in Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling programs
- Numerous staff attended modular biblical counseling training in July
- Eight staff will be attending modular biblical counseling training in February
- Applications are posted online for a development director and a communications supervisor
- Bill and Lois Twichell are full-time in member care and doing a good job
- The Field Leadership Team (FLT – 3 field directors, Greg H and me) is meeting monthly by phone and three times a year face to face
- The Executive Leadership Team (ELT – comprised of the FLT, U.S. Finance Director, U.S. HR and U.S. Communications Director) met in October and will be meeting more frequently in 2020
- Financial picture for Canada is healthy

Challenges:

- The U.S. organization is struggling financially due to retirements, multiple deaths and three resignations in last few years (In spite of good performance with our stock portfolio we still lost \$25,000 last year)
- It is becoming more difficult to cover costs for services historically provided to Canada (mobilization costs, communications, development, receipting U.S. money going to Canada without retaining any of the assessment, etc.) with decreasing cash flow
- We need to find and bring up to speed a development director and a communications supervisor (Carol is covering this for now but is not the long term solution)
- Younger people are needed in our U.S. office
- Alaska has many property issues and few people and diminishing funds to maintain them
- Russia needs staff to advance ministry to unreached people groups in their region

- Smith's plan to move to Oregon to be more hands on in leading the U.S. office, which bring some logistical challenges

Summary:

We are staying the course. Steps are being taken to turn the corner. The two largest are ramping up communications (much larger mailing list) and ramping up mobilization. As more people know what God is doing on the front lines with InterAct, the more people will want to partner with us. The more missionaries (harvesters) we bring on, the more ministry happens at the front lines. In addition, each missionary supplies 10% of their support to operation of InterAct.

Finding a development director/donor relations director is also high on my priority list. Having a person who takes the time to develop relationships with prospective donors and helping them become aware of meaningful ways to invest for eternity is actually a win-win.

After much reflection I am convinced that I need to move to Oregon if we are to successfully find, hire, orient and oversee the staff needed for the future. Development, communications, U.S. Human Relations and more recruiters are needed or will be very soon. My physical presence is the best guarantee that this will happen. Since my job is remote from staff and offices much of the time anyway, I feel the most expedient thing for InterAct's current situation is relocation to Oregon, and more intentional presence there. This will not be without personal cost on almost every level, but both Carol and I feel it is necessary and right. As soon as we can get our house sold we hope to by somewhere near the U.S. office.

Carol and I continue to enjoy serving you, the staff of InterAct, our partner constituency and the Lord of the Harvest!

Blessed to serve,

Dale Smith

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Luke 10:2 (NIV).

InterAct Ministries' Purpose/Vision/Values Statements

Purpose Statement: InterAct Ministries exists to make disciples among least reached peoples in cooperation with like-minded churches and organizations.

Vision Statement: InterAct Ministries desires to see reproducing disciples impacting communities across the North Pacific Crescent.

Core Values:

- Scripture – Authoritative and sufficient for life and ministry
- Relationships – Loving God and loving people
- Cross-cultural ministry – Recognition of worldview and cultural implications in ministry
- Whole-life discipleship – Walking with disciples through all stages of life and growth
- Gathered believers – Recognize the centrality of the local church
- Commitment – High priority on long-term ministries.

Flowing out of these statements are several other statements that guide our strategies and day to day ministries.

Core Ministries: evangelism, discipleship, counseling, training, leadership development (From InterAct archives)

Core Strategies: determined by the field (From InterAct archives and practice)

Our Desire: To see fully developed disciples among each people group we serve who have formed into local bodies of multiplying disciples across the North Pacific Crescent. (This is a Dale addition – but fully trained disciples will gather. Gathering as “church” is a key part of “teaching them to obey all things...”)