

Presbytery of Great Rivers

Presbyterian Mission Advocates: Roles and Responsibilities

Title: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Mission Advocate (PMA)

Purpose: To strengthen local congregations' commitment with God's mission around the world in coordination with Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission partners, mission personnel and GAMC mission support staff.

Qualifications:

PC(U.S.A.) Mission Advocates (PMAs) will

- Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in developing relationships and fulfilling their responsibilities
- Serve with creativity, dedication and enthusiasm
- Possess – or demonstrate the desire to cultivate – knowledge of denominational ministries and resources
- Witness to God's work and grace in their own lives
- Communicate effectively with their presbytery, congregations and PC(U.S.A.) World Mission (PWM).

Relationships:

Mission Advocates

- Are presbytery-appointed (may be staff or volunteer)
- Relate with and listen to congregational leaders and presbytery staff and entities as appropriate
- Receive encouragement through PWM (Equipping the Church for Mission Involvement and mission co-workers) and the office of Communications and Funds Development.

Responsibilities:

As mission interpreters, educators for mission and advocates for financial support, Mission Advocates will

- Stay informed about PWM resources, programs and networks so that they may serve as viable resource persons to accompany congregations in their global¹ mission involvements
- Visit with congregations and members in their presbytery to accompany, resource and encourage them.

Specific tasks:

- Assess the needs of congregations for mission involvement, listening and sharing in order to nurture a process for them to become missional² churches
 - Identify existing mission initiatives or programs supported by churches within their presbytery
 - Identify existing areas of mission passion and engagement within congregations
 - Provide practical information and ideas to congregations and serve as liaisons between congregations for ways of getting involved in God's mission
- Develop meaningful, direct relationships with PC(U.S.A.) mission workers and global mission partners
- Learn about mission resources and experiences offered by mission workers and partners and discover ways to support them both spiritually and financially

¹ Local, national and international.

² "A missional church is an authentic community of faith that primarily directs its ministry focus outward toward the context in which it is located and to the broader world beyond." Definition of a Missional Church by the Rev. Dr. Ronald Carlson, Missional Church Strategist for National Ministries, American Baptist Churches (U.S.A.)

- Encourage congregations in their presbytery to be attentive to quests for self-sufficiency from the underserved
- Suggest and facilitate ways PC(U.S.A.) congregations may get involved in mission based on existing programs and the congregations' own mission passions as well as identified needs of mission workers and partners
- Share knowledge, experience and wisdom about mission involvement emerging from their presbytery with PWM and other PMAs
- Collaborate in ministry with other PMAs and with PWM staff
 - Soliciting information as needed from PWM staff and other PMAs
 - Sharing resources with PMA colleagues
 - Dialoguing with PWM in exploring the vision of effective and faithful global mission
 - Communicating and coordinating with PWM when producing new global mission resources and organizing presbytery/congregational events, promoting PWM events or hosting mission speakers, as solicited by PWM staff and as able
 - Providing bi-annual updates to PWM on the challenges and highlights of facilitating mission involvement, and
 - Distributing updates from PWM on mission resources, events, partners and mission workers
- Assist PWM staff in arranging for presbytery-based education for mission training events, as solicited by PWM staff and as able
- Lift up mission at presbytery, seeking involvement of presbytery leadership
- Encourage congregations and members to support and engage with PC(U.S.A.) partners, co-workers and programs through prayer, correspondence, visits, financial support and other ways of relating that match their passion and sense of call.

PWM's responsibilities to PMAs

- To provide information on PC(U.S.A.) global mission history, contexts, and mission partner relationships as they relate to programs or offices within the PC(U.S.A.)
- To provide practical information on how to support PC(U.S.A.) mission personnel and partners spiritually and materially through prayers, relationships and financial support (i.e. letters, DMS³, ECOs⁴)
- To collaborate in ministry with PMAs
 - Soliciting information as needed from PMAs
 - Providing information to PMAs, including them on the mailing list for PWM materials sent to presbyteries and churches
 - Dialoguing with PMAs in exploring the vision of effective and faithful global mission
 - Communicating and coordinating with PMAs and presbyteries when producing new global mission resources and organizing regional events
 - Providing bi-annual updates to PMAs on the challenges and highlights of facilitating mission involvement, and
 - Distributing updates from PMAs on mission resources, events and relationships with mission workers and partners.

³ Directed Mission Support

⁴ Extra Commitment Opportunity