



Hope in the Harvest Missions International **Outreach Plan 2016**

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND

Purpose Statement -

The purpose of Hope in the Harvest Missions is to seek to cultivate Christ's hope in underdeveloped and impoverished areas of the world through agricultural and personal transformation. Building on borrowed talent, we seek to impact attitudes and practices that will promote the economic and social well being of individuals, from a conviction that a changed life results from a Christ-changed heart.

Where We Are Serving –

Liberia

Why Liberia? -

From 1980 to 2004 Liberia suffered through a series of civil wars that went unnoticed by the rest of the world. Starting with the assassination of President Tolbert and the public execution of 13 cabinet members by Samuel Doe the horror continued as Charles Taylor's rebels claimed power and took over in 1990. Over 300,000 people died during this time wiping out entire generations of knowledge in expertise in what once was a thriving economy. Agriculture knowledge and skills vanished leaving the bush to encroach on what was productive farm ground. Today Liberia imports over 90% of its food, although Africa is one of the most arable soils in the world. 83% of the Liberians are farmers and 51% live in urban areas. The population of Liberia is about 4.1 million people (occupying a state about the size of Ohio)

Liberia is one of the third poorest countries in the world, with the majority of the population living on less than \$1 a day.

There is no running water and very limited electricity only 2,000 facilities in all of Liberia have electric power.

Vision –

Generating Christ centered economic growth.

Core Values – Faithfulness, Humility, Mercy, Witness

Faithfulness:

We have to work and carefully look after God's garden, which He has entrusted to us. Genesis 2:15, "Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it."

Humility:

Jesus demonstrated and instructed us to walk in servant leadership. He spent His life fulfilling His Father's desire for Him, never elevating Himself, but rather humbling Himself and exercising unselfishness.

1 Corinthians 10:31, "... whatever you do, do all to the glory of God".

Mercy:

As Christians it is our responsibility to be a faithful steward and teacher, so that others can benefit from your understanding.

Luke 12:48b, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more."

Witness:

We witness spiritually by leading people through confession and repentance and thereafter, by faith, to the appointment of Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

With this precious gift of salvation we have the right to be called children of God and have our names written in the book of eternal life.

Matthew 28:16-20, "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

SECTION 2: ORGANIZATIONAL STRATEGY

TRANSFORMATION

STRATEGY 1

- Personal transformation –
 1. Shared cause

This mission is a shared cause; we want people who come alongside the mission to experience their own transformation. When a person engages with the mission the mission should be giving back to the individual in the encouragement of; Spiritual growth, to love the Lord deeper, in daily prayer, in searching to translate God's words, in being used by God; Individual growth, by stepping out of a comfort zone, by using skills for the service of others, by working for a purpose; Accountability growth; responding to God's call (rather than that of our own), becoming transformed to help others transform. Each person that comes to the mission is coming to champion the cause; we need to uphold these champions in prayer, in communication, in support of the use of talents, time and treasure. We commit to measure and value:

Transformation in the cause on which HITHM is focused

Transformation in the champions that God has sent HITHM to coach

Transformation in HITHM

The mission should be a witness in print, in word and in deed of the tremendous love Christ has for everyone. The mission shares in the cause by:

- a) Requesting specific prayers from prayer warriors enlisted and dedicated to pray for the mission.
 - b) Communicating monthly via email newsletter the activities of the mission. Use Facebook and the website to keep information out front.
 - c) Hold a Spiritual Warfare Conference in June, being led by board member Brian Smith.
 - d) Working with the Sagamore Institute on the second round of Isoko leadership development learning.
 - e) Hosting 6 visitors in the Ag Center in Liberia who do outreach in the community.
 - f) Encouraging champions to own HITHM (Seek the gifts of others to take on roles and responsibilities).
 - g) Equip Liberians to become champions of HITHM by 1) doing most of the FGW training (Trav must be present to encourage value to the locals) 2) creating and funding work study positions at LICC 3) working as needed to ensure LICC continues to thrive as a Liberian led institution. 4) Being a conduit for sponsors of students to achieve their educational goals
2. Meet the management/administrative needs of LICC in the capacity of finance, grounds maintenance, policy, and Christ centered stewardship development.
 3. Hope for an Education = Be a conduit for the sponsorship of 20 students = 6 college, 14 elementary/primary.

STRATEGY 2

- Agricultural transformation –

1. Education in villages

To demonstrate the love of Christ through Farming God's Way. Farming God's Way (FGW) brings a Bible based solution to the food security and poverty crisis the rural poor are facing in Liberia. This program is well balanced between the spheres of biblical, technology and management agriculture solutions to equip the poor to come out of poverty with what God has put in their hands and revealing the fullness of HIS promise of abundant life.

Taking FGW into the villages, where there is ancestral worship and other practices taking place, is a priority for this mission. Remembering that a seed holds only potential hope, it takes cultivation, care and nurturing to see the seed into a harvest.

During the months of March, April, and May to go a total of five villages and in October, November and December visit five more, with five follow up visits also being conducted.

2. Education on the LICC campus

Find strong Christ centered agriculture teachers to teach agriculture education via Farming God's Way on the campus of LICC. Come alongside one full time and two part time instructors equipping them with the tools of Farming God's Way.

3. Build the knowledge and ability of livestock production from the Agriculture Research Center to farmers around Liberia. Deliver 100 tilapia to producers to establish their own farm. Host the first team of CVM visitors and evaluate potential partnership. Sell 20 pairs of rabbits for breeding and ensure education of rearing so producers will be successful. Begin to sell poultry breeding stock (10 pairs).

4. Continue to evaluate and adjust to the level of need the agriculture curriculum and course work being offered on the campus of LICC.

5. Encourage farmers to grow corn and millet and if the quality these farmers produce is good then the mission will purchase at least 50kg bags of corn/millet.

6. Education outreach with other entities

When possible be a leader in developing partnerships with other learning institutions and NGO's in the area of viable agriculture practices. Tour at least 24 groups at the Agriculture Center and speak at three outside events.

GOVERNANCE

A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Who We Are –

Dan Lutes - President

I'm Dan Lutes, and an electrical engineer by trade, but my heart is with missions. I serve as Missions Chairman at Christ United Methodist Church in Westfield, IN and have travelled several times with Travis and Gina on foreign mission trips. I love their enthusiasm and heart for missions. Without exaggeration, I can say they are truly the inspiration for what I do. They are definitely living out the Great Commission: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," -- Matt. 28:19

Matt Beardsley – Secretary

I'm Matt Beardsley, and I am an attorney and CPA practicing in Frankfort. I am excited to be a part of Travis and Gina's ministry and I hope that through God's grace that any talents I have to offer will help the mission to flourish. I have admired Travis and Gina for many years for the enthusiasm that they have in everything that they do. Their passion for mission work is infectious. I was blessed to witness this firsthand on a trip to Honduras last fall, and I look forward to being a part of it in the future.

Rae Jahn – Treasurer

I have been employed at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church for 27 years. I was a member of the Thorntown Presbyterian Church until 2009 when I transferred my membership here. I have been the financial secretary here at First EPC since about 1995, so I feel that I have the experience needed to be the treasurer of Hope in the Harvest.

I was raised in the Disciples of Christ Church and transferred to Presbyterian as an adult. I have been searching for a way to become more active in sharing my faith and feel that working with missions might be a way to do that, even though it might only be by staying home and supporting the people who are doing the "real work." I was especially drawn to Travis and Gina's mission to teach "farming God's way" and to help people learn how to feed themselves that way.

Brian Smith

I'm Brian Smith, and I work at Lamb Farms in Lebanon, IN. I am also president of Agri-Stewards which strives to educate the subsistence farmer in third world countries to become better farmers through the Word of God. Isaiah 58 speaks of God's desire to break the yoke of the oppressed. I am excited about what God will accomplish through Travis and Gina by educating and developing the oppressed.

Kathy Glover

I'm Kathy Glover. God has given me a heart to join Him in His mission field, sharing His love for others and His amazing gift of salvation! I have enjoyed serving on our Mission Team at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Frankfort, IN, and have been

blessed to experience many mission trips to Mexico, Costa Rica, China, and recently to Liberia, Africa, where I served alongside Gina and Travis in their Hope in the Harvest ministry. I have learned that when the Holy Spirit prompts me to go, He will lead me and show me what He wants me to do – whether it is giving my testimony, facilitating a Womens' Bible study, or teaching watercolor or knitting classes. Gina and Travis are truly a blessing to the Liberian people, and I am so thankful that God has allowed me to play a small part in this. "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:15

Gary Kinsler

My wife, Sandy, and I have been farming all of our lives. It's a great way to learn to trust God since we don't have control over many factors needed to produce a good crop. I am new to the board but I am an enthusiastic supporter of the work Travis and Gina do. I might not be able to go to help with the work there in Liberia, but I do pray for Travis and Gina and all they deal with. I will help here at home with whatever I can. Sandy and I attend New Hope, a little church on the prairie.

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:37-39

Kelly Kurth

I'm Kelly, the Associate Pastor at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Frankfort, Indiana, and I traveled to Liberia with Travis and Gina in 2013. It was my first time in Liberia and my first time to travel by dugout canoe! One of the things that captivates me most about Hope in the Harvest is its unique way of being a part of God's redemptive and restorative work. The agricultural education and spiritual training that HITH facilitates lives up to its name, providing hope in so many ways, as they invite participants to be a part of God's ongoing story. "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21

Shan Sheridan

I'm Shan Sheridan with the Clinton County Chamber of Commerce and also Pastor of a small rural church in the southwestern corner of Clinton County in New Hope. I have been blessed to know Travis and Gina for several years and certainly look forward to working with them in this exciting and challenging endeavor. I believe Hope in the Harvest Mission International would be best and does capture the emotion and vision of what these two have been called to do.

Shelly Lea

I'm Shelly Lea, and work as a video production manager at Wiley and Sons. I traveled internationally for the first time when I participated in a mission trip with Hope in the Harvest Missions International. I was so excited, passion filled and changed that upon returning to Indiana the board asked me to join the team and I accepted with the blessings of my family. A year later our youngest son joined me to make a return trip to see the amazing work of sharing the gospel through agriculture in a country that needs the love Christ to feed their souls and produce to feed their families.

Karen Sutton

I am Karen Sutton, an RN, and I have spent 32 years working in hospitals in clinical areas and administrative positions such as education, quality improvement and risk management. In 2008 after moving from California back to Frankfort, Indiana (where I was born and graduated from high school), My husband and I met Travis and Gina at church. We fell in love with them and “adopted” them as our own. We have supported their call to Liberia from the beginning. We strongly believe in the values and vision of HITHM, and are very thankful to be a small part of their team in Frankfort.

“My word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it”. — Isaiah 55:11

Travis Sheets Gina Sheets

Travis and Gina Sheets are born Hoosiers, and for their 20-plus years of marriage have lived in Clinton County, Indiana where they have spent the past 14 years building a diversified farm operation from row crop farming to raising all-natural pasture poultry, free-range laying hens, pasture beef, rainbow trout and a variety of fruit and produce, all for retail sale.

Travis is a Vincennes University graduate with a passion for all things living and breathing; from plants to animals he has a caretaker spirit with a lifetime of hands-on experience.

Gina’s passion is economic development with an advanced accreditation by the International Economic Development Council in Economics through the University of Oklahoma and Business Administration from Stanislaus State University of California. She is a senior fellow at the Sagamore Institute, the only think tank in the Midwest.

Trav worked as Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Frankfort and built the community’s first zoo and aviary. He then became the director of facility and operations for a continuing care facility.

In 2005 Trav became a missionary building churches around the world as a part of the small team who comprise World Mission Builders. When stateside (about half the year), Trav managed the farm, served as a Clinton County Councilman, raised exotic birds for retail sale, ran a landscaping company, and managed the rental properties he and Gina own. Gina has spent the past 16 plus years working in the field of economic development (10 on the local level and 3 serving as the Director of Economic Development for the Indiana

State Department of Agriculture). In January of 2013 Gina was appointed by Governor Pence to serve as the Director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. Gina and Travis have run small businesses, and served in elected positions. They have been host parents to seven exchange students from around the world, and they have hosted many international visitors at their farm. Trav and Gina are very active in their community, recognized as Clinton County’s Citizens of the Year in 2006. Gina is a Paul Harris Fellow and past president of Frankfort Rotary. They have literally traveled and run all over the world; Trav is a 2011 “Iron Man” finisher and Gina an “ultra-runner.”

In January 2012, Trav and Gina were called to Liberia to share their skills in diversified farming and business development. Hope in the Harvest Missions International was created as a 501c3. Trav and Gina live on the college campus of Liberia International Christian College (LICC) located in Ganta, Liberia. Trav is the director of the newly accredited agriculture department, and both teach on the campus and in the villages using Farming God’s Way. They work with the LICC staff and administration to build an agriculture and entrepreneurial program in the community at large. Already in Liberia, the Sheets have raised several types of fruits and vegetables and introduced new varieties, in addition to row crops and livestock. Trav and Gina

are volunteers, the mission is building an agriculture education center to extend agriculture education and have committed to live in Ganta for five years.

“So take a new grip with your tired hands and stand firm on you shaky legs. Mark out a straight path for your feet. Then those who follow you, though they are weak and lame, will not stumble and fall but will become strong”. Hebrews 12:12-13

B. BOARD POLICIES

See website

SECTION 4: OPERATING PLAN

A. DESCRIPTON OF THE PROGRAM

The purpose of Hope in the Harvest Missions is to seek to cultivate Christ’s hope in underdeveloped and impoverished areas of the world through agricultural and personal transformation. Building on borrowed talent, we seek to impact attitudes and practices that will promote the economic and social well being of individuals, from a conviction that a changed life results from a Christ-changed heart.

B. MULTI-YEAR STAFFING PLAN

Position	2014				2015				2016			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Missionaries											2	2
<i>Missionary Assist</i>					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Ag Center Supervisor</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Warehouse Director</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Livestock Manager</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Livestock Technican</i>									1	1	1	1
<i>Shepherds</i>						2	2	2	2	2	2	2
<i>Production Manager</i>								1	1	1	1	1
<i>Field Technicians</i>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2
<i>Work Study Students</i>										2	3	3
<i>Green House Manager</i>			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Center Day Security</i>			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>House Day Security</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Night Security</i>	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
<i>House cook</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Outside cook</i>	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Day Laborers/day≈</i>	17	34	3	46	10	50	50	50	50	50	30	20

C. BUDGET:

PART 1: ESTIMATING BUILDING COSTS FOR AG CENTER

Project	Notes	Cost	Cost share	Total
Third Floor	LICC will allocate subsidy when available	\$ 94,625	50%	\$ 47,312
Fish fishing	Must secure ponds	\$ 12,000	100%	\$ 6,000
Final finish work inside	Touch, plaster, paint, touch up	\$ 15,000	50%	\$ 7,500
Furnish second and third floors	28 beds/dresser/chairs 10 toilets 6 shower units Tables/chairs	\$ 38,000	50%	\$ 19,000
Part 1 Total				\$79,812

PART 2: ADDITIONAL MULTI YEAR CAPITAL COSTS

Multi-Year Capital Costs	2014	2015	2016	2017
Vehicle - Toyota	\$10,200	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
Total	\$10,200	\$0	\$0	\$50,000

PART 3: ESTIMATED 2016 EXPENSES

Annual Expenses	Total
Stateside	\$ 3,510
Liberian staff salaries	\$23,280
House staff	\$ 1,800

Day Laborers (separate than those building Ag Center)	\$ 3,000
Advertising	\$ 1,000
Additional Building	\$4,700
Ag Center Furnishings	\$7,200
Ag Center Maintenance	\$1,200
Food	\$15,000
Hope for an Education	\$7,000
Shipping expenses	\$3,500
Communication	\$1,600
Gas	\$10,955
Medical costs	\$800
Misc Cost	\$8,790
Field office expenses	\$1,760
Field Equipment	\$7,000
Field Supplies	\$5,800
Equipment Maintenance	\$3,000
Seeds/plants	\$1,000
Live Animals	\$1,000
Feed expense	\$3,000
Animal housing	\$3,000
Livestock medical	\$500
TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUAL EXPENSES	\$91,063
Monthly estimate	\$7,590

Part 4: Summary of Costs

Summary of Costs	Total
Capital costs part one	79,812
Operating costs part three	0
Total 2016 year cost	79,812

SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL OWNER INVESTMENT

Projects	Justification	Budget	In or out of budget
Hope for an Education: As mentioned in plan above support 20 students to receive an education	Students cannot afford to attend school	\$ 7,000	In
Agriculture Research Equipped: Equip a science lab in the ARC	There is no lab at LICC	\$ 120,000	Out
Solar Power: Install 30 solar panels and 16 battery cells at the ARC	Power is not reliable and is costly	\$ 56,000	Out
Kid 2 Kid: Build milking stations, shelters, and transport Nubian to Liberia	Liberia needs fresh milk access	\$ 23,000	Out

SECTION 6: ACTION PLAN FOR 2016

Action	Who is accountable	Due Date
Maintain website and technical support	Hans Vargas	On going
Communication: newsletter	Sheets/Jahn/Vargas	monthly
Facebook/website/emails	Sheets	On going
EVENT(s)	Board	planned

Contact information:

Travis and Gina Sheets: USA address: 2282 East County Road 250 North, Frankfort IN 46041
USA phone: 765-490-9277

Liberia address: Agriculture Center Liberia International Christian College, Royal Community, Ganta, Nimba County, Liberia wmbtrav@yahoo.com Sheets.gina@yahoo.com

Donations may be made to:

Hope in the Harvest Missions International
352 West Clinton Street
Frankfort IN 46041
www.hopeintheharvest.com

Adopted August 2012

Updated August 2013

Sunday, May 15, 2016 Updated