

MISSIONER IN FOCUS:

Hady Mendez

in Cochabamba, Bolivia

On the way to the market one day, a woman came up to Hady and said, "Señorita! Remember me? You used to visit me in jail." The two embraced. Each week Hady goes to San Sebastian prison to pray with the women and offer emotional support.

The woman in the market admitted that now that she was released, she did not know what to do. The transition from life in prison back into society can be difficult - especially for those trapped in a cycle of poverty and debt. Hady invited the woman to Manos Con Libertad (Free Hands), which empowers formerly incarcerated women and their families to have a fresh start at life through meaningful work. The women receive support and training, make handicrafts, and work in a restaurant and bakery. Hady co-teaches lifeskills classes that cover everything from health, confidence building, and job preparation. Once a month she hosts a night of fellowship with the women.

"Working with the women at Manos has taught me a lot about never giving up. The women I work with are fighters and have reminded me that nothing in life comes easy," says Hady. "I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside them and to have had the opportunity to know them. Their stories have inspired me to have gratitude for the many blessings in my own life."



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Savanna-la-Mar, Jamaica

In order to address the physical needs of those experiencing deep poverty, missionaries Brandon Newland and Patrick Montine arrived in February and now serve in the biweekly parish soup kitchen. To support the soup kitchen, they started a farm to produce chicken and vegetables. They also work with children on basic literacy and Bible study.

EQUIPO PASTORAL DE LA MADRE TIERRA

Cochabamba, Bolivia

The parish garden ministry where Annemarie Barrett serves has expanded to include more migrant women who come together to share how to grow gardens to sustain their families in an area where resources are scarce.

A BREEZE OF HOPE

Cochabamba, Bolivia

Missioner Valerie Ellis contributes to the comprehensive services offered to survivors of sexual abuse as well as helps to educate the community to prevent further abuse. In May, a salon opened to employ adolescent survivors, which builds the girls' confidence and helps them heal.

4,000
*approximate number of people impacted
by our overseas missionaries each month*

VALLEY OF THE ANGELS SCHOOL

Finca El Pulté, Guatemala

The boarding school creates a loving family environment for children who have been orphaned, abandoned, or come from impoverished, gang-ridden neighborhoods. This is FMS' first year at Valley, and missionaries Amanda Ceraldi and Maeve Gallagher teach English classes, tutor, and lead spiritual formation while forming meaningful relationships with the students.

« VALLEY STUDENTS PRAYING DURING LENT



LOOKING AHEAD

Our Board of Directors and staff laid out an exciting vision for the next three years in which our robust pathways to mission invite more lay people to experience Franciscanism and to serve alongside those on the margins. This vision includes:

- » Strong partnerships and collaborations within the Franciscan family
- » Solid organizational and financial health to support our growth
- » Participation in national and global conversations that advance lay faith-based service that addresses poverty

PRISON MINISTRY

Cochabamba, Bolivia

Missioner Jeff Sved sells wares at the market made by people in prison and then returns the money, enabling the inmates to afford their basic needs such as food and paying for their cell. Friendships affirm the dignity of the people.

UNIDAD ACADÉMICA CAMPESINA CARMEN PAMPA

Coroico, Bolivia

Serving first-generation college students from indigenous families, missionaries Tom Little and Mary and Nate Mortenson contribute to the academic and extracurricular life of the school. This includes leading the English department, teaching math, running the butcher shop, working in the garden, organizing the children's library, and helping with campus ministry.

ONLINE MINISTRY

For Lent we collaborated with Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good to offer "Millennial Lenten Reflections," a blog series featuring thoughts on the daily Gospel readings by young adults. In April, we joined Instagram (@franmissionserv), adding another avenue where we share Franciscan mission values.

NONPROFIT SERVANT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Washington, DC

This year we prepared six young adult Catholics for lives of service and faith through hands-on experience in a faith-based nonprofit combined with simple and prayerful living in an intentional community. Once a week they volunteered in local ministries with men and women experiencing homelessness, children of immigrants, and the elderly.



WORLD CARE BENEFIT AND CELEBRATION

This year's fundraiser was our most successful to date. Alumni, long-time supporters, former staff, board members, and new friends gathered at St. Francis Hall in Washington, DC on May 1 to celebrate our past, present, and future.

In his keynote, Pope Francis' adviser Cardinal Óscar Rodríguez Maradiaga, SDB, said it was impossible to talk about the mission of the Church and not talk about the laity. As lay people, we should find God in all things and transmit the Gospel through our every day lives with the help of the Holy Spirit. Commenting on the gift of the Franciscan vocation, he said, "Never be ashamed to be minors. Who are the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? The least."

At the benefit we presented our first San Damiano Servant Leadership Award as yet another opportunity to encourage young people to answer God's call to "rebuild the Church." We recognized Marian University senior Emma Laut for not only her 400+ service hours, but her ability to invite her peers and build community through service experiences. We also presented the 10th Annual Fr. Anselm Moons, OFM Award to Fr. John O'Connor, OFM, in honor of his and Holy Name Province's longtime support of our work.

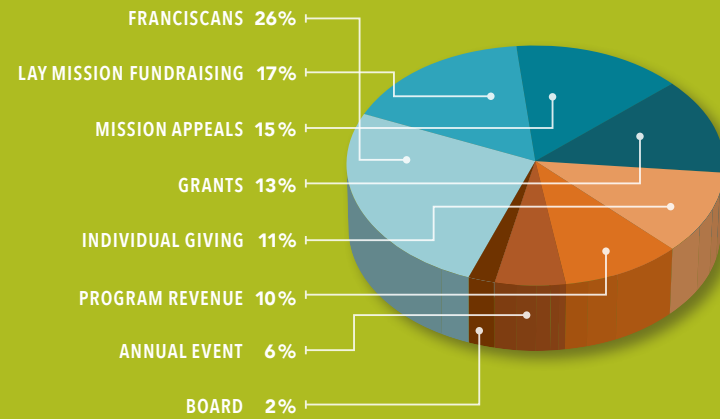
THE FRANCISCAN 100 INITIATIVE

We asked every Secular fraternity, congregation of sisters, province of friars, Franciscan parish, and Franciscan-hearted organization to prayerfully give us a special donation and blessing for our 25th anniversary. While the response has been positive, we have not yet made our goal of 100 participants – please join today: franciscanmissionservice.org/franciscan100



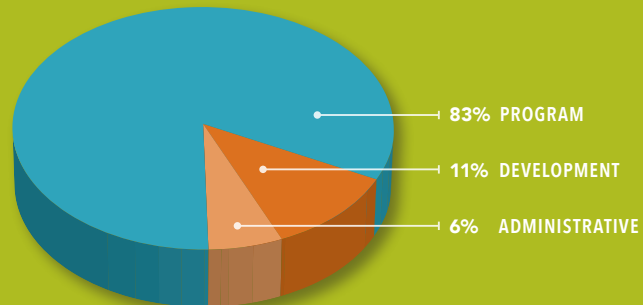
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue Total: \$518,107



Expense Total:* \$527,484

*Program costs include recruitment, training, and support of participants in the Nonprofit Servant Leadership Program as well as the Long-Term Overseas Mission Program.



IN THE 2014-2015 FISCAL YEAR...

824 INDIVIDUALS 16 GROUPS OF FRANCISCAN SISTERS
68 PARISHES 19 SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATERNITIES
10 GROUPS OF FRIARS 9 OTHER FRANCISCAN INSTITUTIONS

...donated to Franciscan Mission Service, along with countless others that supported us through prayer.

Thank You

FOR PARTNERING TO PROVIDE MINISTRIES THAT ARE RELEVANT, RELATIONAL, RADICAL, AND RECONCILING!



CELEBRATING 25 Years OF LAY MISSION IN THE FRANCISCAN TRADITION

Franciscan Mission Service was founded on the idea that laity have an important role to play in the Church and have their own call to mission.

In addition, our founder Fr. Anselm Moons, OFM, believed that the Catholic Church has a missionary task to not only address issues of justice in impoverished areas but to evangelize places of power, affluence, and privilege.

When you add it all up, our missionaries and volunteers have given over 350 years of service in 19 countries and Washington, DC.

In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis tells missionaries to be creative and bold, and to rely on each other for support.

Aware of the changing needs of our church and world, Franciscan Mission Service has courageously grown to offer new ways in which lay people can live out their Gospel call to mission in the tradition of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi.

Because of your support, we've undergone creative and bold expansions. Our programs are healthy and vibrant opportunities for lay Catholics to address issues of poverty by serving in a way that is **relational, reconciling, radical, and relevant.**

Thank you for joining us as we build on this momentum and continue to dream new ways to live out the Franciscan mission call for another 25 years.

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HELP US THRIVE FOR ANOTHER 25 YEARS:

- ☐ Commit to regular prayer for our ministries
- ☐ Donate monthly
- ☐ Encourage a young person to look into the Nonprofit Servant Leadership Program
- ☐ Travel with us on a Short-Term Mission and Global Awareness Trip to Bolivia, Guatemala, or Jamaica
- ☐ Discern your own call to mission service
- ☐ Join our online community for reflections and resources



FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE

RADICAL
living out faith through full-time service

RELEVANT
meeting the needs of the Church and world today

RECONCILING
building bridges between local and global communities

RELATIONAL
encountering our brothers and sisters on the margins



2015 ANNUAL REPORT