

Faith Christian Fellowship International
MISSIONS POLICY

Table of Contents

Introduction:

Purpose of the Missions Policy:

Revision and Review of Missions Policy:

Definitions:

International Strategy:

Mission Budget:

Undesignated Funds:

Designated Funds:

Missionary Support:

Distribution of Funds:

Criteria for Financial Support:

Relational Responsibilities:

FCF Int'l to the Local Church:

FCFI to the Missionary:

FCFI to the National Worker:

Local Church to FCFI:

Local Church to the Missionary:

Local Church to the National Worker:

Missionary to FCFI:

Missionary to the Local Church:

Missionary to the National Worker:

National Worker to FCFI:

National Worker to the Local Church:

National Worker to the Missionary:

Introduction:

This policy is exclusively dealing with the Faith Christian Fellowship Int'l family of churches and ministers and relationships within the organization. The relationships represented in this policy are among those ministers and churches that are committed to the vision of FCFI. The policy does not deal with non-FCF ministers and ministry activities.

Purpose of the Missions Policy:

- To help achieve a clear sense of direction. [and structure]
- To build confidence and cohesion in the world outreach of FCFI.
- To promote thoughtful evaluation of crucial issues.
- To avoid making decisions on an emotional or haphazard basis.
- To prevent confusion, inconsistency and misunderstanding.
- To establish a structure and standards that will insure stewardship of financial resources.
- To clarify areas of responsibility and develop accountability in the missions outreach.
- To familiarize new members with the direction and guidelines of the world outreach of FCFI
- To define the relationship between FCFI, its Churches, Missionaries and National Workers.
- To inform the membership of FCFI of the principles by which the world outreach functions.

Revision and Review of Missions Policy:

It is intended that these policies be followed. However, exceptions, variations and/or changes can be made at any time with the prayerful consideration and approval of the FCFI Directors. The Directors shall function corporately to give direction to the world outreach of FCFI and shall be accountable to one another. The advice and counsel of others within the FCF family and outside persons in relationship with FCF Int'l may be solicited and received at any time as deemed necessary.

This policy shall be held for review and revised annually, or as often as necessary.

Definitions:

It is intrinsic to our Mission Statement that FCFI is "*reaching the world for Jesus Christ.*" Therefore we define **Missions** as the activity of God's people to proclaim and demonstrate the Kingdom of God. **Missions** is all that the church is sent into the world to do.

NOTE: A distinction must sometimes be made between home and foreign Missions. Both may be cross-cultural in essence. Home missions take place within the local or neighbor community or state (in *Jerusalem and in all Judea* Acts 1:8). Foreign missions take place outside the borders of one's native country (in *Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the earth*). A difference may also be made between spiritual and social/humanitarian ministry. FCFI values both and recognizes God calls and equips people for both concentrations. Spiritual and social ministries are partners in world evangelism and included in the definition of Missions.

FCF International (FCFI) includes Co-Founder and President Pat Harrison, the Directors and office staff at headquarters in Tulsa Oklahoma. By extension, FCFI includes the Regional Resource Centers and support staff in Europe/Middle East, Austral-Asia, Africa, Latin America/ Caribbean. FCFI provides apostolic leadership and spiritual covering for all FCFI ministers and ministries. FCFI will also validate and supervise all FCFI ministers and ministries in other nations.

Missionary is one who is appointed and sent by God, in cooperation with the local and universal Church, who proclaims and demonstrates the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a cross-cultural context. What qualifies a missionary distinctive from other ministries is that they live or travel almost exclusively outside of their native country and are dependent largely on support from partners outside of the field they are working.

National Worker is one who is appointed and sent by God, in cooperation with the local and universal Church, who proclaims and demonstrates the Gospel of Jesus Christ primarily within the his/her native country. The National Worker's ministry activity takes place outside the U.S.

Local Church an Affiliate or Associate FCF Church or a church which is pastored by an FCF credentialed minister. The Local Church is the primary sending and supporting agency of missionaries.

NOTE: The vision, values and unique attributes of FCFI largely determine the strategy and priorities of the international ministry. FCFI is essentially a sending and supportive ministry to ministers.

Vision

Helping you fulfill the vision and call God has given

Mission

*Reaching the world for Jesus Christ
demonstrating the power of the Holy Spirit
and building covenant relationships*

Values

*Help people succeed
emphasize family
allow liberty in the Holy Spirit and
build on a foundation of faith*

International Strategy:

1. Establish and develop Regional Resource Centers in a) Europe/Middle East; b) Austral-Asia; c) Latin America/the Caribbean; d) Africa. Regional Resource Centers function as an extension of the International Headquarters in Tulsa, Oklahoma U.S.A.
2. Identify and train Relational Representatives in each country where there is a presence of FCFI credentialed ministers. Each RR must meet criteria for appointment.
3. Conduct regular meetings for pastors and church leaders in nations where there is an FCFI presence using qualified FCFI ministers for training and ministry.
4. Provide assistance for the Local Church with Missions structure, strategy, education and mobilization.
5. Create opportunities for believers to use their gifts in a cross cultural setting.
6. Assist with completing missions projects submitted by FCFI credentialed ministers and approved by FCFI Directors.

Mission Budget:

FCFI shall prepare a Mission Budget each year. The budget will include foreign ministries supported from the FCFI Headquarters, various projects initiated by FCFI or submitted to FCFI by credentialed Missionaries and National Workers and maintenance of the Missions Department of FCFI.

The various projects submitted will be reviewed, approved and prioritized by the FCFI Board of Directors annually.

The Mission Budget will be presented to the FCF family of churches and ministers and a financial commitment to the Budget will be requested. The Mission Budget will be funded with undesignated funds collectively by the FCFI family of churches and ministers and partnerships with individuals and agencies outside of FCFI.

Funds for the Mission Budget and designations for specific projects will be sent to and through the FCFI Headquarters.

A regular progress report on the various projects represented in the Mission Budget will be communicated to partners within FCFI family of churches and ministers and outside of FCFI through a different media channels.

Undesignated Funds:

Contributions made to the General Mission Account are used to maintain the department and fund various approved projects submitted by FCF Missionaries and National workers. These funds may also be used for overseas travel expenses of FCF staff, sponsorship of international FCFI ministers conferences, establish ministry in new fields, and respond to emergencies that arise.

Designated (restricted) Funds:

Any Missionary or National Worker who has requested and been approved may receive designated funds through the FCF Int'l office. All monies received that are designated for an individual Missionary or project are accumulated and sent, in total, to the Missionary or project at the first of each month. No management fee is deducted from any designated offering.

Criteria for Financial Support:

1. Is this ministry or project serving the Vision, Mission and Values of FCFI?
2. Are funds available for this ministry or project from other sources other than FCFI?
3. Has there been sufficient research made into the ministry or project requesting funds?
4. How self-reliant is the ministry requesting funds?
5. Is there sufficient accountability established with ministry requesting funds.
6. Has a plan for terminating financial support been determined?
7. Will the project be self-sustaining upon completion?

Missionary Support:

Missionaries are responsible to raise their budgets for both personal and ministry funding from family, friends, churches, and other donor agencies with which they have a relationship. Emergency assistance is available from the FCFI Missions Account as funds are available.

Distribution of Funds:

Funds are allocated from the Missions Account for ministries and projects that are serving the Vision, Mission, Values and international strategy of FCFI.

Relational Responsibilities:

NOTE: FCFI is a family within the family of God. We emphasize family and value covenant relationships. Every relationship in our lives presupposes some responsibility. The following is a basic description of relationships and accompanying responsibilities within FCFI related to international Missions. These are intended to be guidelines. Every relationship will take its own form, but each should be built on the principles of trust, agreement, clear communication and mutual accountability.

Responsibility of FCF Int'l to the Local Church

NOTE: FCF Int'l respects the sovereignty of the Local Church; specifically the right to choose which Missionaries and mission activities they will be involved with and the extent of their involvement. The Local

Church is expected and encouraged to be an active partner with FCFI in support of the international missions strategy, FCF Missionaries, National Workers, and approved mission projects.

- Expose Missionaries, National Workers, mission activities and projects to the church.
- Present opportunities for the church to be involved with Missionaries, National Workers, mission trips and projects.
- Make resources available to assist the church with its mission strategy.
- Provide training for the church in the areas of home and foreign missions.

Responsibility of FCFI to the Missionary

- Recognize and endorse qualified persons through the credentialing process.
- Offer credibility that comes through association with an international organization and accountability to a ministry with years of history.
- Make available the counsel offered through FCFI staff and Representatives with years of ministerial experience.
- Expose the Missionary and their ministry activity through FCF media.
- Make resources available to assist the Missionary in their ministry.
- Conferences and special meetings sponsored by FCF for ministers in different regions and nations.

Responsibility of FCFI to the National Worker

- Recognize and endorse qualified persons through the credentialing process.
- Offer credibility that comes through association with an international organization and accountability to a ministry with years of history.
- Make available the counsel offered through FCFI staff and Representatives with years of ministerial experience.
- Expose the National Worker and their ministry activity through FCFI media.
- Make resources available to assist the National Worker in their ministry.
- Conferences and special meetings sponsored by FCFI for ministers in different regions and nations.

Responsibility of Local Church to FCFI

- Become an active partner with FCFI in its International Strategy.
- Be open to partnership with FCF Missionaries and National Workers.
- Communicate the goals, progress and practical needs of any FCF Missionaries who they send.

Responsibility of Local Church to the Missionary

NOTE: The degree of responsibility of the Local Church to the Missionary may differ depending on if the Missionary is sent from the church and considers it a “Home Church” from those Missionaries who are sent from another church.

- Have an established Missions Policy and a designated person(s) to coordinate missions activities and respond to the Missionary.
- Personal and consistent communication with the Missionary.
- Faithful financial and prayer support for the Missionary.
- Visit Missionary while on the field.
- Provide hospitality and care for the Missionary while he/she visits the church.
- Give an opportunity for the Missionary to report to the congregation while at the church.
- Provide administrative support to those Missionaries who the church sends.

Responsibility of Local Church to the National Worker

- Each church should validate the National Worker or ministry before entering a partnership. This can be done by referrals, personal contact or visits to the field.

- Review the partnership regularly.
- Clearly communicate the responsibilities and expectations of your partnership.
- Outline the terms of your partnership in a written policy.
- Establish a system for financial accountability with the National Worker.

NOTE: Financial accountability with partners should include a written report of funds received and how funds were distributed, supported by photographs, receipts, testimonies, etc.

- Include specific goals and a point of termination for financial support into your partnership agreement.

Responsibility of Missionary to FCFI

- Renew credentials annually.
- Regular, personal communication with FCFI (e.g. acknowledge financial gifts, praise and progress reports, prayer and practical needs).
- Submit a progress report, summary of ministry goals and accounting for financial support received through FCFI annually.
- Attend meetings sponsored by FCFI whenever possible.

Responsibility of Missionary to the Local Church

- Regular, personal communication with the Local Church (e.g. acknowledge financial gifts, praise and progress reports, prayer and practical needs).
- Submit a progress report and summary of ministry goals annually.
- Offer to visit the Local Church during scheduled deputation.

Responsibility of Missionary to the National Worker

- Exemplify the vision, mission and values of FCFI in relationship to one another.

Responsibility of National Worker to FCFI

- Renew credentials annually.
- Regular, personal communication with FCFI (e.g. acknowledge financial gifts, praise and progress reports, prayer and practical needs).
- Submit a progress report, summary of ministry goals and accounting for financial support received through FCFI annually.
- Receive visits from qualified and approved individuals sent from FCFI

Responsibility of National Worker to the Local Church

- Regular, personal communication with the church (e.g. acknowledge financial gifts, praise and progress reports, prayer and practical needs).
- Submit a progress report, summary of ministry goals and accounting for financial support received annually.

NOTE: Financial accountability with partners should include a written report of funds received and how funds were distributed, supported by photographs, receipts, testimonies, etc.

- Offer to visit the church during stateside visits.
- Receive visits from qualified and approved individuals sent the church.

Responsibility of National Worker to the Missionary

- Exemplify the vision, mission and values of FCFI in relationship to one another.