

CROSSROADS

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

REACHING | RESPONDING | RESTORING

Organizational Background

Crossroads International, established in 2000, is a 501 c 3 non-profit Christian faith-based organization. Since its inception, Crossroads has sought to act as a change agent within local communities in South Africa, India, and recently in Pakistan, Uganda, Kenya, and Myanmar developing projects and programs designed to address human suffering and alleviate physical and spiritual poverty.

Working collaboratively with local churches, missions organizations, government agencies, and local businessmen Crossroads is able to pursue a variety of ministry initiatives while establishing early on an indigenous aspect to its programs and projects.

Crossroads ministry initiatives include: church planting and evangelism outreaches, Youth renewal and evangelism outreaches, Children's evangelism outreaches, humanitarian aid and relief initiatives – food distribution projects, emergency relief aid, and medical missions outreach clinics -, micro-development projects (Chicken Farms, Fish Farms, Beekeeping Projects, Tailoring Project, Farming Project), the establishment of early childhood education programs like our Alpha Care Program (which enrolls destitute children from the slums into a solid educational program), discipleship training seminars, and emerging young leaders leadership workshops.

All ministry initiatives, programs, and projects are developed and implemented with regard to the organizations core values and purpose. Those core values include: *excellence in service, compassion, emulating the character of Christ, collaborating with fellow organizations and churches, evangelism, and discipleship.*

With 11 volunteer and paid staff members Crossroads currently conducts ongoing missions enterprises/projects in 5 countries – India, Pakistan, South Africa, Uganda, and Myanmar. Crossroads also maintains an operational office in the USA to provide oversight, donor care, and legal assistance to the work of Crossroads International.

The DNA of Crossroads: What is Crossroads?

Judging from the list above Crossroads is many things. But Crossroads is more than the sum total of what we do. In fact, the DNA of Crossroads is best reflected by the following three elements.

1. Compassionate Evangelism: People often try to define Crossroads by what it does rather than by who we are. We are a group of devoted Christians who seek to touch this world with the compassion and message of Christ by acting as His hands and voice to the lost and neglected of our world.

We call this **compassionate evangelism** and our goal is simple - *touch a heart, open a mind*. By compassionately addressing the practical needs of people's lives with food, clothing, funding for a small startup businesses or an education for their children we open their minds to listen to the gospel message.



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Operating in India, Pakistan, Uganda, South Africa, and Myanmar

For us in Crossroads it's not about miraculous provisions, providing an education for a needy child; it's not about being a philanthropist, or engaging in humanitarian efforts; **it's about changing lives!** We do that by being His hands and voice to a world full of needs with only one hope, one Savior – Jesus Christ.

2. Birthing Young Indigenous Leaders: The core objective of Crossroads International is not the sending of Western missionaries to do the work of missions today but the development and cultivation of the next generation of indigenous leaders for the Body of Christ. That core objective is best embodied in the following statement – ***“Crossroads is about birthing leaders around whom we wrap ministry* through which skills are gained and character is revealed ... so that they can become everything God has called them to be”***. This passion is the very heart of Crossroads.

Working with emerging indigenous leaders, we call “Timothy’s”, we plant indigenous missions’ bases and design/implement innovative ministries programs/projects that reflect their heart and passion for Christ and the lost of their communities and nation. Innovative ministries/projects are designed and implemented to pursue the following objectives - *the alleviation of human poverty, act as catalysts for meaningful change in local communities, individual lives, and the Church at large, serve others compassionately as we share the gospel of Christ, and the building up of the faith of fellow believers.*

The ministries & projects on our web site demonstrate the value of this indigenous approach. Visit us at www.crossroadsinternational.org

3. Establishing Fully Indigenous Missions Agencies within each country we are working for the carrying out of the **Great Commission:** Therefore we have *Crossroads, South Africa***, *Crossroads, India*, *Crossroads, Pakistan*, *Crossroads, Kenya*, *Crossroads, Myanmar*, and *Crossroads, Uganda* – each of these “Crossroads” have their own indigenous staff and ministry initiatives all under the organizational and missions umbrella of Crossroads International.

Some bases are carrying out a number of initiatives and have multiple staff members. Others are staffed by a combination of one fulltime member and a few volunteers and carry out fewer projects and ministry initiatives.

Raising up an indigenous mission agency and the personnel to run it successfully requires an individual discipling and mentoring approach focused on designing and implementing ministry initiatives around the individuals personal vision and passion to serve Christ.

As we do this, we work too at creating a sustainable funding structure within that country for the support of the indigenous missionary staff, the ministries being carried out, and the operational expenses of that indigenous missions agency.

These three elements, defined as the DNA of Crossroads, best describes what being “indigenous” means by Crossroads standards and represents the overarching goal and purpose of Crossroads International.

To find out more visit us on the web at www.crossroadsinternatioonal.org or call us at 417.234.5495. Kent Kelley

**defined and determined by the personal vision as emerging leaders ** as of June 2010 Crossroads, South Africa was fully indigenized and now enjoys an affiliated organization status with Crossroads International*