



Global Member Care Network (GMCN) December 2012

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www.missionarycare.com and www.crossculturalworkers.com

[Fourteen e-books are available for download here.](#)



Having completed a career in teaching at Asbury College, Dr. Ron Koteskey is a Member Care Consultant for GO InterNational. Through GO, Ron and his wife, Bonnie, offer on-field help to independent missionaries, to missionaries whose agencies have no one designated for missionary care, and to missionaries who would prefer talking with someone outside their agencies.

As part of this ministry they have developed a series of [brochures](#), a [database](#), and fourteen [e-books](#): four on re-entry, one titled *What Missionaries Ought to Know* (freshly revised and combining the series of brochures of the same name), several on TCKs, one on adolescence, one on marriage issues, one on singles issues, two on bribery, and another on Psychology for Missionaries. [Follow this link for more information on the e-books.](#) www.missionarycare.com

The books and brochures above use the "missionary" words, so people serving in sensitive countries may not want to access them unless they have a secure "tunnel." Therefore six or seven years ago I created [crossculturalworkers.com](http://www.crossculturalworkers.com) which never mentions missionaries. I also have 10 E-books in five formats available at <http://www.crossculturalworkers.com/ebooks.htm>. The titles are:

- [What Cross-Cultural Workers Ought to Know](#)
- [Cross-Cultural Workers Marriage Issues](#)

- [Cross-Cultural Singles Issues \(new in September 2011\)](#)
- and more. I also have more than 90 brochures available at <http://www.crossculturalworkers.com/ebooks.htm>. None of these brochures mentions "missionaries." www.crossculturalworkers.com

People seem to find these resources helpful--they have downloaded more 140,000 books and 750,000 brochures.

Editorial: the life of many Brazilian workers

During the last four years I have visited and lived in several cross-cultural fields, where God has provided me with great opportunities to experience and see first-hand the life of many Brazilian workers on the field. At the same time I have felt the pressure coming from the challenges involved in reaching out to the least-reached world. I could not help but think about the huge responsibility that the Brazilian Church has to embrace before such scenario, in order to prepare and send out our workers towards these places in a healthy and efficient way.

The best seminaries in Brazil have been focusing on theological, missiological and cross-cultural training, and I have no questions about the importance of these elements to make the Gospel reach the Ends of the Earth. Surveys show that this sort of formal, pre-field preparation has made great difference regarding results, in comparison with past decades when we had higher levels of attrition. Such intentional preparation decreased the number of typical mistakes and misunderstandings arising from cultural clashes.

However, something important has to be considered right now. Brazil is one of the new sending nations. We cannot deny that we have learned through the history and practice of our predecessors, but also through our earliest experiences.

Coming from that perspective I want to point out an insight that I acquired over the years: The Brazilian culture has intrinsic features that make the field even harder for cross-cultural workers. Brazil is a nation where people talk just one language throughout the country. Moreover, we are not brought up to break family bonds and leave our parents' house early to pursue an independent life. Also as part of our upbringing, we are not trained to cross the borders of our continent-size nation to explore and experiment overseas. For the vast majority of workers, cross-cultural experiences will start only when they leave for the field.

It is true that globalization is gradually minimizing these issues for newer generations. But the fact is we will have to deal with this challenge in a way or the other. My immediate conclusion is: compared to other cultures, **Brazilians start from behind when it comes to inherent abilities, natural or acquired, to strive and thrive within different cultures and languages in general.**

As a member-care person, researcher, and mobilizer, I have become concerned about that matter.

The question is: What can we do in order to provide a more effective pre-field preparation? Brazilians are extremely people oriented. Relationships are like the breath of their emotional life. The broad concept of family for Brazilians includes lots of groups around them and not just the core family members. Communicating their feelings and emotions to others is very important for Brazilians.

The consequences of these specific traits have taken a toll on Brazilian workers making it hard for them to thrive in the mission field, live and work among multicultural teams. Very easily they feel isolated and repress their emotions. Fortunately we are very creative, flexible and adaptable people, which helps a lot.

Although the Brazilian church strives to provide the sort of leadership and training that cares for its missionaries, it is not enough if that is based only on theological seminaries as the main source of preparation, neglecting informal paths. Depriving workers from care during suffering on the field does not help on that either.

Member care needs to be shown by the sending church, and agency, still during pre-field training. It should connect candidates with other languages, expose them to other cultures, and prepare them for working among multicultural teams from the outset. These are some ingredients that we must include in our training programs so to reduce the hard impact Brazilians experience on the field. We are in the way.

Verônica Farias

A Brazilian Member Care Provider

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Staff openings, Pakistan

Pakistan

MURREE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - Staff openings for 2013-2014

Murree Christian School is a small boarding school located at over 7,000 ft. in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains in Pakistan. Founded in 1956 to educate the children of missionaries who serve in Pakistan and neighboring countries, Murree Christian School continues to provide quality, Christian education for grades 4-12. MCS staff and students come from all over the world, giving it a unique international identity.

- v Director (urgent)
- v Online Coordinator/IT Manager
- v Korean Support with knowledge of Western and Korean education systems
- v School Chaplain (with counseling skills)
- v Student Counselor/Advisor/Psychologist
- Boarding – House Parent
- v Elementary Grades 4 – 6 (January 2013)
- v Junior High Girls Grades 7 – 9
- v Senior High Girls Grades 10 – 12
- High School Teachers (Grades 7 – 12)
- v Senior Science (Physics, Biology, Chemistry) A.P. Level
- v Junior High English
- v Junior High History
- v ESL
- v PE/Health Education
- v German as a first and second language
- v Christian Studies

Elementary Teacher (native English speaker trained in grades 4 – 6)

We are looking for people called by God to serve Him and the mission community in Pakistan. If you have....

- v A living, personal faith in Jesus Christ
 - v The ability to work in partnership
 - v Good organizational skills
 - v Excellent classroom practice
 - v The personality and skills to motivate and inspire others
- ...we want to hear from you!

For further information, please see our website www.mcs.org.pk or contact us at secretary@mcs.org.pk

RESOURCES

artists expressing themselves through bible stories

www.muzeikbijbel.nl

I want to offer a mission tool for secular music lovers. www.muzeikbijbel.nl it's a encyclopedia of influential secular artists expressing themselves through bible stories and persons. From 1950-2012 varying from Bob DYlan, U2 unto Lady Gaga en Katy Perry and Justin Bieber. greeting from Holland Wilbrand Rakhorst <http://www.muzeikbijbel.nl>

book

Never Do Fundraising Again

Convert one time gifts into lifetime support Experience the amazing power of gratitude to motivate people Employ effective communication skills—both written and verbal Transform the stress and drudgery of fundraising into a joyful ministry Utilize proven strategies to spend less time, effort and money to maintain full support Cultivate life-long ministry partners and close friends Inspire your partners to become your best recruiters for more support Enjoy freedom from worry about your financial needs <http://www.rbooks.org/ndfa>

Blog

a life overseas: the missions conversation

very interesting blog

There are some really good writers here... and typically they are unconnected to any Member Care Networks that I can see.

Maybe worth changing that ...

<http://www.alifeoverseas.com/>

Spanish Resources

Spanish Resources

(click link to download and read)

Special tThanks to Carlos Pinto in Quito, Ecuador.

- [Familia Sentimientos de Lealtad y Culpabilidad](#)
 - [MATRIMONIOS INTERRACIALES Y MISIONES TRANSCULTURALES](#)
 - [PERSONALIDAD Y EL PERFIL DE MISIONEROS](#)
 - [Apego,autoestima, confianza interpersonal en la pareja misionera](#)
 - [Como resolver los conflictos de distancia y cercanía en la pareja misionera F](#)
 - [FACTORES ESTRESANTES EN LA PAREJA MISIONERA F](#)
-

New Zealand - Resources

Missions Interlink Bulletin - December 2012

Teamwork - where do you fit in?

TCK Consultation April 2013

Short Term Housing for Missionaries

[Missions Interlink Bulletin - December 2012](#)

Newsletter - The Well Member Care Center Thailand

The latest Newsletter December 2012

.. <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=93ed99d9b6c8479d135b01b96&id=ee1513775d&e=25f63328eb>

Newsletter - Africa Member Care Network

January 2013

The Africa Member Care Network is an interagency affiliation of colleagues with Member Care responsibility. Our purpose is to help provide and develop Member Care resources in Africa. This bi-monthly Email Forum is a service dedicated to glorify God through networking, discussion and sharing information on issues related to Member Care in Africa. Your contributions are very much appreciated! Please send it to Marina Prins at africamembercarenetwork@gmail.com

<http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=895d43ef69926eab7812e0395&id=6f3eb63966&e=a3dbaa64df>

Assessment

Do we need to Set a New Direction?

Set a New Direction adds Purpose Maximizing to this mix.

We provide critical knowledge and support for individuals, couples and organizations that will activate new productive energies in your career.

I actually have two articles on my website that address the member care application.

See <http://www.setanewdirection.com/individuals/cross-cultural-workers>

See <http://www.setanewdirection.com/individuals/cross-cultural-workers/91-services-and-benefits/134-for-sending-agencies>

The first link is for missionaries, and other cross culture workers.

<http://www.setanewdirection.com/>

Brad Sayers: People, Change, Potential

GLOBAL MEMBER CARE EVENTS

UAE Middle East

SYIS Workshop

SYIS Workshop announcement/invitation. This workshop is scheduled for January 20-25, 2013 in Sharjah, UAE. Please see the attachment for details and spread the word in your circles. http://www.globalmembercare.org/uploads/tx_weediscussion/SYIS_invite_SHJ13.pdf

USA- Florida

Spring Break in Florida for MKs

Mu Kappa and Compass Ministries are co-sponsoring an inexpensive option for MKs attending college in the US, who want a fun place to go for Spring Break. The deadline to register is January 31, 2013. The attached document gives all the particulars. Any MK who is at least 18 years of age can participate. http://www.globalmembercare.org/uploads/tx_weediscussion/MuKappaSpringBreak2013.doc

Africa - Nairobi

Missionary Care Foundations Course

I would like to share that we will be holding the course Missionary Care Foundations Course U of N course CHN 113 in January 2013 in Nairobi. The dates are January 14th to February 1st 2014. Anyone with an interest in missionary/member care in the region or from beyond who is able to come is welcome to register.

I attended this course in Malawi two years ago. It was taught by a YWAM team led by Randy and Jane Rhoades. Jane will be coming to lead the staff team in January. We have much hope that it will help us establish a much needed ovement for care of Christian workers in the East African region.

Wairimu Kamau, Ministry Manager, Abba's House c/o International Teams, Nairobi, Kenya

mamanyakio@yahoo.com

Europe - UK

Penhurst Retreat Centre

We attach a list of courses and retreats that Penhurst is running in 2013 for Mission Partners

http://www.globalmembercare.org/uploads/tx_wecdiscussion/Penhurst_Retreat_CentreGMCInfo.pdf

Switzerland, Europe

A Ten-Day Retreat for Cross-Cultural Workers June 19 - June 29, 2013

If you work cross-culturally or with those who do, you understand the unique challenges on the field. Learning a language, changes in values, social systems, climate, and work roles create stress. Add to this political uncertainties, working with multi-national teams, educating children, safety concerns, and maintaining relationships with family and supporters. No wonder so many cross-cultural workers become tired, discouraged, and experience burn-out.

Breathe is a 10-day retreat intentionally created for the renewal and encouragement of North American and Western European singles, couples and families who serve in cross-cultural settings. Breathe is led by Dr. Daniel and Lori Hahn of Catalyst Int'l, an organization dedicated to supporting Christian leaders in highly challenging global environments. Under the guidance of professionals experienced in member care and cross-cultural work, you'll have time to talk about issues affecting you or your family. Counseling, medical consultation, and massage therapy are provided. In addition, there are fun programs for preschoolers, elementary children and teens. http://encounterlife.org/con_communityLife.cfm?m=201&c=1000060

Europe Switzerland

Men Serving in Europe, Asia, Africa & the Middle East

TRACTION 2013 Conference in Switzerland, for Men Serving in Europe, Asia, Africa & the Middle East , September 21 - 27, 2013

Working cross-culturally can leave us feeling as if we are unanchored and afloat, perpetually propelled by forces we feel we have no power to resist.

Traction is a 6-day experience September 21-27, 2013 for men who serve in cross-cultural settings. This week of restoration is all about helping guys navigate their roles as leaders in order to gain spiritual footing and momentum to move forward. Traction is designed to encourage cross-cultural workers who serve in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

Traction is held at Credo located in one of Switzerland's most breathtaking regions near Interlaken. The facility lends itself well to activities like a soccer/football, volleyball, an adjacent world class ropes course, lots of hiking and a real castle ruin right on the property (guys like ruined castles). It is a quiet, majestic setting with plenty of space for men to pull away and regroup.

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=du94h4cab&oeidk=a07e6ebk7vg6eeb5caa>

Europe, Germany

Adult - TCKs / Erwachsenen Cross-Cultural-Kids Austausch-Tag

Wir (Cross-Cultural-Kids) sind normal, anders, bunt, interessiert, global und lieben den Austausch miteinander

Darum geht's! Ich bin ich – und ich tu was ich bin! An diesem Tag entdecken wir unsere Farben, wir haben Spaß und überlegen was das für uns praktisch bedeutet.

Wer ist der Veranstalter?

· Jochen und Christine Schuppener waren selbst mit ihren Kids 8 Jahre im Ausland. Als psychologische und interkulturelle Berater unterstützen sie vor allem Rückkehrer aus dem Ausland bei der Reintegration. Andreas Radlingmayr ist TCK und Kinderarzt

Wie ist der Ablauf? Beginn 10 Uhr – Ende 17 Uhr. Natürlich gibt's auch ein Mittagessen. Schluss ist gegen 17 Uhr. Anreise am Vorabend mit Chill out ist möglich. Abreise am nächsten Morgen ebenfalls.

Weitere Infos auf unserer Webseite unter Projekte/Termine und als PDF-Datei im Anhang. <http://www.globalmembercare.org>

[/uploads/tx_wecdiscussion/130105AnmeldungACCKTag1.pdf](#)

Middle East Member Care , Egypt and Jordan

Trauma Debriefing Workshop,

Middle East Member Care is offering two full day Trauma Debriefing Workshops in Egypt and in Jordan in 2013.

Dates: EGYPT February 18 and 19 and JORDAN (in Amman) February 22 and 23.

Times: 1st Day--9:45 am to 5 pm and 2nd Day--9:45 am to 4 pm.

Costs: EGYPT 225 Eg. pounds and JORDAN 50 JD.

In a time of turbulent and rapid changes in this region, many workers face stresses, traumatic events and uncertainty. Training in dealing with the results of such situations is a key need for us as Member Care providers.

This is called "debriefing". However, what exactly is debriefing? Are there different types? Which skills are needed to do it well?

How does it work?

Find more info in Attached pdf file http://www.globalmembercare.org/uploads/tx_wecdiscussion/Trauma_Debriefing_workshop_Feb13_flyer.pdf

USA

Michigan Member Care Inservice

On Saturday April 13th, 2013, the third annual Michigan Member Care Inservice (MMCI) will be held in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The theme of this one day training event is understanding the unique stressors of global workers--missionaries and pastors (as individuals, couples, and family units)--and how we can speak into their lives as safe people and organizations committed to their care, recovery and fruitfulness.

Cost? \$35.00 until March 1. \$45.00 thereafter.

Who should consider attending? Mission agency/denominational personnel leadership; local church missions leadership; pastors, missionaries; anyone desiring to gain a deeper understanding of how to effectively shepherd global workers.

We are asking if you would help us to disseminate information about this opportunity? Attached you will find a one page promotional piece, with a link for more detailed information and registration.

May God encourage you as you continue to encourage others, and may He richly bless you with His peace as we celebrate the coming of Emmanuel.

Henry Stewart, for the sponsoring organizations.....

Calvary Bible Church, Kalamazoo, MI

Alongside, Inc. Richland, MI

Converge World Wide Great Lakes District, Park Ridge, IL

Barnabas International, Rockford, IL

SEND International, Farmington, MI

ELIM Retreat Ministries, Rockford, IL.

http://www.globalmembercare.org/uploads/tx_wecdiscussion/Inservice_promo_2013.doc

The Global Member Care Network is an independent network of volunteers. Please consider donating to this important network, to keep the running costs covered. We do this, because we believe in it. This Newsletter is a free service and was created to share and connect member care resources around the world. It goes out in the middle of each month. News and resources need to be posted on our website blog, or send to office@globalmembercare.com.

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