

2024 NACCC Annual Meeting and Conference Mission Partner Updates



A Note from Your NACCC Missions Coordinator

I was grateful to have boots on the ground at the 2024 Annual Meeting and Conference, watching God at work every day.

The MOMC's time with Mission Partners was filled with intimate sharing, prayer, and deep conversation. It was consistently and joyfully evident throughout the event that relationships among attendees and with Mission Partners were being built, strengthened, and restored.

- Julie Robie

Congratulations to Our 2024 Award Recipients!

Charles Rush Award

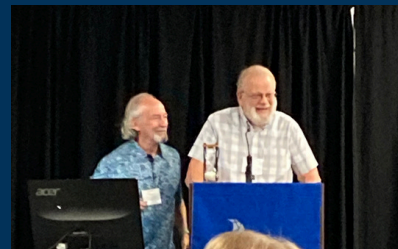


Beatrice Ntube Diffang



Janice Ferguson
(Pictured second from right.)

NACCC Board of Directors Citation



Rev. Richard Miller-Todd



A Christian Ministry in the National Parks

“There is something about this group of people that feels so warm and welcoming. It is obvious when you step into the event that God is present and that everyone gathered wants to make a meaningful impact in their communities. The collaboration and synergy shared by all is inspiring and certainly touched me. In conversations with other mission partners, I can say that we all enjoyed the various opportunities to interact, connect, and dream together.”

- Amy Kennedy
Co-Executive Director

Q: Did you come across any new ideas or strategies for mission work that you're excited to implement in your own ministry?

A: Being in the mission hall with other organizations was an encouraging blessing. During the sessions that we were not present in, we were able to spend time together brainstorming and learning about one another. One practical takeaway was the practical donor components several churches and individuals find meaningful ways to financially give. We will be utilizing these tactics at future events! We were also able to connect with participants who were interested in talking further about IMPACT trips and collaborating on mutually beneficial partnerships.

Q: What is one of the most memorable interactions or conversations you had with other attendees?

A: As I was at my booth after one of the workshops, an attendee came over to chat about an epiphany she was having on the unique dynamics of our program and its implications for youth in her church. We discussed that when the basic human needs are met, like food and shelter, there is a deeper layer of needs present within each person. She mentioned that she thought our organization did a great job at helping young people experience belonging and acceptance and extend it to others in their community. She hoped that she would be able to help her church find ways to do that for their own young people.

Fishers of Men Mexico

“Spending time with other Mission Partners is one of the most refreshing aspects of the AMC for me, personally. Seeing their passion for what the Lord has called them to be and do, hearing of their suffering and sacrifice to carry out that call, listening to the stories of God's presence and provision in their lives, knowing that they hurt, struggle, laugh and love like each of us is such a blessing and encouragement! During the AMC I always want to sign up and volunteer at each of their organizations....and then I remember that God has placed me in a specific place at a specific time to do His will here in Mexico!”

- **Julie Classen**
Founder and Director

Q: Were there particular speakers or presentations that resonated with you? How did their messages inspire or challenge you?

A: Carol Seppilu's story was mind-boggling, challenging, inspiring and so much more that I can't find the right words to express! I had just written a paper for a seminary class that was related to her tribe so my heart had already been impacted by what I had recently learned. Then, hearing, seeing and meeting her encouraged my soul so very much! As a mother of children who have suffered and struggled much at a very young age, her story of triumph, resilience and victory gave me much hope! It also sparked ideas in me about how running and other sports activities could play a vital role in my children's restoration. Thank you, NACCC, and thank you, Carol!



Q: What role did networking play in your experience at the convention, and did you establish any new connections that could be fruitful for your work?

A: During the AMC in 2023, I met an energetic and creative attendee, Jay Polaski. That initial contact was followed by multiple conversations, both at the AMC and throughout the year via email and Messenger. During those conversations, Jay shared an observation that many of our mission presentations (mine included) utilize pictures taken on-the-fly with a simple cell phone, resulting in images that do not fully reflect the passion and God's glory in what He has called each of us to do. Jay, a professional photographer, felt the Lord's call to remedy that problem! So, at this year's AMC in Spokane, Washington we formalized plans for him to spend a week at Refuge Ranch with Fishers of Men Ministries here in Mexico to document the Lord's work with photographs that better communicate His glory! In fact, Jay has now started a non-profit, Dear Theophilus (www.deartheophilus.org) to continue to bless other mission organizations throughout the world with his God-given talents and abilities!