

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



  
medical ambassadors  
INTERNATIONAL®  
healing lives...transforming communities





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# President's Annual Report

## **Our thrust for 2019 is: Raise more, to do more, to bring more into God's Kingdom!**

Medical Ambassadors International's Community Health Evangelism (CHE) program is a well-proven strategy that is Simple, Biblical, Transformational and Replicable. Unlike many externally driven programs, it has the intrinsic potential to continue long after the initiators of the program have moved on to other areas.

CHE is already a movement in many parts of the world. Through the third-party assessment carried out by the globally recognized philanthropic analysts Calvin Edwards & Company (CEC), MAI is now listed as being among the top 10 Christian organizations with a high return on investment for the Kingdom of God. The website (<http://roiministry.org>) highlights MAI's profile and assesses the impact that can occur through investing in MAI's ministry.

MAI has a presence in 40 countries directly and in 35 other countries through partners. This collective leadership team facilitates and supports a large group of Community Health Evangelism (CHE) volunteers, who operate at the cutting edge with vulnerable communities in the field. We continue to strive to promote our core intent, which is to share the Good News of the Gospel by proclaiming it through Word and deed.

## **A Brief Overview of 2018**

In 2017 we connected with the Barnabas Group (<http://sf-bay-area.barnabasgroup.org>) in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 2018, through continued interaction with and support from their marketplace leaders, we have sharpened our brand image with a clearer statement of purpose: *bringing a bit of heaven to earth, one community at a time*. This happens when we pray as the Lord taught us in Matthew 6:10. This year, the experts at the Barnabas Group plan to help us further develop and build a better marketing strategy so we can expand our support base and the ministry.

MAI's team of field CHE trainers continues to be effective, expanding their facilitation skills with community vision casting. They train CHE committees, CHE volunteers, and where the context determines, specialized CHE programs focusing on women's issues, families, men, children and the disabled. Microenterprise is picking up in a big way, and our quest for new approaches has fostered new relationships and partnerships with other agencies to train our lead trainers. Our internship centers are now operational in the Philippines, East Africa, West Africa, Latin America and a new one is likely to start soon in South Asia. MAI has been actively engaged with four other global organizations that use CHE as their main operating strategy to mobilize a coalition called the "Kairos Coalition." The mandate of the coalition is to work in symbiotic partnership for God's glory.

The year of 2018 did not bring in the level of revenue that we had hoped, and while that has been disappointing, it has strengthened our resolve to streamline processes, consolidate tasks, and build growing relationships in the year ahead. We have continued to do all that we had planned to do, even with depleted resources. Our next-generation leadership transitions are in progress, and the new leaders are establishing themselves with growing talent and wisdom. Those who passed on their tasks to them have moved in the direction of gaining new knowledge to expand ministries in telemedicine and strategic relief and transformational development. Our efforts to track and document CHE impact stories are progressing well. We have developed a simple format for sharing stories and have started using them in different contexts where they have been well received.

## **In the year ahead we have special areas of focus.**

The emphasis to continue to increase our unrestricted revenue will continue. A special grant received in 2019 is helping us expand CHE in another 40 new communities, thus impacting a population of 35-40 thousand people. MAI will focus on unreached and un-engaged people groups but will also seek to work in partnership with agencies that are seeing dynamic

response to the Gospel. As stated earlier, we will raise more, to do more, to bring more into God's Kingdom.

The year ahead will be one of consolidating some of the partnerships we explored, with special emphasis on working together as examples of effective Christian partnerships and collaboratives. With the Kairos Coalition, we will seek to launch at least two sites where all the partners are able to work together to develop models of symbiotic synergy.

And, of course, we continuously strive to improve quality, efficiency and professionalism in all that we do. We seek the Lord's face and ask that He opens our eyes to see what He is doing so together we may partner with Him in the expansion of His kingdom!

Ravi I. Jayakaran  
President / CEO  
Medical Ambassadors International



[www.medicalambassadors.org](http://www.medicalambassadors.org)  
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/jpSjITkOBfM>  
(recent video produced)



# MAI The History

At Medical Ambassadors International we build relationships with the world's most vulnerable people, and together we work to heal communities both physically and spiritually.

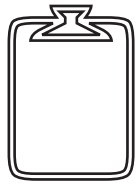
In 1975, as South Vietnam was collapsing, a man named Dr. Raymond Benson was on the last airlift from the roof of the American Embassy.

Dr. Benson's vision was for Christian medical professionals to establish clinics around the world. His hope was to heal people both physically and spiritually. Out of that desire, Medical Ambassadors was formed.

While Dr. Benson was correct in his assessment of the physical and spiritual needs of people around the world, he did not anticipate that the same people would keep coming back to the clinic with the same preventable illnesses. It became clear that this clinic-based model was not sustainable. In fact, we were creating a culture of dependency within the communities we were trying to help.

In light of this, Medical Ambassadors transitioned to a new model. Instead of going into a community and giving free care, we entered bringing only questions. Instead of giving the communities what we thought they needed, we asked local leaders, "What do you need to be happy and healthy?" We let their answers guide our focus and started developing lessons on those topics. In time, the available lessons included far more than only health topics.





Medical Ambassadors International is equipping communities through Christ-centered health and development.



Depending on what the local leaders determined their communities needed, there were teachings on how to work together and solve problems, on agriculture, literacy, family relationships, microenterprise, coping with disability, and more.

The genius of this approach is that education can be replicated at the grassroots level, neighbor to neighbor. Instructors teach learners who become instructors who teach learners who become instructors who teach learners—well, you get the idea.

Certainly, there were still physical needs requiring professional medical attention—clinics and hospitals continue to be essential. However, 70-80 percent of people in those clinic lines could now be helped at the community level.

This development model became known as Community Health Evangelism (CHE). Evangelism...because seamlessly woven into the lessons of health are basic biblical truths: You can be clean on the inside as well as the outside. You have great value because you are wonderfully and beautifully made by God in His image.

We are proud to be a work in progress. We are committed to learning from the communities we work with and listening to God. We deeply desire to align ourselves with His plan and power.

# Our Board Members



**Lisa Armour**  
Missionary & Teacher

Served 6 years, CA



**Ravi Jayakaran, B.V.Sc. & A.H.**  
President/CEO MAI

Served 2 years, 4 months, CA



**Paul Varkey Parayil**  
Software Engineer,  
Facebook

Served 4 years, CA



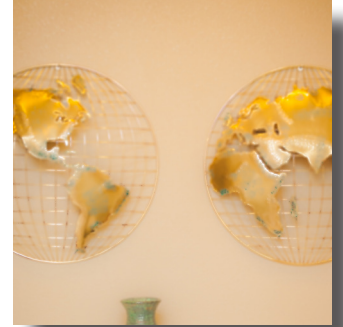
**Frank Marsh**  
Retired IT Director &  
Strategic Planner HP

Served 10 years, CA



**Steve Belton, M.D.**  
Retired Physician

Served 9 years, CA



**Carla Davis**  
Restricted Area Director for  
International Nonprofit

Served 3 years, OR



**Stefan Wiechers**  
VP of Corporate Finance  
Align Technology

Served 2 years, 4 months, CA



**Wayne Jeffers, M.D.**  
Physician

Served 10 years, CO



**Tom Steipp**  
President/COO  
NES Financial

Served 3 years, CA

# Impact Story

by Flor de Leon, MAI Regional Coordinator, Caribbean

Penelope and her two younger sisters live in a tiny house built above their grandparents' home in El Ejido, Dominican Republic. From the busy street below, the girls climb a narrow spiral staircase that opens onto a small landing, which enters into a living space where their mother has a beauty shop. In the shop are carefully arranged towels, perfumes, shampoos and creams, and a reclining chair to wash hair. Behind the salon are their living quarters. But it is not a happy place.

Carmen, the local CHE facilitator, became concerned about the condition of youth in the neighborhood. As she saw early pregnancies and exposure to drugs and alcohol, broken families and domestic violence, Carmen began a CHE program among teenagers. A group of about twenty-five boys and

girls met weekly and learned about hygiene, sexuality, Bible studies and community development. Penelope with her two little sisters joined the group. When they were asked to share prayer concerns, the sisters asked prayer for their parents.

Their father, Moreno had gone to church as a boy, but now he was drinking heavily and would come home very late each night. Their mother, Yocasta, on the other hand, played cards and spent all her money on the lottery. Whatever Yocasta earned in her little beauty shop, she would use gambling. Money was scarce in the house. Crying, screaming, verbal abuse and abandonment were constant in the life of this family. With the support of their grandmother who lives downstairs, the three daughters began to approach God, asking Him to help their family.

First it was the dad, Moreno. Mama Mecho, the president of



the Community Health Evangelism committee in El Ejido, often invited Moreno to the evangelistic meetings at the church, but Moreno resisted attending. Meanwhile, his life continued to deteriorate. He recognized his family was completely out of control, living from crisis to crisis. Finally, Moreno agreed to go with Mama Mecho to the local church. When he heard the story of Jesus Christ, he surrendered his life to the Savior. From that day on, the change in his life was dramatic. However, Yocasta did not believe this was a permanent change. She thought, "He will be back to normal after a few days." Yet Moreno continued to change, and he prayed his wife would do the same.

Yocasta, their mother, kept going out with her friends until late at night, gambling, drinking and fighting with her husband. However, she began to notice that she was getting deeper into debt, and her household was in serious financial need. She was low on materials for her shop, but she had no money. She felt that God was asking her: "Yocasta, what are you doing with your life?"

She prayed and asked God for strength not to gamble anymore ... and God answered! One day she tried to get some money to go gambling at the lottery bank before it closed, but nobody came to her shop until later. Then people started streaming in. When she earned the exact amount of money she needed, she realized this was a clear answer to her prayers. She was seized by a special fear for the things of God. She began to pay off her debts, and even more clients arrived at her small beauty salon. She refused when her old friends asked her to go drinking.

Early in the morning on December 31, God answered all of the girls' prayers: their mom, supported by their dad, received Christ as her Savior when he brought his family to attend a CHE meeting.

Today their home reflects God's love. The girls have drawn pictures on their cardboard walls next to Bible verses. Joy fills the faces of their parents. Money earned is now spent on the needs of the household. Yocasta leads a prayer group of mothers called "Wake Up Deborah." Moreno and Yocasta are CHE leaders along with other couples in their neighborhood. Together, they tell their stories, visit homes, pray with others, and teach lessons on how to strengthen marriages. The Lord answered the prayers of Penelope and her sisters over and above what they could imagine.

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There is no better pulpit than the heart of a person changed by Christ.  
- Flor de Leon, MAI Regional Coordinator, Caribbean

## **CELEBRATING LIVES...past and current**

Medical Ambassador's finance and accounting department has always been a mix of full-time, part-time and volunteer staff. This staff generates much of the ongoing financial statements and documents needed to report the story of God's provision and blessing.

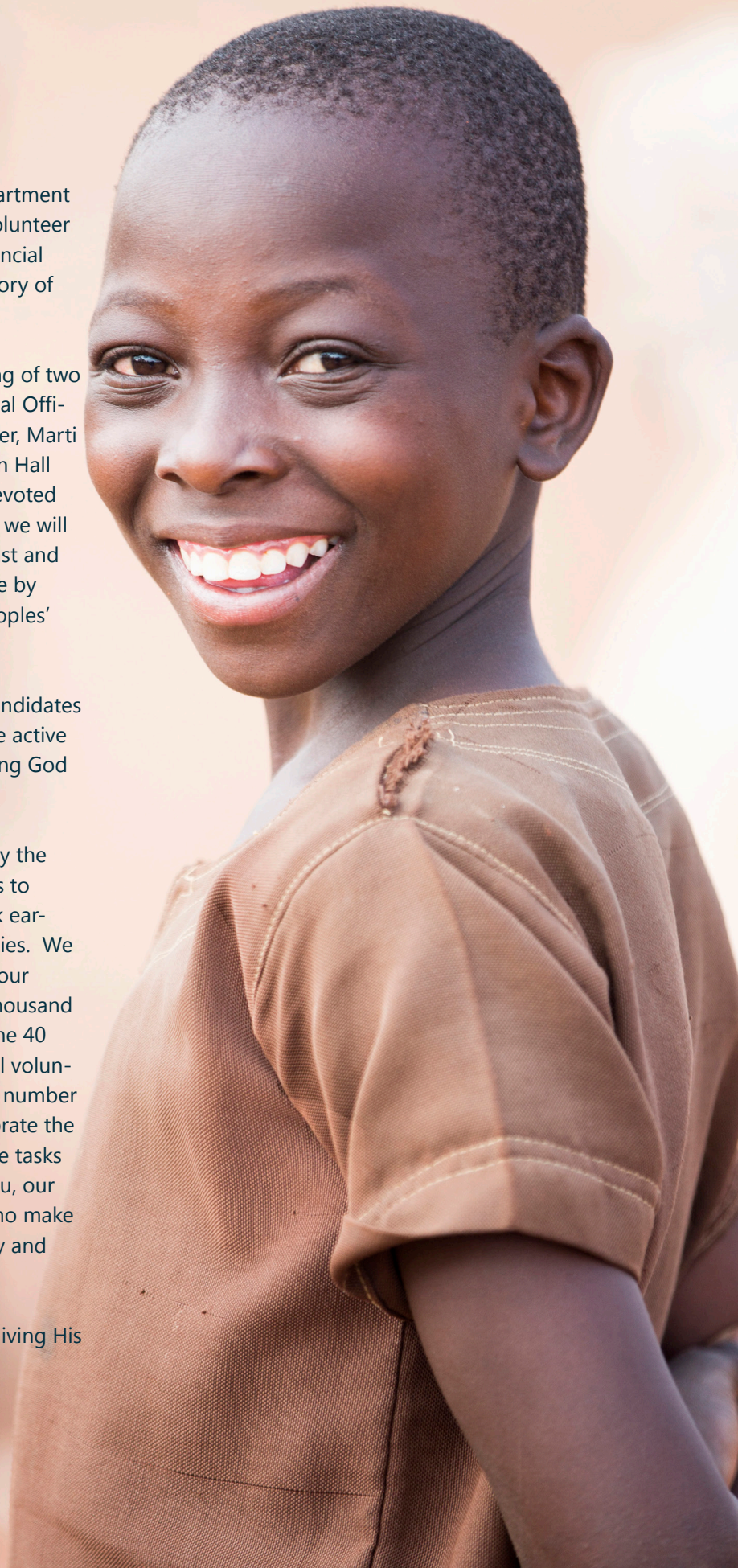
This year of 2018 we celebrated the lives and passing of two devoted ministry colleagues, our prior Chief Financial Officer, Michael Carroll, and steadfast and loyal volunteer, Marti Petersen. If life were fair, both would have their own Hall of Fame, or Walk of Fame Stars, but the walk of a devoted servant of Christ is much different: Heaven is where we will truly celebrate their reward. Our colleagues both past and current are a testament to extraordinary works done by many who choose to make a difference in other peoples' lives.

Reviewing applications for staff and/or volunteer candidates is confirmation that there are others searching to be active in ministry, desiring to make a difference, and hearing God calling them to His service.

Here at Medical Ambassador's we celebrate not only the blessings and provisions, but each person who joins to make our ministry possible worldwide, and we work earnestly for the transformation of lives and communities. We celebrate the over \$2.5 million received to support our staff and programs, and we celebrate the over 50 thousand volunteers that make it possible to share Christ in the 40 countries where we work. We celebrate the 30 local volunteers who make it possible to continue with a small number of colleagues and a low headquarter cost. We celebrate the headquarters staff, who work industriously to ensure tasks are completed and deadlines met. We celebrate you, our devoted supporters, donors, and prayer warriors who make it possible for us to devote to ongoing CHE ministry and share Christ globally.

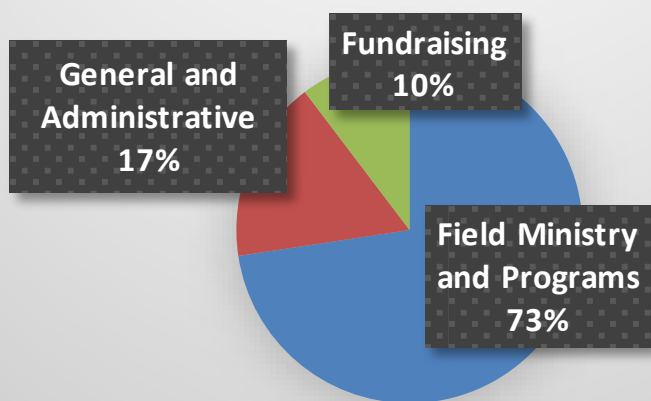
We celebrate Christ who made all this possible by giving His life for all mankind. We celebrate!

Suzette Montez  
CFO/Controller

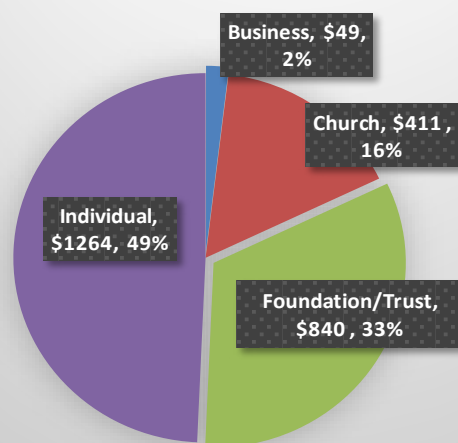


# Financial Statements

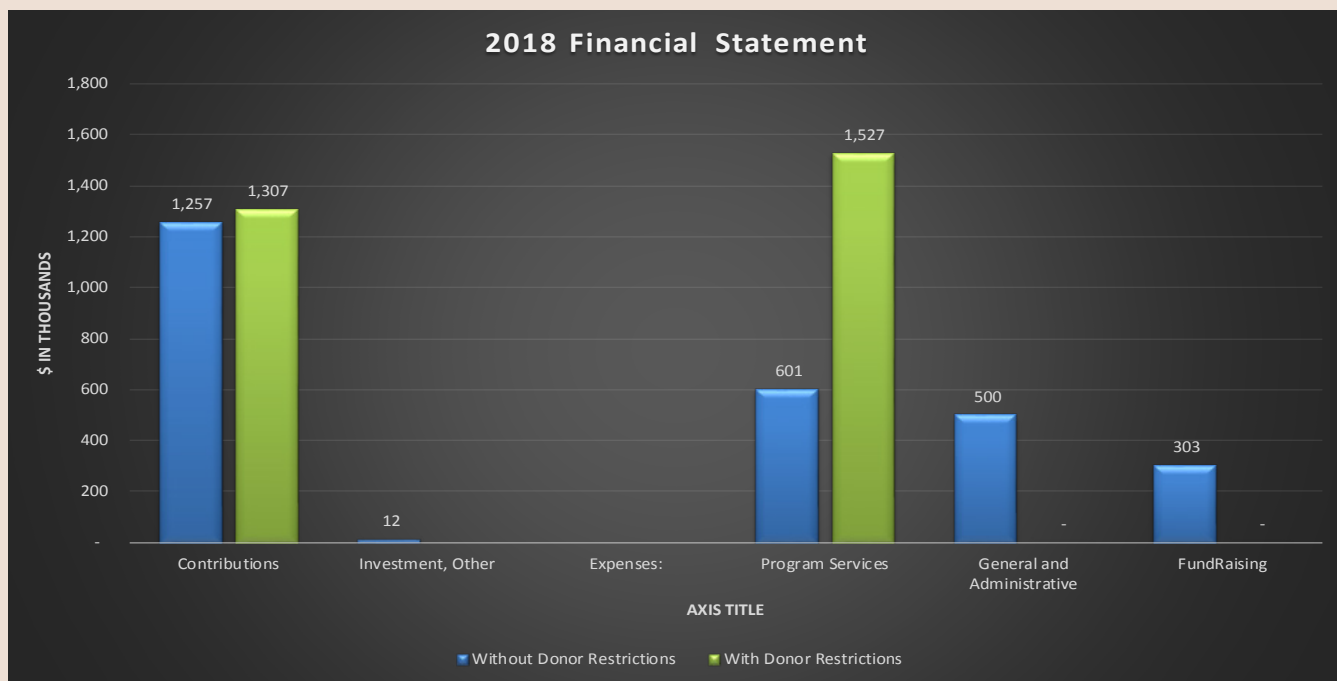
## 2018 Functional Expenses

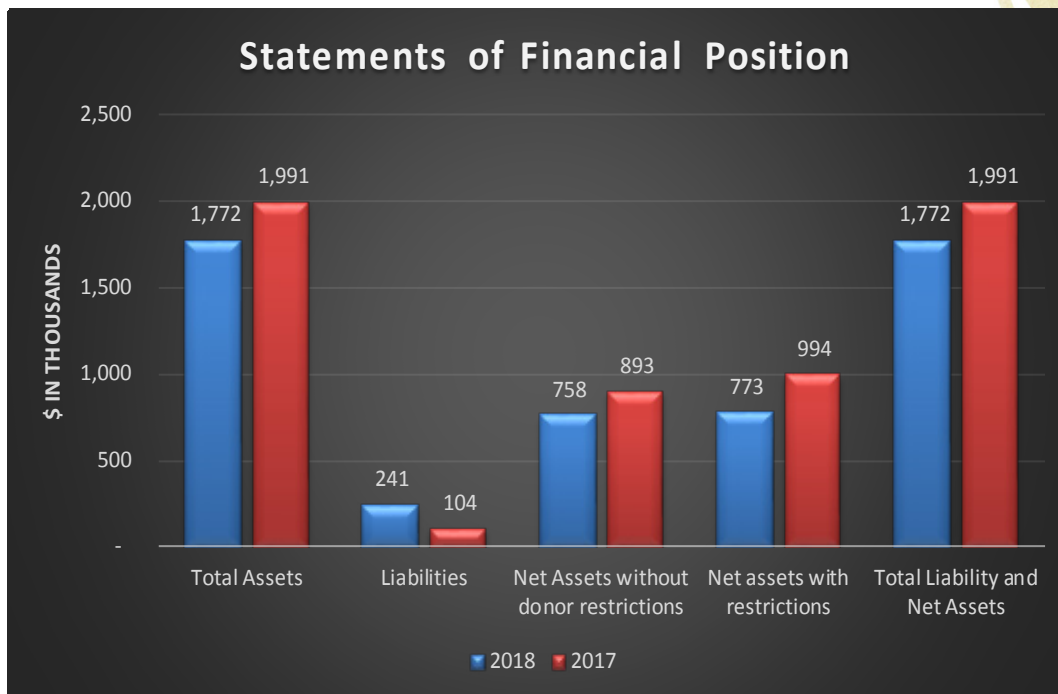
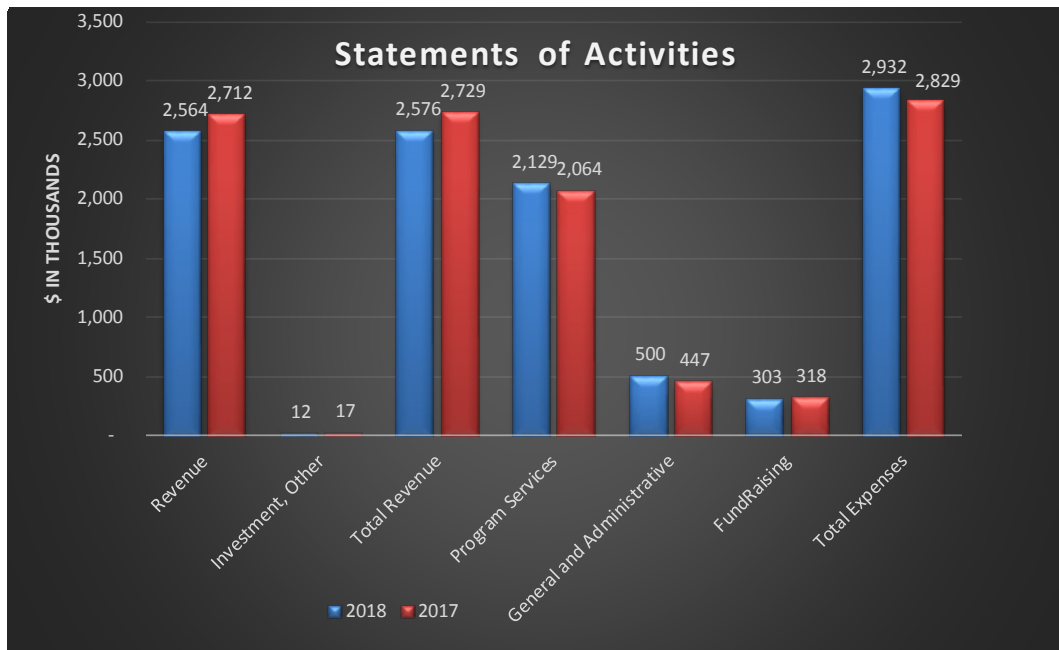


## 2018 Revenue Sources in thousands



## 2018 Financial Statement





Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.  
*1 Corinthians 15:58*



# Global Reach Report

Medical Ambassadors International's (MAI) works in 40 countries directly with its own teams, and another 35 countries through partners.

## Regional Highlights

### Central Africa

As the national presidential elections approached in December 2018, the CHE network in the Democratic Republic of Congo actively facilitated peace-building efforts in multiple villages around the country. Local CHE trainers mobilized their neighbors using peace and reconciliation lessons to pre-emptively address the potential outbreak of sectarian violence. The CHE network supported a focused prayer effort across the nearly 900 CHE communities to pray for peace in the country. Although the results of the election are still being worked out among the various parties, and the election was complicated by the outbreak of violence in several regions, most CHE communities experienced a relatively low level of violence. The Ebola crisis continued to grow unchecked in the eastern region of the DRC. So far, cases of Ebola have not reached CHE community areas, but the CHE network is preparing to proactively address Ebola awareness, recognition, and prevention through the adaptation of lessons into local CHE villages.

### East Africa

MAI's partner organization in Ethiopia, Holistic Ambassadors Ethiopia Mission (HAME), facilitated small group CHE training on healthy marriages and families for 1114 husband and wife couples. The Family Cycle of Life ministry in Ethiopia continues to positively impact churches and communities and has resulted in the reconciliation and healing of multiple broken marriages. CHE volunteers visited over 500 homes and helped support 30 different self-help groups. Participants in these 30 groups were able to save a total of \$7307, some of which was used to help individuals start their own micro-enterprises. The Gospel was shared for the first time with over 120 individuals with 27 individuals committing their lives to follow Jesus. In Kenya, CHE communities in 8 regions in the country saw the emergence of over 1000 new disciples. Fourteen different

communities have Women's Cycle of Life programs where women meet together in small groups to discuss their value as people created in the image of God, learn about women's health, and support each other in their important family and community roles. The annual East Africa CHE training internship (hosted in Nairobi) graduated another successful class of 13 participants. In both Ethiopia and Kenya, CHE work in majority Muslim communities began in 4 new areas. In Uganda, the Church of Uganda continues in its vision for churches in all 35 dioceses to be equipped in CHE. Over 350 churches are using the CHE strategy. In 2018, several new organizations in Uganda received CHE training and have begun the process of community engagement and CHE implementation.

### Southern Africa

The CHE world lost a faithful brother and servant when Lovemore Zulu, coordinator and founder of the Zambian CHE Network, went to be with the Lord in October, 2018. Kevin and Erica Pippert, MAI's co-coordinators for the Southern Africa region, continue to care for Lovemore's family and to help the Zambian CHE Network transition to new leadership and direction. The Zambian network is a 100% indigenous network that engaged at one point over 260 communities with the CHE ministry. The Southern Africa network continues to grow as both current and new partners develop in countries such as Zimbabwe, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Madagascar. CHE training in Madagascar was done in partnership with communities using the Disciple Making Movement approach. The region continues to encourage sustainable funding models as partner organizations develop plans for small businesses that can provide financial support for their ministries. Some challenges in starting businesses in 2018 will provide important learning for 2019.

### West Africa

In 2018, violent conflict between Fulani herdsman and farmers resulted in the forced displacement of thousands of people from rural Christian villages. The Nigerian CHE



Network responded to the humanitarian crisis in the northcentral region of Nigeria by providing food, clothing, and emotional and spiritual support to persons displaced by the violence. Multiple organizations and churches in the network continue to work with local communities using the CHE strategy as the network seeks to establish master trainers in every region of the country. A small-scale pilot program involving MAI, the Nigerian CHE Network, and Livful was started to study the effectiveness of incorporating mosquito repellents into a comprehensive approach to malaria prevention in CHE communities. There are plans to scale-up the pilot study in 2019. The West Africa Ghana CHE Internship graduated another class of 16 participants from 9 different countries in March. Nearly all 16 countries in West Africa have at least one church or organization partner trained in CHE, and networks involving the English, French, and Portuguese-speaking countries in West Africa are strengthening. Fifty pastors were trained in CHE at a retreat in Cape Verde, and more churches are beginning to address broader community issues. This represents encouraging growth in Portuguese-speaking West Africa. Through a partnership with the Jesus Film Project, 140 portable, solar projector packs have been distributed to local CHE teams in West Africa to integrate the showing and discussion of the Jesus Film and other spiritual video content into the learning process in local communities and churches.

### **South Asia**

MAI partners with local ministries in 4 countries in this region of large Hindu, Buddhist, and Muslim majority populations. In one Hindu nation, MAI began work on a proposal with a large, indigenous church-planting network to introduce CHE-training to local pastors. The pool of country-wide master trainers is increasing among several CHE-implementing ministries even as the country experiences difficult government restrictions and rising local anti-Christian sentiment. In 2018, local partners recognized a desire to discuss CHE in the most commonly spoken official language in their country, so another network was formed that will function in collaboration with the English-speaking regional network. In another neighboring Hindu nation, MAI's country coordinator and a master trainer colleague provided frequent training and

consultation to other church denominations and Christian agencies in CHE. One CHE program works with 6 churches that were planted through the local CHE ministry in their communities. A team comprised of MAI staff, members of a short-term missions team, and local trainers trained two different groups of male and female church leaders in the Women's Cycle of Life curriculum. The participants returned to their communities eager to share what they had learned.

### **Northern Creative Access Nations**

In East Asia, country network partners continued to learn practical ways to serve their communities and to help local believers address felt needs like economic poverty and supporting the elderly members of their village and urban neighborhoods. The country network currently comprises nearly 30 representatives of local, non-government organizations and faith communities and had a successful annual country meeting for prayer, encouragement, and sharing of progress and challenges. In Egypt, a partner organization working with Egyptian churches continued to provide CHE training and consultation for churches desiring tools to more effectively reach their communities. Three impoverished communities in a remote area of the country were engaged for the first time with CHE.

### **South America/Caribbean**

The South America/Caribbean region underwent a major leadership transition as Marco Quispe (Peru) and Flor de Leon (Dominican Republic) took on coordination of the South America and Caribbean sub-regions, respectively. This represented a significant development of greater localized leadership as both coordinators are natives of and currently based in the regions they support. In Haiti, 27 new traditional birth attendants were trained and nearly 100 other TBAs given refresher training in rural areas where TBAs are often the highest level of health workers outside the local clinics. The training was done where CHE has been active, so there is cooperation between CHE volunteers and TBAs. Work in several communities with the First Thousand Days curriculum has brought a renewed focus on maternal child nutrition. MAI and Medical Ambassadors Haiti is tracking a group of children with objective health measures to assess impact over time.

In the Dominican Republic, prayer movements involving the Wake Up Deborah network have invigorated CHE communities in urban neighborhoods by encouraging mothers to pray for their children and communities. A focus on prayer among CHE volunteers and community leaders is essential. In Argentina, partners working among the indigenous Guaraní tribe have helped develop an approach to using CHE with an orality framework. This CHE and orality approach was instrumental in facilitating new CHE training among indigenous pastors and lay leaders in Brazil who have a vision to reach other indigenous communities. The Spanish CHE training internship took place in Haiti and the Dominican Republic and graduated 7 new participants.

### **SE Asia/West Pacific**

In the Philippines, partner organization HCDI began working with the government to establish vocational training centers to equip job seekers with employable skills. The training incorporates CHE principles and will provide increased funding to HCDI from the government to support CHE work in the country. In two CHE communities, where active discipleship is strongly integrated in CHE, over 60 individuals made commitments to follow Jesus. Partners

in the country network are trying to help address drug addiction at the community level by integrating substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation curriculum with CHE programs. In Tacloban, the regional center of the Eastern Visayas and a city devastated by two super typhoons in the past 7 years, MAI continued to build relationships that will bring together local government, emergency responders, the regional hospital and community health, and local communities in an integrated health collaborative focused on CHE and community resilience. The collaborative hopes to see major steps forward in 2019 as CHE training begins. In Indonesia, our local partner organization has been effective at building up a national network that includes holistic development with over 60 communities. In one community, trust and goodwill between Muslim and Christian families has greatly improved as community members collaborated on agriculture-based income generation projects. After a group of men decided to help repair the house of a single grandmother taking care of her young granddaughter, the community was so encouraged that they decided to devote one weekend a month to helping other neighbors in need.

Victor Chen  
Global Coordinator





Our thrust for 2019:  
Raise more  
to do more  
to bring more  
into God's kingdom!



# Management Team

At Medical Ambassadors International we build relationships with the world's most vulnerable people and together we work to heal communities both physically and spiritually.

## **Victor Chen, M.D., M.P.H.**

July 2007 - present  
Global Coordinator  
California

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California at Berkeley, 1993 Doctor of Medicine, University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, 1998 Masters of Public Health, University of California at Berkeley School of Public Health, 2003

## **Ravi I. Jayakaran, B.V.Sc. & A.H.**

June 2017 - present  
President/CEO  
California

**Education:** Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry, Jawaharlal Nehru Agriculture University, India

**Professional Societies & Boards:** Board of Directors - Accord Network USA & the Chalmers Center, Lookout Mountain.  
Catalyst - Integral Mission, Lausanne Movement, Switzerland

**Work Experience:** e3Partners/I Am Second, Global Director, Community Transformation: 2015-2017 MAP International, VP Global Programs: 2007-2015 World Vision International: 1992-2003

## **Suzette Montez, MBS**

February 2000- present  
CFO/Controller  
California

**Education:** Bachelor of Science, California State University Stanislaus, 1990. Master of Science Business Administration Taxation, California State University Hayward, 1999

**Boards:** Local church board, Treasurer (current)

## **Laura Nelson, A.S.**

February 2001 - present  
Vice President of Human Resources  
California

**Education:** Associate of Science in Court Reporting, Humphreys College, 1992. SUM Medical Transcription Program, Health Professions Institute, 1993  
Certified California Notary Public, 1995

**Boards:** International Center for Reconciling God's Way (Marriage 911), Secretary



*MAI loves people. Those serving in the field and those being served. Our faithful and generous donors. Our prayer warriors. All the home office staff and volunteers. Together God has woven us into a team that loves what we do because it's all about helping people help themselves. - Laura Nelson*

# Thank You!



  
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