



Green Acres

BAPTIST CHURCH

GABC 4S Mission Ministry

STRATEGY: Purpose & Vision

SELECTION: People, projects, & organizations that fit strategy

SUPPORT: Spiritual, moral, & financial support

STIMULATION: Activity- mission education & meaningful involvement

STRATEGY

Purpose Statement

The Missions Ministry is committed to *Evangelize* God's World through local, national and international ministries, and to *Equip* God's People to reach the lost.

Vision

1. To establish Strategic Mission Partnerships (SMP) according to the Acts 1:8 model for the purpose of *Evangelism*.
2. To *Equip* GABC members, other churches and individuals for the carrying out of the Great Commission.

Priorities and Values

Priorities and values are the foundation of our ministry. These priorities and values are so basic to us that everything we do is built on them. They must be shared with individuals, churches and ministries where we partner and work. Our core values are as follows:

Prayer- We ask God to call out and send laborers for the harvest from our fellowship and beyond. We pray for our mission partners.

Scripture- The Word draws the lost to faith and drives the disciple of Jesus toward Christ likeness.

Church- We start churches, build churches, and support churches and church planting movements.

Evangelism- God has uniquely enabled us to share the Word of God around the world.

Discipleship- Training leaders to lead others is a crucial part of completing the Great Commission.

Compassion- We must care and have concern for the needs of individuals, churches and ministries.

Ministry that has eternal significance- We should be good stewards of the time, talents and treasures that God has given us.

SELECTION

Strategic Mission Partnership: A SMP occurs when a group in the church has so bonded with a specific mission field and the personnel on the field that they make a long-term commitment to become a vital and strategic partner with that field. These are funding partners, praying partners, short-term project partners, individual partners and organizational partners. All partners work together to collectively realize the ultimate goal of the field. Many times, this process takes several years. Ministry compatibility occurs as the result of the church's fruitful ministry at home (something to export), and the field having a mature work in place (need to import).

Funding Requests - Priority Rating

Need - What evidence exists to show that God is at work?

- Evangelistic – Great Commission
- Humanitarian – Great Commandment
- Personal - Support
- Administrative - Facilities/Equipment

Growth/Multiplicity - What organizational plans are in place?

- Growth Potential
- Objectives
- Goals
- Leadership development

Niche Ministry -Vital to Kingdom, something others are not doing.

Affiliation - Relationship or link.

- Connection to GABC
- Southern Baptist Convention
- Other

Benefit to GABC

- How can support for this ministry enhance our congregation?
- Is there opportunity for our members to participate?
- Is there educational value for our members?

Accompanying Resources - What other/additional support is being received?

Accountability – Who are they responsible too?

- Communication
- Reports

Field Behavior

- Volunteers are reminded that they are ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ. As ambassadors, they represent not only Him, but also the United States, Green Acres Baptist Church, and/or the supporting mission agency. This responsibility is tremendous and consequently, each volunteer must seek to be above reproach in actions and attitudes.
- Team members must submit to the team leader's authority.
- Due to the political instability and anti-American sentiment in various countries around the world, Green Acres Baptist Church asks that each team members refrain from expressing their political opinions while on the field.
- If at any time while on the field a volunteer's behavior constitutes a problem, the team leader has the authority to ask that volunteer to return home. Any additional costs incurred as a result of this action will be the volunteer's expense.

SUPPORT

Mission Support Teams

Mission Support Teams (MST) is a base of supporters who are organized to support missionaries sent out from Green Acres Baptist Church. The MST members are to be selected by the missionaries and made up of capable and gifted individuals who agree to serve and actively partner with the missionaries in fulfilling the Great Commission. An MST helps to nurture the missionary by providing them with a committed group of people who will show them practical love. Mission support teams keep the congregation informed and the missionary encouraged.

Partnership Prayer Teams

These teams focus their prayer efforts towards specific requests that come directly from the field through our Strategic Mission Partners.

Financial Support

1. Cooperative Program
2. Church Planting – Strategies being established
3. Special Project Support: Support given and evaluated through annual requests
 - a. How to Apply: Submit a request form to the Missions Committee. Forms can be found online at www.gabc.org/missions or in our office. Meetings take place the second Thursday of each month.
4. Short-Term Projects

Short-term projects are a vital part of developing Strategic Mission Partnerships. Working directly with partners on the field accomplishes several objectives that are both advantageous and essential to strengthen our SMP's. The following guidelines will be used as criteria for selecting teams and individuals who will further ministry objectives of Green Acres Baptist Church. Also, these policies and procedures will provide candidates with the necessary steps to receive GABC support. In addition, these guidelines should be used by individuals seeking GABC support for other short-term projects.

Application Process

- a. Participants of all projects must complete the short-term mission application form. This should be done at least three months, preferably six months, before the departure date.
- b. Participants must be a member of a SMBS. These classes will be used for reference purposes during the application process.
- c. Participants must agree to and comply with the GABC short-term financial policy (listed below).
- d. Following completions of the Missional Life Class and the Missional Life Profile one is eligible to apply for a mission trip. We reserve the right to reject any individual who does not fit into the strategy, field objectives, or has not begun a local missional lifestyle.
- e. Non-church members: not eligible for funding, must complete the Missional Life Profile and provide three references. One reference must be from someone in full-time ministry.

5. Financial Support Guidelines

- a. Applicants are expected to raise 100% of their financial need; however, we have a limited amount of scholarships for those members who qualify. Beginning in 2012 the maximum amount of the scholarship an individual can receive for an international project is \$500 and \$250 for a national project. Applicants are to fill out the scholarship application to request funding. Applicants may only receive funding one time a year. Non-church members are not eligible for funding. Applications available in our missions office or at www.gabc.org/missions
 - i. Further Support Information...
 - 1. Our support is given as an ending point and not a starting point. Team leaders should monitor the goals set for financial accountability. The team leader should determine with each individual what amount they need to request and when it should be requested. The amount given will be determined by the amount of effort shown and actions taken by each individual.
- b. Support and fundraising training and/or assistance is available through the Missions Ministry office. All church wide fundraisers must have permission through the Missions Ministry and Finance office.
- c. Funding for each project must be completed prior to departure or payment plans approved.
- d. If a candidate's financial support is channeled through GABC and he/she raises more than the required support or for any reason cannot participate on the short-term project, it is the preference of the Missions Ministry to reallocate his/her funds to his/her team fund or the Mission Ministry Gifts account. It is the responsibility of the candidate to inform supporters of his/her inability to participate on the short-term project.
- e. Candidates are financially responsible for any costs associated with changes made in travel arrangements and additional costs that may occur.
- f. Green Acres Baptist Church reserves the right to amend these policies and procedures, and to approve or deny any or all financial support.

STIMULATION

Mission Education

Providing the opportunity for every church member to find their calling and engage in missions locally and abroad.

Missional Living Course (6 weeks)

1. Preparing your Testimony and Sharing Jesus
2. Quiet Time and Understanding your Spiritual Gifts
3. Missional Living, Local Missions, begin Missional Life Profile
4. GABC 4S Strategy
5. Modeling: go share Jesus with someone
6. Exploring Reality

Insurance Coverage

- Green Acres Baptist Church provides insurance for each participant through Adams and Associates and is most often
- The plan is designed for individuals under the age of 85 traveling outside the United States.
- Toll-free multilingual assistance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- Trip leaders will carry an insurance identification card for participants during each project.

Immunization & Visa Information

- Team leaders will advise you of the suggested immunizations for the country to which you will be traveling. You can also check the website at the International Mission Board, www.imb.org/medinfo/, for additional information.
- Immunizations are the responsibility of each participant and should be completed before departure of the project. Vaccines vary from \$15.00-\$150.00. Contact your medical professional for additional information.
- Green Acres Baptist Church will apply for the visas as required by the countries to which you will be traveling. Costs of the visas will be included in the price of the project.
- To check the requirements for entry into your country, check the website at, <http://travel.state.gov/foreighentryreqs.html>.