

Caring for your FIELD PARTNERS



Throughout the book of Acts we see that the local congregation identified, trained, sent and financially supported the first apostles. In the same way, YOU share in your field partner's work. Your encouragement and your prayerful, personal, and practical support are more important to the individual or family on the mission field that you can imagine! We are excited about your partnership in spreading the Gospel. Here are additional ways that you can encourage your field partner.



READ their newsletters! If you are a church, regularly distribute your field partner's newsletter. You will receive this from Global Teams.

PRAY for your field partner regularly, using their newsletters or emails as a guide for prayer requests.



SCHEDULE regular communication with your Field Partner. This can be through Skype, WhatsApp, or cards in the mail. Let them know that you read their newsletters and that you are praying for them regularly.

PREPARE and ship a care package. Check out the tips on the next page. Don't forget to include a handwritten note!



SEND. You may not be able to go on the mission field, but regular and one time financial support is one way that you serve with your field partner.

GO. Your church may want to go on a short-term mission team to encourage your Field Partners and catch their vision.



RECRUIT individuals to train as Field Partner Caregivers.

INVITE Field Partners to speak to your congregation and small groups.



For training and more information, contact
Yvonne North, International Partner Care Co Director
Email: YNorth@global-teams.org | Cell: 571.368.2875

Sending Packages to Field Partners

INFORMATION FROM THE FIELD PARTNER:

- Full shipping address. It might look something like this:
Jane Doe
PO Box 3324
Siaya/ Kisumu RD
Ng'iya Market Place 40362
Ng'iya, Kenya
- How long does it take to receive parcels? Keep in mind when sending time sensitive packages for holidays, birthdays, etc.
- What items are considered off limits? Something that would be frowned on or put them in danger? (Christian symbols, music, new clothing items, specific cultural symbols, symbolic colors)
- What duty charges must the Field Partner pay?
- What do they miss from home?
- What do they have a hard time obtaining locally?
- How far away is the post and how will they transport the parcel to their home?

INFORMATION THE "SENDER" NEEDS TO KNOW:

- Cost of mailing
- How to fill out international shipping labels
- Postal regulations -- what **CANNOT** be sent through the mail
- Duty charges: "Used items" have less duty charges than "new items". Duty on electronic items is higher than other items.
- Wrap liquids in double plastic bags.
- Chocolate candies do not travel well with the exception of M&M's. All sweets should be mailed in individually wrapped and sealed unopened packages to keep the insects out. (Zip lock bags work pretty well.)
- The trip is a rough trip for most packages. Use plenty of packing material to ensure minimal damage. Use plenty of tape, especially on the corners of the boxes.
- Most packages are X-rayed. Some might be opened by customs if suspicious.
- DO NOT send seeds or flammable items.
- The vast majority of packages arrive intact, albeit beaten-up.
- If there is concern, purchase extra insurance.
- Remember your Field Partner may be traveling to the post office on foot, so smaller parcels might be easier to handle.
- Try to send parcels throughout the year if possible.
- Tucking sponges in the package adds extra packing material and is a practical gift.
- Plastic grocery bags are good packing materials and remind your Field Partner of home.
- Receiving just a letter or a card will bring great joy to your Field Partner. Computers are great, but a hand written letter or card sent by snail mail says "I am spending time thinking of you."

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE PACKAGE

Spiritual Growth

- Different Bible versions
- Music CD's
- Prayer calendars or prayer cards
- Jewelry (crosses, fish, etc.)
- Devotionals

Practical items:

- Batteries and charger
- Flashlight
- Pens
- Seasoning packets (taco seasoning, etc.)
- Powdered drink mixes for water bottles.
- Stationery, cards
- Tea candles-or other candles
- Tooth brushes, wipes
- Cloth wash cloths and face towels

Ministry Items:

- Bible studies-DVDs and books
- Children's church items
- Church sermons, church bulletins
- VBS or Back Yard Bible School materials
- Paper, colored pens, highlighters, bookmarks, crayons
- Concordance
- Journals

Personal Items:

- Handwritten notes!
- Scented soaps, shampoos, conditioners, lip balm, lotions
- "Fun books" to read
- Snacks, protein bars
- Mementos of home -- favorite team, local post card
- Card games or small board games
- Holiday decorations, wrapping paper, ribbons, balloons, etc.

Children's Items

- Games, puzzles, small toys or stuffed animals
- Crayons, coloring books
- Sweets
- Children's music/video/movies

These are just suggestions. Your Field Partner will be able to help you to better know what to send.