

Annual Report for 2009

Equip International came into being as Equip Inc. a New Jersey Not-For-Profit in 1983. In its early days, the focus was simply on the redirecting of used medical equipment from hospitals, clinics and doctors offices to medical projects around the world. Much has changed and the focus in recent years has been the training, supporting and sending of missionaries equipped with practical skills to mission projects across the globe.

One of our major projects was to assist Village Schools Tanzania, a small Africa-based mission, to establish schools in Tanzania. This project was very successful and by the completion of Equip's role in the project fifteen high schools were operational and six more were under construction. As was planned from the outset, the project developed into Village Schools International, registered as a Not-for-Profit corporation in the state of Texas in 2009 and Equip ended its role with VSI in October 2009. Equip missionaries Steve and Susan Vinton and Sarah Bickel at that time transferred to VSI.

In Liberia, while in many ways peace and order have been restored after many years of civil war, little progress has been made in the economic development of the people. Equip continues to be involved in defending the victims of gender based violence, and in providing health care for a large percentage of people living in rural areas. With over 10,000 village health workers trained, Equip was touted by the Liberian government as the largest healthcare provider in the country. While this was indeed an honor, it should be noted that this was the provision of health care at the very most basic level. Work continues on the building and operating of rural clinics to support the local health ambassadors. TEAR Fund, UNICEF and USAID have been the major contributors to this work. Currently, we have nine expatriate workers in Liberia.

In Uganda, we continue to teach at village level sustainable agricultural principles, using the materials called "Farming God's Way," developed in South Africa. In addition, two workers are assigned to work in the Masese slums among the Karamojong people who fled violence and poverty in the north. This work has resulted in self help programs, medical work and a sports program for youth at risk. We currently have four expatriate workers in Uganda soon to be joined by three more.

In Nigeria, Equip operates two schools - one at the primary level in the village of Odu Ofugu and one in Ayangba secondary and post secondary. In addition, we partner with the churches started by Christian Missions in Many Lands in their work of evangelism. Within the same church fellowship, we support the Mission of Mercy (MoM) in the care of over 300 handicapped children. This work has started another center in a nearby city. We have no expats in Nigeria.

In Ethiopia, Equip is privileged to join in the many ministries of the Kaleheawot Church founded by SIM. We assist in three colleges, a hospital and a small network of clinics in the Soddo area and in addition operate a small rehab project for crippled children. We currently have four expats in Ethiopia.

In Kenya, the work of Equip is focused mainly upon itinerant evangelism among the Masai, a nomadic people and the care of a small number of (30-35) AIDS orphans. We have no expats in Kenya.

We entered Malawi with our first missionary in 2009 whose task is to assist the church in Malawi with ministry to women. We are pleased to partner with a couple from South Africa, one a doctor and the other an evangelist. We have one expat in Malawi.

In Brazil, we continue to support and staff the School of Life and Hope in Oro Fino, MG. This is a vocational home and school for about 20 young men and boys at risk. We have one expat assigned to this home and two expats assigned to a family based ministry in a neighboring area.

In Bolivia, our missionary is responsible for the importation of Christian literature serving all the bookstores and Bible colleges and seminaries in the country. A daunting task considering the government's antagonism towards Christianity. We have one expat in the country.

In Nicaragua, Equip operates an elementary school for children from the slums of Managua; this last year work was begun on adding a high school as we now have graduates from our elementary program. The director of the school, Mrs. Judy Vargas, died in 2008 and her husband Henry carries on this work with a Nicaraguan staff. We have one expat in country.

In Belize, our work and ministry is focused upon the Garafuna and Mayan population, largely ignored in the evangelization of Belize. The goal is to utilize the strategy of Community Health Evangelism to assist the churches in Belize to adopt a more holistic approach to ministry. We have two expats in country.

In Mexico, our work has focused on water and sanitation among the urban poor of Chiapas. The work has been carried on for 15 years in cooperation with the Presbyterian Church of Mexico. Good results have been achieved and work is being done to register Equip as an independent charity in Mexico. We have two expats in Mexico.

In Spain, Equip is represented by a leading national worker and his American wife. They have served in Spain for over forty years and play a leading role in the Protestant church in Spain a lead the organization of Spain's evangelists. We have one expat.

Japan has seen a small amount of fruit through teaching of English as a Second Language. The target group has been those engaged in theatre and music and a

heartening response has been seen in a difficult culture. We have one expat in Japan.

In 2009, our training courses in North Carolina - Tropical Medicine, Community Health, and Water Technologies - had the largest student participation ever with 220 participants. To date we have trained 2,573 missionaries from 610 agencies going to 114 countries.

Equip is indebted to its many supporters including individuals, churches, foundations and government agencies. We are currently members in good standing of ECFA, AERDO, ECA and in Canada CCCC.

Respectfully submitted,
Barrie Flitcroft
General Director

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Missionary Personnel by Country

Belize

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Humes
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Steinmetz

Bolivia

Mrs. Marilyn Madderom

Brazil

Mr. David Davis
Mr. and Mrs. James Gilbert

Ethiopia

Mrs. Laurie Blakney
Sophie Ness
Drs. Garret Vanderkooi

Honduras

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Japan

Jan Jones

Kenya

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Okello

Liberia

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Malawa

Tammy Tice

Mexico

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Rach

Nicaragua

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vargas

Nigeria

Dr. and Mrs. John Apeh
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Edeh

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Rev. and Mrs. Carlos Gomez

Uganda

Mr. and Mrs. Louie Bradbury
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Boone
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Sperling

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Mr. and Mrs. Buck Forester
Mr. and Mrs. Troy Harper
Katherine Horvath
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Mr. and Mrs. Larry Litke
Mr. and Mrs. Josue Morales
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Pownall
Mr. and Mrs. Van Smith

