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2. Organizational Support

- A mission organization usually provides financial and administrative support, an on-field team, general direction and member-care for the missionary.
- The organization helps the missionary by guiding and empowering him/her to fulfill his/her calling on the field.
- The missionary should take advantage of all the professional resources available within the organization in order to thrive, be effective and remain healthy.
- This requires open honest communication with the home office and member-care staff. Missionary attrition is avoided as we intentionally strive for clear communication, take the initiative to resolve misunderstandings and humbly stay open to input from others.
- Names of 3-5 contacts within your organization:

▶ _____

▶ _____

▶ _____

▶ _____

▶ _____

3. Practical Support Team

- The missionary should recruit a group of friends who can assist him/her with home base practical needs like mail, furlough, banking, vehicles, updates — be the hands and feet for his/her needs back home.
- This group can be made up of church members or other committed friends.
- The missionary should keep this group aware of home needs and planned home visits and find ways to show thankfulness to these friends.
- Names of 3-5 friends on your practical support team:

- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____

ON FIELD

4. Field Ministry Leadership

- The missionary can gain valuable support and guidance from the local leadership of the particular ministry in which he/she is involved.
- If a missionary follows the Matthew 18 principle with all team members and field leaders, he/she can avoid a host of on-field problems.
- Even if it wasn't communicated clearly, the missionary should always seek for clarity regarding country policies and team rules because that leadership is there to help him/her fulfill his/her calling.
- Whenever possible, he/she should defer to the local ministry leadership, particularly the indigenous leadership.
- Names of field colleagues or leaders:

- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____

5. Personal Accountability Group

- The missionary is responsible to develop friends or colleagues on the field who can provide personal and regular accountability.
- Even if a missionary has a good field team, he/she is ultimately responsible for establishing personal accountability on the field as his/her first line of defense.
- These accountability partners may be teammates or other believers in town with whom he/she has established a close relationship of trust.
- Unless the missionary develops the habit of regularly and voluntarily submitting to others, he/she will be at risk on the field and problems can emerge.
- He/she should meet consistently, give them permission to ask hard questions, open his/her life up to them and submit to their counsel.
- Names of 3-5 friends/colleagues after 6-8 months on field:

- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____

6. Ministry Mentorships

- The missionary should establish ministry mentors on the field. Regardless of the frequency of meetings, he/she should seek out older workers and national leaders who can be mentors to help develop his/her ministry skills and effectiveness.
- In order for this to be effective, he/she must give them permission to speak openly into his/her life regarding strengths, weaknesses and ministry roles.
- A missionary who desires to be effective overseas should enter the field with humility and teachability. Part of his/her growth will be in watching and learning from others.
- Names of 3-4 ministry mentors after 6-12 months on field:

- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____
- ▶ _____

IMPORTANT

Research has shown that for a missionary to remain effective and healthy for long overseas service, he/she must learn to develop and submit to his/her own network of support. While the local church desires to be part of this network, they play only a part in making sure their missionary is thriving on the field. The missionary is responsible to keep the names and contact info in this document up to date.