Member Care Update

Ethnê-MC Facilitation Team
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Ethnê-MC Update **Issue 3: July 2008**

Welcome again to the *Update*! The focus this month is on MC and HR. Our monthly reports inform you about important member care resources, news, and topics. We especially want to further equip people with member care responsibilities who are focussing on mission/aid personnel in least-reached people groups (LPGs). In addition to the mission/aid emphasis, the reports regularly contain material from the international humanitarian, health, business, human rights, and human resource sectors. Each report is archived on our web site: **www.ethne.net/membercare**. Please feel free to share the *Update* with others and your networks. May the Lord bless you and your work.

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In this Issue: Member Care and Human Rights

SPECIAL RESOURCES: Tools to further equip you for member care

- *Research on cross-cultural living—Participate in a stud*
- *MOSS*
- *Working virtually book*

SPECIAL EVENTS: Gatherings to help you connect/contribute to the member care field

- *PTM Conference—Asia Member Care Network Report*

SPECIAL TOPICS: Current issues and approaches related to member care

- *Millennium Development Goals* **http://www.undp.org/mdg/basics.shtml**

Do you know what the eight UN goals are in response to major development needs in the world?

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The *Update* is compiled on behalf of the *Ethnê-Member Care Network*. We are a growing *network of colleagues* from different nations and organisations. Our passion is to see the least-reached people groups (LPGs) experience the transforming love of Jesus Christ. We are committed to help provide and develop member care resources in order to support the diversity of people/senders who are working among LPGs. Our *Network* is part of the Ethnê to Ethnê Movement (**www.ethne.net**).

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- *(2007); by Huetner, Brown, and James-Tanny*

"How do you manage people you don't see every day, may never actually have met in person and who may be working not just in different cities, but on different continents? Managing such virtual teams is becoming

increasingly common and important for managers at all levels. This book provides practical advice for managers of distributed teams who need to design the internal systems and meet deadlines with a diverse team, as well as for team members who want to develop and maintain professional relationships… Part I discusses team dynamics, project management and development, and forms of communication. Part II covers the types of tools currently available for collaboration such as wikis, blogs, RSS feeds, and more, and describes the different feature sets of each. Part III explains the various features of the book's companion wiki."

SPECIAL EVENTS: Gatherings to help you connect/contribute to the member care field

- *PTM Conference—Asia Member Care Network Report*

After five years of networking and planning, the launch of a new member care Asia conference and

eligious Liberty Organizations Call for Global Prayer for China

March 30, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(ZURICH, March 2008) In a historic move, key organizations that work with the persecuted church around the world launched a global campaign calling for prayer for China. In what is called "The Zurich Statement," the Religious Liberty Partnership (RLP), with member organizations that include Open Doors International, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, the Voice of the Martyrs (Canada), and the Religious Liberty Commission of World Evangelical Alliance, have called the worldwide Christian community to pray for China during this Summer Olympics year.

The Zurich Statement acknowledges some important progress made in China over the past few decades and raises the hope that this will translate into the removal of remaining obstacles to the full expression of faith and an end to serious violations of religious freedom. In addition, the Statement recognizes potential of the Chinese nation as a significant political and economic force for the furtherance of regional and global peace.

"The call for prayer is rooted in the fact that the RLP felt it was time to acknowledge some progress in China's attitude toward religious liberty and also the part Christians play at all levels of Chinese society," stated Mervyn Thomas, CEO of Christian Solidarity Worldwide, UK, and Chairman of the RLP leadership team. "There is still a very long way to go and religious freedom is something very alien to many Christians in China.

However Christians all over the world have been praying for their Chinese family for many years and I believe we are beginning to see the impact of those prayers today."

"What a change we have seen in the nearly 30 years since my first visit to China," said Johan Compajen of Open Doors International in Holland and a member of the RLP leadership team. "In spite of many obstacles, the Church in China has multiplied. What seemed impossible in the past has happened because around the world we joined the Chinese Christians in prayer and our Chinese brothers and sisters have been willing to pay the price for following Jesus. If we continue to pray, we may be surprised by what God will do in the coming 30 years."

The Religious Liberty Partnership (RLP) is a collaborative effort of Christian organizations focused on religious liberty. The RLP seeks to more intentionally work together in addressing advocacy and in raising the awareness of religious persecution globally. The current membership of the RLP is listed on the Zurich Statement.

MC and HR

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