

Support YOUR Local Mission Partner

What is a Mission Partner? A Mission Partner is someone who has answered God's call to serve Him in South America or Iberia. However with the advent of multi-way Mission it could also be a member of the indigenous Church who has links with congregations in Ireland.

The Mission Partner's call will be tested through the selection procedure. SAMS will be responsible for training and resourcing the person. The Society will also co-ordinate with the overseas Church regarding placement and terms of service.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF MISSION PARTNERS:

Short-term Volunteer. This is a person who serves with SAMS for more than two months and less than two years. They are responsible for their own financial support, which is raised through special events or from support of their home Church. SAMS Ireland will assist in whatever they can, but because of finite resources, the majority of the finance must come from the volunteer.

Full-Time Service. This is a person who will serve for more than two years and will sign a contract whereby SAMS will fully finance their work overseas. In faith SAMS will underwrite an annual budget for each Mission Partner. It is the role of the supporting Church to contribute to this

finance through allocations of their funds or through fund raising events. Definite and regular financial commitment is crucial to the work of Mission.

WHAT SUPPORT IS NEEDED?

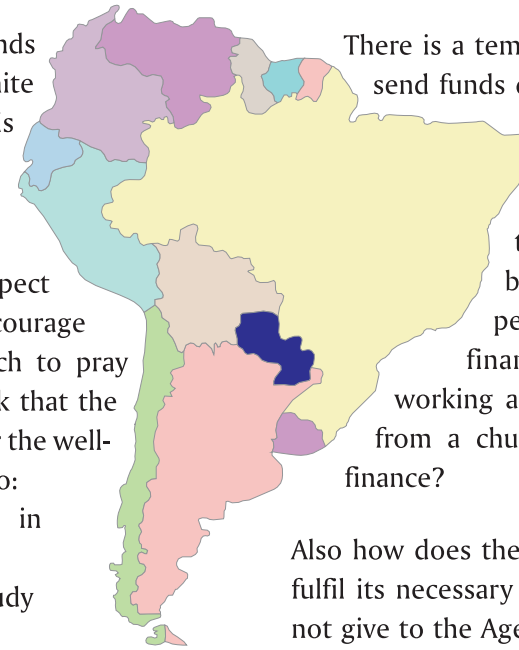
Without doubt the most important aspect of your support is prayer. We would encourage each supporter and supporting Church to pray regularly and consistently for the work that the Mission Partner is involved with and for the well-being of the Partner. We would ask you to:

- ➔ Pray for them each month in Church.
- ➔ Pray for them in the Bible Study and prayer groups.
- ➔ Individual supporters would regularly remember the Mission Partner and obtain the necessary information from the agency to enable to have informed and intelligent prayer times.

We realise that the prayers of the supporting Church is the back-bone of our work and ministry. We know that without prayer we are not nor can we be effective in our work

WHY SHOULD WE GIVE?

When we come to the matter of finance, many people shy away from the subject. Yet without the financial support of Churches and individuals how do we sustain the work in South America and Iberia? How do we respond to the emergency situations that arise overseas? How do we pay the wages of Mission Partners?



There is a temptation from supporters to send funds directly to Mission Partners overseas instead of through the Mission Agency. But we should think about this seriously before we act; what if a person, who comes from a financially secure church, is working alongside a person who is from a church which struggles for it finance?

Also how does the Society find the money to fulfil its necessary commitments if people do not give to the Agency? This also means that the decisions regarding the needs of the people and the most valuable work to be involved in, is taken out of the hands of the Society.

If this is carried through to its ultimate conclusion, some Mission Partners will have all the financial support they need for whatever they want, while others could have to come home because there is no direct financial support for their work. This is why SAMS Ireland endeavours that all the finance for the work is allocated through the Society. Also the Mission Partner contractually agrees that he or she will only accept personal financial gifts up totalling £500 per year. This does not exclude individuals sending a gift to a Mission Partner on their birthday, or for Christmas or any other occasions.

How MUCH DOES IT COST?

On average it costs £15,000 to support a single Mission Partner and £25,000 for a married couple.

It is true the Mission partner does not receive this total amount, but there are costs which have to be paid which are often hidden from the Mission Supporter. For example, there is medical and travel insurance while overseas, as well as insuring that the Mission Partners pension and National Insurance contribution at home are also kept up to date. All these must be paid for which demonstrates how important financial support to the Agency is so important.

WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?



If you feel you can support a Mission Partner, either individually, as a church group or as a Church body then contact the SAMS House (details on the back panel) and they will give you details concerning the people who are serving in South America and Iberia, as well as the projects which they are currently supporting. We will also add

you to our mailing list in order that you are informed regular of the work of SAMS Ireland. This will also let you know when our major mission events take place. At these events there are normally Mission Partner, both full-time and

short term who will share their experiences with us. Details of these events will be sent to you about six weeks before the event.

We in SAMS Ireland realise that we must be good stewards and custodians of the resources which are entrusted in our hands. Ultimately it is to God we will answer if we misuse those valuable resources. We would ask you to pray as to whether you can make a definite commitment to prayerfully or even financially support the work of SAMS Ireland.

The Church in South America continues to grow at an incredible rate and your continued support can enable the work to grow and be more fully established. Together we can fulfil the Commission of Jesus to make disciples of all nations because your support makes it possible. Together we can put Mission into Action.

If you require any further information regarding the support SAMS, or require a Bankers Order Form or Gift Aid Form, please see our web site for details. Alternatively contact:

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Registered Charity Number: XR 67448



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MISSION PARTNER

A Guide to Supporting SAMS Ireland Mission Partners & Projects

