

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of Franciscan Mission Service,

This past year has been one of intense renewal and growth for FMS. We conducted what amounted to a full-scale overhaul and reform of the organization. The results are truly inspiring, and a source of much hope for the future.

We began with our foundation, seeking first to clarify our identity and re-vitalize our leadership. Among other things, the Board of Directors approved an updated mission statement and set of core statements, which clearly define our spirit and purpose. The leadership structure of FMS was

strengthened, and time and funds were dedicated to training the Board in 2010 to take a more active and present role in the workings of FMS.

The Franciscan charism has always defined our philosophy of mission and way of life. This year we recommitted to partnerships with Franciscan religious in mission. Our lay missionaries will now live in intentional communities with each other, rather than singly, and only at mission sites with established Franciscan religious presence. This will help our missionaries grow in their Franciscan identity, and serve to strengthen existing Franciscan mission.

Our top priority for the past year was to restart our dormant Lay Missioner Formation Program. Largely because of the dedication of Program Director Beth Riehle, who rebuilt the program and connected with old and new facilitators, the 25th class of lay missionaries was trained and commissioned for service in Bolivia and South Africa.

We have now entered the 20th Anniversary Year of the Lay Missioner Program. In 2010 we intend to build our support base through special events such as our Annual World Care Benefit in October. We also aim to build greater name recognition for FMS among members of the Franciscan family, who we hope will help point potential lay missionaries toward FMS. Finally, we will continue to move forward on the path of renewal, which includes building a dedicated core staff committed to the mission and values of the organization.

We look forward to continuing this journey of hope with you!

Peace and all good, *Kim Smolik*

We were able to bring down overall costs in 2009 by reducing the number of salaried staff members and by reprioritizing our spending. We plan to increase staffing as our funding goals are met.

2009 Highlights

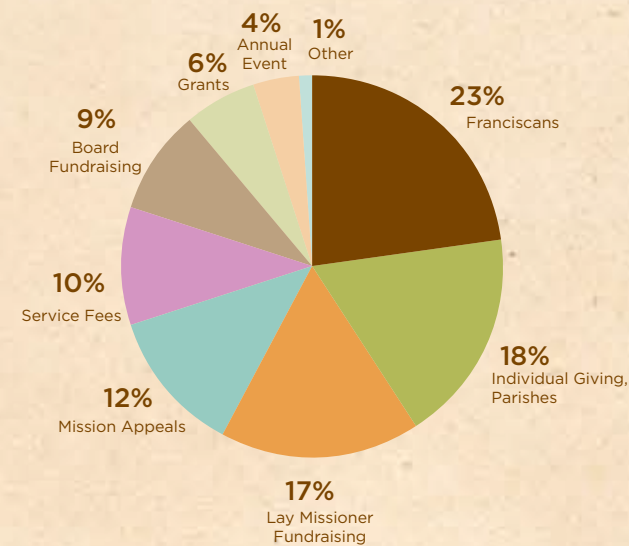
- Income exceeded expenditures for the first time since 2005
- Board fundraising was the highest in our history, up 800% from 2008
- 30% of Returned Missioners donated to FMS
- 20 Franciscan groups donated to FMS
- 40 individuals who had ceased donating to FMS in the past two years made gifts in 2009

SOURCES OF INCOME

Franciscans*	\$72,000
Individual Giving, Parishes	\$56,000
Lay Missioner Fundraising	\$52,000
Mission Appeals	\$38,000
Service Fees	\$31,000
Board Fundraising	\$27,000
Grants	\$18,000
Annual Event	\$13,000
Other	\$1,000

Income Total \$ 308,000

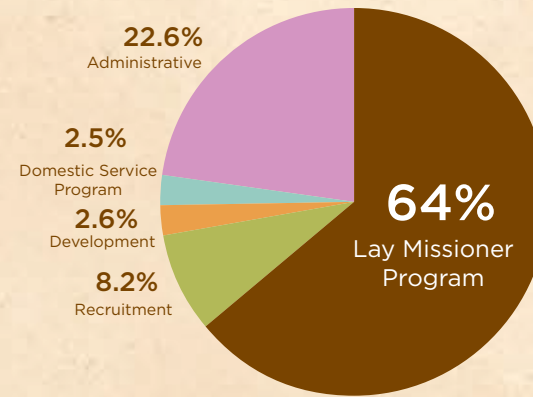
*Includes OFM Provinces, OSF Congregations and SFO Fraternities



EXPENSES

Lay Missioner Program	\$162,000
Administrative	\$58,000
Recruitment	\$20,000
Development	\$6,600
Domestic Service Program	\$6,400

Expense Total: \$ 253,000



Please visit our website for additional financial information for 2009.

FMS AND YOU

Ways you can be involved in the mission of FMS:

Support FMS financially

- Donate online
- Cash, check, credit card
- Consider becoming a monthly donor
- Stock transfers, bequests, memorial or honorarium gifts
- Even the smallest donation helps!

Volunteer

- Help with improvement projects at our missioner formation house, Casa San Salvador
- Extra hands are always needed for help with our big mailings throughout the year

Share the FMS story with others

- Read and promote our blog and website
- Contact us to invite one of our Returned Missioners to speak at your church, work, or school, or request materials to put on display
- Hold a dinner or cocktail party at your house to raise awareness and support
- Invite a friend to an FMS event

Pray for our missionaries in their work



Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a *Tree of life.*

Proverbs 13:12

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patrick O'Neill – President
FMS Returned Missioner

Fr. Joseph Nangle, OFM – Secretary/Treasurer
Former FMS Co-Director, Holy Name Province

Catherine Grosso – Vice President
Assistant Law Professor, Michigan State University

Deacon Tom Bello, SFO
National Minister, SFOs in the United States

Sr. Marian Boberschmidt, OSF
Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenberg, IN

Fr. George Corrigan, OFM
FMS Returned Missioner, Holy Name Province

Fr. Martin Day, OFM Conv.
Treasurer, Province of Our Lady of Consolation

Fr. John O'Connor, OFM
Provincial Superior, Holy Name Province

Br. Joe Rogenski, OFM
Director, Franciscan Missionary Union Sacred Heart Province

Megeen White Testa
*FMS Returned Missioner
Former FMS Co-Director*

2009 LEADERSHIP STAFF

Kim Smolik
Executive Director

Beth Riehle
Interim Program Director

FULL-TIME VOLUNTEER STAFF

Mariam Mitry
Program and Development Associate

Jill Staudt
Communications and Development Associate

Peter Mueller
Grant and Staff Writer

OUR ORGANIZATION

Franciscan Mission Service (FMS) was founded in 1985 to give North American Catholic laity the experience of international mission in the Franciscan charism. Since the lay mission program sent its first missionaries in 1990, Franciscan Mission Service has trained, commissioned, and supported over 440 women and men for mission in 49 different countries.

OUR MISSION

In the tradition of Saints Francis and Clare, Franciscan Mission Service prepares and supports Catholic lay people for a mission of presence and service in solidarity with poor communities overseas. This transformational experience equips our women and men for a lifelong mission of social change in North America.

CORE STATEMENTS

- We believe in the transforming power of Christ's love in the world
- We provide cross-cultural and theological mission formation
- We promote Catholic Social Teaching as central to our faith and service
- We support a "ministry of presence" according to the Franciscan charism
- We have confidence in the wisdom of poor communities
- We believe in the possibility to transform North American people and society through our Returned Missioners
- We invest in partnerships to build global community

OUR PROGRAMS

Lay Missioner Formation – prepares Catholic lay men and women for the spiritual and practical challenges of mission in a foreign country and culture

International Lay Mission – supports missionaries as they minister in impoverished communities, bearing witness to the Gospel in their actions and lifestyle

Returned Missioner Support – supports Returned Missioners in utilizing their mission experience for the renewal of North American Church and society

Domestic Volunteer Service Program – provides young Catholic laity with the opportunity for service in our national office



Mission has opened my life in an explosion of freedom and beauty.

– LEE LECHTENBERG,
BOLIVIA (2007-2009)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS | 2009

Organizational Leadership and Identity: Renewal and Commitment

Board and Executive Leadership

A clear identity and purpose, along with stable, competent and visionary leadership were identified as essential components of FMS' renewal. To this end, the board hired a new Executive Director and committed to becoming an active "best practices" board in 2010.

Mission and Core Statements

In April, the Board and Executive Director engaged in a "Mission and Visioning Retreat", which yielded a new mission statement, providing clear direction in the renewal process. We also developed seven core statements that define the "soul" of FMS and inspire the work that we do.

Partnerships with Franciscans

FMS reaffirmed its commitment to partner specifically with Franciscan friars and sisters in the mission field. We believe that this commitment helps our missionaries maintain and deepen their Franciscan identity and focus.

Domestic Volunteer Service Program: New Life in the FMS Office

In 2009, FMS established a full-time domestic volunteer program. Three full-time volunteers were hired to work in the FMS national office, directly serving the needs of our international lay missionaries. The domestic program emphasizes service, intentional community, spirituality in the Franciscan charism, and simple living. We are grateful for their service!

Missioner Formation and Training: Building Instruments of Peace

In 2009, Beth Riehle said "yes" to FMS in a new way. She returned from three and a half years of mission in El Salvador to rebuild the dormant Lay Missioner Formation Program. Drawing on 15 years of programming experience and a faith steeped in the Franciscan tradition, Beth was able not just to recreate the program, but breathe new life and vision into it.

Some highlights:

- Franciscan friars and sisters formed the foundation of our program by facilitating workshops, retreats and celebrating Mass.
- Over 25 guest speakers and facilitators shared their expertise, often for free.
- Missioners received specific training in how to build a prayer and donor support network.

2009 was a breakthrough year for FMS.

Thanks to Kim Smolik, Beth Riehle and the rest of the staff we were able to turn FMS into once more a vibrant organization.

–FR. JOSEPH NANGLE, OFM, FORMER CO-DIRECTOR OF FMS



As the boys in Casa Nazareth grow older, the success of my work will not be measured by whether or not they remember my name, but rather that they make decisions for the good, because someone once loved them.

–GINNY DACHENHAUSEN, BOLIVIA (2007-2009)



International Lay Mission: Journey of Hope

Through your prayers and donations in 2009, you brought hope to the poor and marginalized communities where our missionaries served.

Education

You brought hope to:

- 20 underprivileged boys who were given a new chance at life through the literacy program that Sharon Wahl developed in Musoma, Tanzania.
- over 100 school children through Jean and Lee Lechtenberg, who created the first local children's *biblioteca* (library) in Carmen Pampa, Bolivia.

- 620 youth and adults in Cochabamba, Bolivia through Emily Ward, who created a sustainable computer literacy program.

Community Building

You brought hope to:

- more than 5,000 children and adults in El Salvador through cooperative games and a corresponding manual in Spanish created by Beth Riehle.

- 65 families and university students of Carmen Pampa, Bolivia, for whom Lee and Jean Lechtenberg provided guidance and mentoring.

Pastoral Care

You brought hope to:

- 100 abandoned, abused and orphaned street children in the *Amanecer* shelters in Cochabamba, Bolivia through Kristen and Richard Nalen, who organized programming and cared for the children.

- 25 orphaned boys whom Ginny Dachenhausen cared for daily at Casa Nazareth in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

FMS missionaries are the most prepared lay missionaries I have ever worked with. They truly understand and engage in the 'ministry of presence', a hallmark of Franciscan mission.

FR. IGNACIO HARDING, OFM,
FMS MISSION LIAISON IN BOLIVIA

Lifelong Mission to North America: Bringing Hope Home

Expanding Support for Returned Missioners

In 2009, FMS formed a team of Returned Missioners and staff that meets monthly to provide outreach to all Returned Missioners.

The team created the First Annual Joseph Nangle, OFM Lifelong Mission Award. It honors a Returned Missioner who continues to live out Franciscan ideals in their daily life. In October 2009, Dan McNeil was our first award recipient for his work as the founder of Peace Maker Foundation in Minnesota.

Bringing hope home through...

Education

- Kimberly Hopwood is the Director of Graduate Support for a Nativity Miguel Network School in Washington, DC. The school provides equal access to quality education for low-income families.

Pastoral Care

- Lynda Crone is Director of Expansion for Maggie's Place in Phoenix, AZ, a Catholic faith-based organization that serves homeless pregnant women.

Environmental Justice

- Marlene Trompeta is working to develop the St. Francis Ecological Sanctuary in the Philippines, which will include an ecological training center, a house of prayer, and a healing center.

The local people live very simply and trust in God for all things, and helped me to do the same.

SHARON WAHL, TANZANIA 2008-2009

