ACF USA

To Mobilize and Empower Africans worldwide to Impact their Generation and Africa

Policy on External Missions

Overview

ACF USA is a US Corporation chattered under the laws of the state of Maryland. However, the ACF Mission - To Mobilize and Empower Africans Worldwide to impact their generation and Africa- is Global in reach and Afrocentric in focus.

ACF USA was founded in 1977 as a fellowship of African Christian students in the United States. In 1989, the organization's focus expanded to include All African Christians and to incorporate the strategic goal of reconnecting with the continent (Africa).

The evolution of ACF USA engagement outside the United States started with short term summer mission trips by a handful of individual members. A more organized and systematic version emerged with the assigning of specific African countries to each of the four ACF USA Regions in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. In the course of time, specific areas of mission interest have developed to include Medical Mission Outreach (including construction of medical clinics at Kigarama, Uganda; Kumi, Uganda; and Sieraleone); Child Sponsorship program in Uganda; Economic Empowerment (small scale businesses) in Benin Republic, Burundi, and Uganda; Pastors Training and Church Leadership Development in Benin Republic and Uganda; Evangelism Outreach or Crusades; etc.

Several groups and individuals across the globe have recently begun to express interest in starting an ACF USA chapter or affiliate in their various localities. In order to embrace this new phase in the growth and development of the ACF USA vision, the Board of ACF USA Inc sets forth the following guidelines for engagement outside the United States.

Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines it to:

1. Maintain vision clarity and avoid mission drift.
2. Support the ongoing effort of the various mission teams, and empower them to act decisively while in the field.
3. Provide a roadmap for actualizing the Reconnecting with the Continent aspiration of the fellowship.
4. Embrace the growing interest by individuals and groups outside the United States to participate in the ACF USA ministry.

Variations of Engagement

The following represent the various avenues of ACFUSA engagement outside the United States of America. For each of the areas of engagement, this policy attempts to define a rationale for engagement, criteria/methods for engagement, limits of engagement and how to maintain responsibility and accountability.

ACF USA National Mission Council

1. The fellowship will establish a National Mission Council made up of two persons from each region including the Regional Mission Directors. The ACF USA National Mission Council will be responsible to the ACF USA National Board. The Council will be headed by a Director appointed by the National Board of ACF USA.

2. Local Chapters and regions shall determine the process and level of organization necessary to execute their mission agenda. However, each local chapter and region will recognize that they are part of a larger ACF USA team and that resource persons may be called upon from anywhere in the ACF USA body to provide necessary expertise and support to an ongoing project or initiative. Therefore, it is critical that local chapters and regions continually provide reports to the National Mission Council as to their planning and implementation of mission's activities.

3. The National Mission Council shall have the responsibility of highlighting the various mission's activities by the local chapters and regions of ACF USA as well as raising funds and providing management support for ACF USA mission projects. Accordingly, the National Mission Council may, from time to time and to the extent possible, distribute undesignated funds to local chapters or regions to support their mission activities.

Short-term Missions

1. ACF USA has historically conducted field mission's work through regional and local chapter mission teams. Each region and/or local chapter has focused on projects determined by the various regional or local chapter mission teams. This arrangement has proven to be effective and will continue. Any change to the arrangement will be determined by the National Board of Directors and implemented after consultation with the appropriate stakeholders.
2. The Regional Mission Directors will be responsible for recruiting and supporting their individual teams, including the recruitment of local in-country team members as needed to effectively execute their short-term mission objectives.
3. Local chapter or regional mission directors are responsible for ensuring that there are adequate arrangements for the financial, physical, and spiritual wellbeing of all volunteers recruited for the mission trips.
4. The ACF USA National Mission Council or Director of Mission will maintain overall supervision and develop standard policies and guidelines to be followed by the mission teams. However, the National Mission Council or Director of Mission shall refrain from managing the local chapter/regional mission teams, unless the local chapters or regions decide otherwise.

Long- term Missions

1. Projects with durations longer than six (6) months and/or that require the hiring of staff, acquisition of physical/landed property, or registration with local authorities will be supervised more closely than short-term projects. Therefore, local chapter/regional Mission Directors must coordinate such projects with the National Mission Council or Director of Mission. To the extent possible, the National Mission Council or Director of Mission will endeavor to provide logistical support to the local chapter/regional mission teams in their long-term projects.
2. Local chapters and regions should ensure that all long-term projects are registered in the name of ACF USA even though the local chapters and regions are responsible for financing long-term projects originated by them until such a time when the National Mission Council determines that the funding should primarily be the responsibility of the National Board of ACF USA.

Non US Chapters/Affiliates of ACF USA

1. In the course of their mission activities, local chapters and regions may find it necessary to establish local in-country organizations to support/enhance their activities. However, such in-country organizations must be registered in the name of ACF USA in the country of operation, unless the National Mission Council decides otherwise.
2. Groups or individuals wishing to establish affiliate chapters of ACF USA outside the United States of America shall have the responsibility to:
    a. Adopt the Mission, Vision and Doctrinal Basis of the fellowship as set forth in the ACF USA Constitution & Bylaws;

b. Formulate a set of Bylaws consistent with the Local Chapter Constitution & Bylaws template of the ACF USA and that conforms to the laws of the country of domicile;
c. Choose a name that reflects the organizations membership in and as a chapter of ACF USA;
d. Choose a region of ACF USA that the organization more closely wants to affiliate with;
e. Provide a copy of the governing documents to the ACF USA National Board for review and approval;
f. Formally register the local organization as a legal entity consistent with prevailing local laws;
g. Select a leadership to direct its affairs;
h. Develop and implement programs and activities necessary to accomplish the purpose and objectives of ACF USA in their locality; and
i. Generate financial support and fund its ministry activities.

3. Non US Chapters/Affiliates must abide by the laws of their country of domicile, notwithstanding any provisions of the Constitution & Bylaws of ACF USA.

4. The ACF USA National Board shall be responsible for providing oversight for non US Chapters/Affiliates. However, the National Board may delegate its oversight responsibility, in regard to a particular non US chapter/affiliate, to a local chapter or region of the ACF USA in recognition of the local chapter's/region's relationship with a non US chapter/affiliate.

Third Party Partner Organizations

1. ACF USA recognizes and is fully aware that the Lord has called the Fellowship to a mission that is much bigger than any one organization. Therefore, while we will do everything within our power and resources to champion the ACF USA mission, we also welcome the participation of other organizations, groups and individuals within the larger body of Christ through partnerships, collaborations, and independent efforts.

2. When the right opportunity presents itself, and judged appropriate, ACF USA will recognize, support, partner or collaborate with any organization engaged in activities, projects and/or programs that contribute to the fulfillment of the ACF USA mission, without regard to issues of doctrine, except where there are reason to believe that such organization is motivated by other than honorable intentions. The decision to recognize, support, partner or collaborate with any third party organization shall initially be at the discretion of the Local Chapter or Regional Mission team working in the specific local jurisdiction. However, when project duration is determined to be longer than six (6) months, then the Local Chapter or Regional Mission team must notify and receive the approval of the National Mission Council or Director of Missions in order to engage in or continue such partnerships or collaborations.

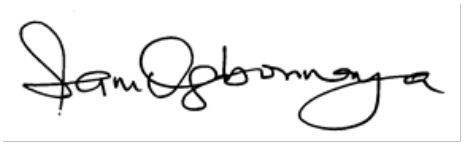
3. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be executed between the ACF USA and any such third party organization.

Local Church Partners

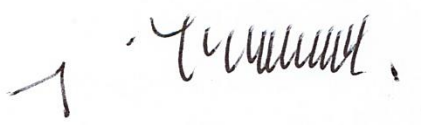
1. As with Third Party Partner Organizations, ACF USA will embrace partnering with local church groups in countries of operation.
2. Each relationship will be defined on its own set of circumstances. However, the general principles outlined in the section on Third Party Partner Organizations will similarly apply to Local Church Partners.
3. Thus, when the right opportunity presents itself, and judged appropriate, ACF USA will partner or collaborate with any local church group in activities, projects and/or programs that contribute to the fulfillment of the ACF USA mission. The decision to partner or collaborate with any local church group shall initially be at the discretion of the Local Chapter or Regional Mission team working in the specific local jurisdiction. However, when project duration is determined to be longer than six months, then the Local Chapter or Regional Mission team must notify and receive the approval of the National Mission Council or Director of Missions in order to engage in or continue such partnerships or collaborations.
4. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be executed between the ACF USA and the local church group.

This policy on external missions was presented to, reviewed and adopted by the National Board of ACF USA at a duly convened meeting of the National Board held on the 27th Day of August, 2017.

Number of members present: All
Number of Votes for: All
Number of Votes against: All
Number Abstaining: None



Secretary, ACF USA National Board
Sam Ogbonnaya



Chairman, ACF USA National Board
Jasper J. Nzedu

Date: 8/27/2017