

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
Between Albany Presbytery (AP) and Presbiterio Mam (MP)
2009-2011

I MISSION STATEMENT-

One paragraph to be supplied by leaders of Presbiterio Mam, if they wish:

One paragraph to be supplied by leaders of Albany Presbytery:

Our mission is to deepen an ongoing relationship with our brothers and sisters in the Presbiterio Mam in order to strengthen our witness to Jesus Christ as we share our Christian faith, learn from one another, and share our resources.

II CONTACT INFORMATION-

A. Albany Presbytery

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B. Presbiterio Mam

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III PROCESS FOR APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION:

- A. Partnership Agreements have been approved in 2001, and 2004 each for three year terms. **This Partnership Agreement will be presented to AP on June 10, 2008, and to MP in July, 2008 for a renewal of our partnership for the next three years (2009–2011).**
- B. **What committee or group is responsible for implementing the partnership activities? How are they accountable to the Presbytery?**

For AP: The Guatemala Task Force is a sub-committee of the Mission Support Task Force of Albany Presbytery. We must apply to continue our covenant with the Presbytery annually, through a process overseen by the Presbytery Council.

For MP: The Executive Committee of the Presbiterio makes decisions and brings them to the full presbytery for ratification.

C. EVALUATION

The partners agree to enter into a review process no later than one year before the end date for the Partnership. The results of the review will be shared with the Presbytery International Partnerships Office of the Worldwide Ministries Division, PC(USA) and with the appropriate higher office of the Mam Presbiterio partner Church or agency.

IV THE NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED

A. Albany Presbytery's needs:

1. To establish consistent contact with members of the Presbiterio Mam, with regular communication of reports, prayer requests, and concerns.
 - a) AP will recruit a Spanish speaker committed to contacting Mam leaders on a monthly basis
 - b) AP will provide \$500 for training of Mam leaders in internet use, flash sticks and other technology and soft ware, as well as for bus fare and fees associated with using internet cafes.
 - c) AP and MP will agree on regular dates for sending and receiving information, and will notify one another by phone when information is sent.
 - d) AP and MP will regularly exchange prayer requests
 - e) MP will provide reports on how monies are used, including stories of those affected by particular projects and those receiving leadership training
 - f) Olga, through her husband Pedro Daniel will be the primary contact for the Presbiterial for now
 - g) In the future, when women receive training in internet use, they would prefer to be trained separately from the men.

2. To better apprehend how Christian faith is understood from within and translated into Mayan culture.
 - a) When AP members visit Guatemala, Presbiterio Mam leaders will offer Mayan Spirituality workshops
3. To better comprehend Christian faith in a global context, including issues of materialism and consumer lifestyle, and the impact of the U.S. in other cultures.
 - a) AP will send groups to visit with members of the MP at least once a year, engaging in workshops, dialogue, immersion experiences, and work projects.
4. To enable a mutual sharing among the people in both presbyteries, sharing the Christian faith.
 - a) Children's art exchange
 - b) Youth visits to Hebron Center during summer camp, to Triennium
 - c) Liturgy exchanges – agreeing to designate one Sunday a year as partnership Sunday
 - d) AP Youth visits and participate in MP youth projects.

B. Presbiterio Mam's needs:

1. To participate in the exchange of ideas with the hope of continuing growth of God's work.
 - a) see communication plan in IV A. 1
2. Financial resources for particular congregations and churches within Mam Presbytery.
 - a) We will seek to link individual congregations in Mam and Albany for mutual support in prayer, and financial resources for MP churches
 - b) MP will set up a general building fund to which MP churches may apply. There will be a high level of accountability, with regular reports from the MP executive committee to AP about what grants have been awarded and to whom.
3. Scholarships for leadership training for youth and in areas of education, agriculture, and industrial techniques.
 - a) MP will set up a general scholarship fund to which MP members may apply. There will be a high level of accountability, with regular reports from the MP executive committee to AP about what grants have been awarded and to whom.

4. Support for projects of the Women's Organization of Mam Presbytery.
 - a) The Guatemala Task Force of AP will ask the Presbyterian Woman of AP to support the MP Presbiterial's Embroidery Project
 - i. they need scholarships for women who want to attend classes
 - ii. they need more room for their work, and are planning on building a two story area for the Presbiterial at the Presbytery compound in San Juan Ostencalco
 - iii. they need more sewing machines
 - b) When possible, MP women will offer embroidery workshops for AP women who are visiting
 - c) The MP Presbiterial and AP Presbyterian Women will be asked to exchange prayers which they write (with help if needed).
 - d) Domestic Violence Workshops will be offered, with AP providing initial leadership

IV. RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM AP FOR CARRYING OUT THE PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES:

- A. The anticipated funding requirements for carrying out the partnership activities or objectives will vary from year to year. Currently \$500 has been pledged from AP to set up a fund to pay leaders of Mam Presbiterio for bus fare, internet café fees and other expenses related to ensuring regular communication with Albany Presbytery.
- C. How will these funds be raised (special offerings, individual contributions, presbytery budget, or other)?

Presbytery budget with occasional individual contributions and special offerings.
- D. What expenses will MP have in carrying out these activities?

MP pays a percentage of the material resources as part of project requests and provides labor and resources.