



## Mobile Member Care Team 2014 Annual Report

We are grateful for this opportunity to share with you about key events and developments for MMCT in 2014. Thanks to the prayers, personnel, time, and finances of many supporters, we were able to increase the resilience of communities of cross cultural workers - which is our joy, as expressed in our vision:

*We envision resilient communities of cross cultural workers caring for each other, equipped to thrive in the midst of life's challenges and traumas.*

We hope that you too will be blessed and encouraged as you read on and see how God was at work!

We begin this Annual Report with a brief update about our three regions and the international team: [International](#), [West Africa](#), [East Africa](#), and [MMCT-MED](#).

Next are three sections for each of our Strategic Services:

- [Developing Member Care Competencies](#)
- [Facilitating Community Relationships](#)
- [Enhancing Resilience and Health](#)

We then briefly report on MMCT's [Resource Development](#), including our [Financial Picture](#) and aspects of [Personnel](#). We conclude with [Looking into 2015](#).

Thanks for your interest!

Jackie Buhler  
MMCT Governing Board Chair

**MMCT-International**  
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**804-748-8045**

## MMCT-International

After 15 years in West Africa, the **International Team** relocated to Virginia in the USA where we have more capacity to do organizational development and still be accessible to the regional teams.

Darlene Jerome serves as International Coordinator, Personnel Coordinator and Training Coordinator.

Karen Carr wears the hats of Deputy International Coordinator, Clinical Director and Finance Manager.



Pray with us that our international team will grow in numbers, skills, wisdom and boldness.

## MMCT-West Africa

This year we had a complete turnover of the original West Africa team to a dynamic, multi-disciplinary, culturally experienced team of four. After almost 40 years of serving in Africa, Marion Dicke left in August to begin a new season in Western Canada, but remains involved as a consultant to the team. In October, Darlene Jerome and Karen Carr completed the mentoring of the West Africa team before their move back to the US so as to enter fully into their International roles.



### Meet the current West Africa team!

**Patrick and Sue Schmidt** worked in Ghana and Cameroon with Wycliffe Bible Translators for many years. Patrick is the Regional Coordinator and loves to do counseling. Sue serves as the Training Coordinator and Office Administrator. She is great with kids and a natural trainer.

**Vivian Ochoa** hails from Guatemala. She had missions experience in India and Nepal before

earning her master's in pastoral counseling from Columbia International University in the US. She is providing oversight to our peer responders and also enjoys counseling and training.

**Dr. Deb Bergen** was born in India with Canadian citizenship and lived for many years in the US with her husband who is an Old Testament professor. She is a psychiatrist and brings valuable psychiatric and clinical consultation to the team's counseling and crisis response services.

The West Africa team would love to have more teammates, especially those who speak French well enough to do interactive training. Pray with us for African teammates as well. More and more of the missionaries in Africa are Africans; we believe the Lord is developing African missionaries to become the next generation of member care facilitators and providers in Africa. We would welcome African colleagues on both our West and East Africa teams.

## MMCT-East Africa

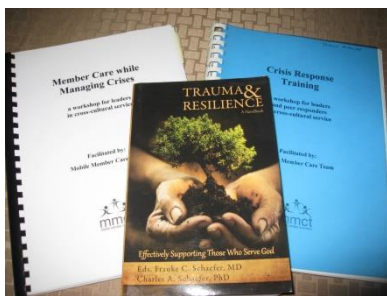
**Mike and Gail Koski** have been quick learners and served in many ways during their first full year on the East Africa team. Their year began with several crisis debriefings for workers who had evacuated from South Sudan when war broke out. Koskis were uniquely suited for this ministry with their 3 ½ years of service in South Sudan.



The team moved from Nairobi, Kenya to Entebbe, Uganda where we now have more access to workers in South Sudan and Eastern DRC, as well as still being central to the region.

Please continue to pray with Koskis for more team members, including a licensed counselor who could resource MMCT Peer Crisis Responders and provide counseling services to workers in remote areas across East Africa.

## MMCT-MED



We continued planting seeds in the Mediterranean region in 2014. Twenty-six leaders and member care providers were trained in a Member Care while Managing Crises workshop in Turkey in January. This workshop served the three regions we hope to serve with an MMCT-MED (Mediterranean) team: Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa. Our hope is to launch an MMCT-MED team in the next two years.

A couple living in Ankara, Turkey started serving as part-time **Start-Up Facilitators** for this team - researching member care needs and resources in the region, networking via a regular member care newsletter and recruiting a Liaison Committee to help launch a team. An urgent need at this stage is team members: we are asking God for multi-disciplinary, multicultural people with experience in these regions to start this team. Pray with us for the needed personnel and partnerships to move this vision forward in a region where there is much need.

## Developing Member Care Competencies Sharpening Your Interpersonal Skills



Five of our team members were trained as SYIS facilitators this year. We facilitated four SYIS workshops for 113 missionaries in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Uganda, and Kenya in 2014.

A French-speaking African participant wrote, *Thanks to all of you for what I have learned this week. May God bless you and give you strength to give this training to many more people*

*in the future. Personally, I have learned a lot and I pray that God will give me the strength to put what I have learned into practice.*

### **Crisis Response Training/Member Care while Managing Crises**

Sixty-seven mission leaders and member care providers received training to improve their crisis response skills. Our teams provided these workshops in Uganda, Cameroon, and Turkey this year. Workshop participants demonstrated significant changes in their knowledge and skills through these workshops. Click [here](#) to learn of the impact of the workshops.



**CRT in Cameroon**

### **Peer Responder Training**

A new strategic initiative this year was to identify and involve experienced licensed counselors in the MED Region as resource people for newly trained peer responders. Once we had them on board, we were able to train seven peer responders who work in or travel into North Africa frequently.



**PR Training Uganda**

We are grateful for two counselors at the Tumaini Counseling Centre in Nairobi who resource the eight Peer Responders we've trained who live and serve in Uganda, Kenya and South Sudan. We appreciate their coverage until we have counselors on our East Africa team.

We coach and resource the dozens of Peer Responders (PR's) we've trained in West Africa. Peer Responders this year were involved in the many crises impacting that region including Ebola in Guinea and Liberia, Boko Haram attacks in Nigeria, and riots in Niger.



**PR in Nigeria**

### **Member Care Providers Consultation and Retreat**



Seventeen veteran Peer Responders came from across West Africa for a memorable time of resource sharing, skill-building, networking and celebrating a send-off for Marion, Karen and Darlene.



## Facilitating Community Relationships



Niger-Bringing Workers Together

Through our workshops and by encouraging and resourcing member care hubs, we aim to facilitate the strengthening of community relationships. We decided to ask our beneficiaries how we were doing in this area and asked for ratings on seven statements.

The responses below came from 12 countries and 27 workers. We will continue collecting results and thank God for the opportunity to know how to grow and improve.

### Results of Facilitating Community Relationships Survey

1. MMCT has helped our cross cultural worker community to network more with each other. **85% agree or strongly agree**
2. MMCT has contributed to organizations working more cooperatively with each other. **89% agree or strongly agree**
3. MMCT has been a catalyst for our worker community to help each other in times of crisis or stress. **89% agree or strongly agree**
4. As a result of MMCT's involvement our community has worked together more to improve mem care services available to missionaries. **89% agree or strongly agree**
5. Partly due to MMCT's influence, the member care providers in our community come from a variety of organizations. **81% agree or strongly agree**
6. MMCT's services and presence have contributed to our community of member care providers being more culturally diverse. **67% agree or strongly agree**
7. MMCT training of peer responders and leaders has contributed to facilitating our cross-cultural worker community relationships. **89% agree or strongly agree**

## Enhancing Resilience and Health

### Crisis Debriefings and Counseling

MMCT's work was recently featured in a key article on Crisis Response in the [Wycliffe Intercessor](#) publication. Our counseling staff was involved this past year in helping those dealing with depression, stress, marriage issues, child issues, sexual abuse and anxiety. But, the most visible crisis in Africa this year was Ebola. When the deadly, contagious disease became an epidemic, strong reactions of fear and grief were also part of the trauma. Many missionaries serving in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone were forced to relocate, sometimes to their deep sorrow. MMCT staff and peer responders were involved in debriefing and helping some of them during this time of loss and transition.

## Resource Development

### Recruitment

We continue to pray for the godly men and women we need to strengthen our existing teams and build new ones. Learn more about MMCT's personnel needs [here](#).

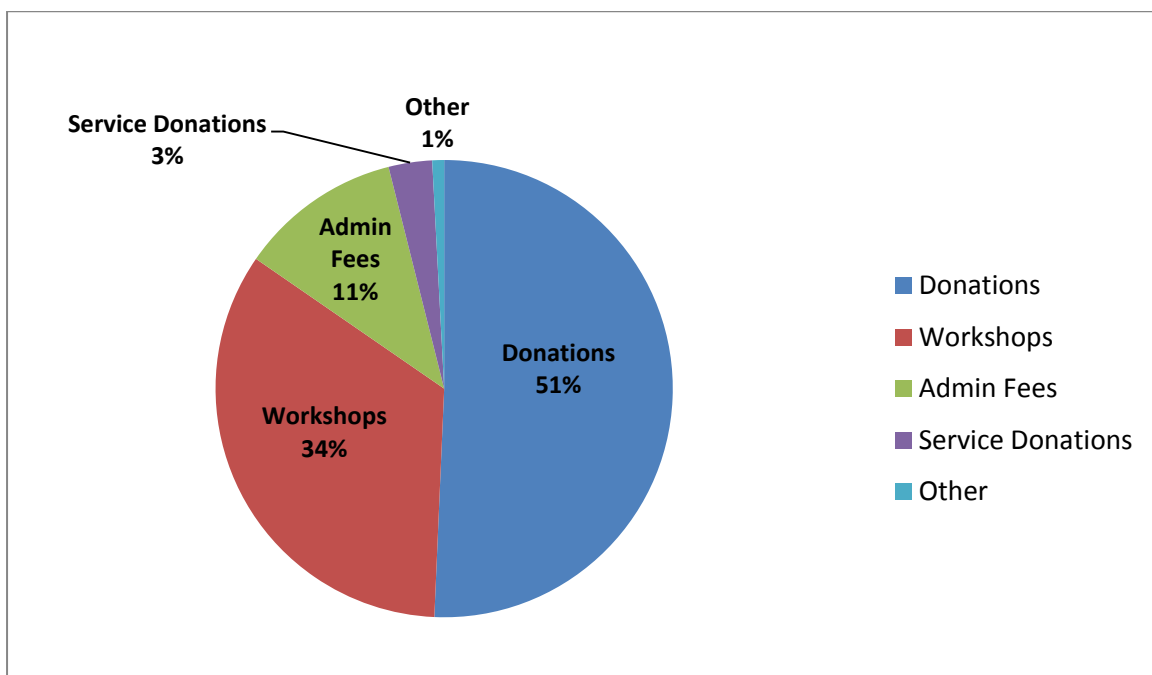
### Fundraising

We started 2013 with just one recurring donor to MMCT. Through the generosity of four Friends of MMCT, we were able to set up a Challenge Grant with a goal of 20 more donors committed to give regularly by the end of 2014. We are thrilled that we ended 2014 with 23 regular donors, mostly contributing to the general fund. We are now taking a more regional focus with goals of five donors who would specifically give to East Africa projects and five who would give to West Africa projects. See [here](#) for current projects.

### Financial Picture

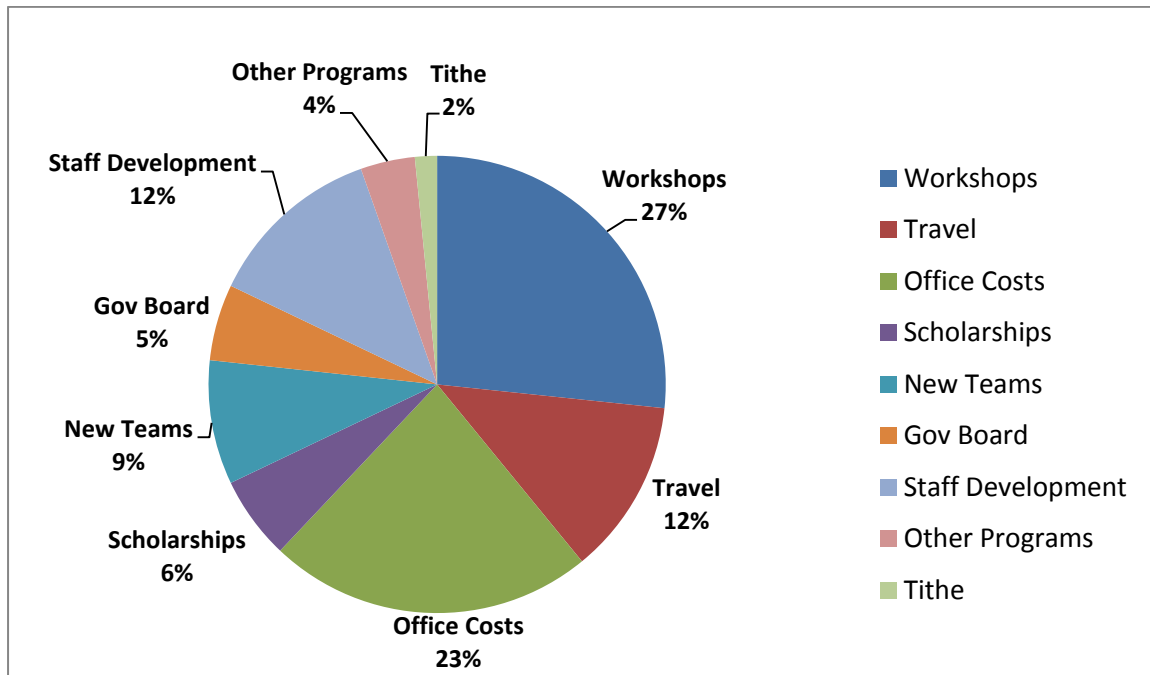
We thank God for His faithful provision through Friends of MMCT. We invite you to join our Support Team or to share about the ministry of the MMCT with others who might be interested. [Contact us directly](#) or learn how to donate at [this page](#) on our website.

### 2014 Sources of MMCT Income



**Note:** MMCT staff are volunteers who are either salaried by, or volunteers with, sending mission organizations. This means that team member personal incomes are not reflected in the MMCT income figures.

## 2014 MMCT Expenses



Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions about our financial picture for 2015.

### Looking into 2015

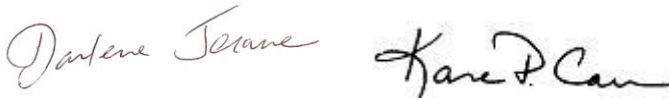
This year of 2015 we are prayerfully moving forward in several areas for which we've been laying foundations for some years now:

1. Networking and offering training in Developing Grace-Filled Supportive Communities at the **Global Member Care Network conference** in Turkey in February.
2. **Training eleven Peer Responders** for Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa.
3. Gathering with all ten of our team members for a **Global Staff Retreat** in Germany in April, starting with 1 ½ days of overlap with the International Board.
4. Offering the **Member Care while Managing Crises workshop in Uganda** for leaders from East Africa, especially those serving in countries where there is turmoil.
5. Beginning **translation of our Crisis Response Training workshop** materials into regional languages for workers in Central Asia.
6. Offering the **Sharpening Your Interpersonal Skills workshop** twice in Niger - in both French and English, twice in Ghana, in Rwanda and South Sudan.
7. **Counseling via mobile clinics in Niger and Nigeria.** Pastoral care, speaking and facilitating workshop sessions at a retreat for workers from Eastern Congo.
8. Training leaders and peer responders in a **Crisis Response Training workshop in Nigeria** where crisis care is so needed for those dealing with attacks of Boko Haram.

9. Laying foundations to serve workers in challenging areas in the **Mediterranean region**.
10. Strengthening current and developing more, **Strategic Partnerships** with other missions to help MMCT grow and better serve our constituency.
11. **Coming alongside mission communities** as they seek to live in grace-filled relationships, demonstrating God's love for the world.

Thank you for walking with us in 2015. We count on your support and prayers. Above all, we count on our God who faithfully provided above and beyond what we needed in 2014.

May our faithful God also be with you,

Handwritten signatures of Darlene Jerome and Karen Carr.

Darlene Jerome

Karen Carr

MMCT International Team

[www.mmct.org](http://www.mmct.org)

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