

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY BOARD
February 5-7, 2014
World Mission and Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministries

ITEM H.104
FOR ACTION

<i>FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY</i>			
A. Finance		E. Corporate Property, Legal, Finance	J. Board Nominating & Governance Subcommittee
B. Justice		F. PC(USA), A Corporation	P. Plenary
C. Leadership		G. Audit	
D. Worshipping Communities	X	H. Executive Committee	

Subject: “Educate a Child, Transform the World”: a proposal to the General Assembly for Presbyterian collective impact in national and global mission

Recommendation:

The Executive Committee proposes that the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board recommend that the 221st General Assembly (2014):

1. Acknowledge and celebrate the deep and rich history of Presbyterian Church’s role in transforming society by providing access to quality education for children in this country and around the world;
2. Recommit itself to education as a core focus of mission in this nation and with our global partners;
3. Launch a church-wide initiative that will inspire, equip and connect our congregations, mid-councils and the Presbyterian Mission Agency to improve the quality of education for 1,000,000 children in the U.S. and globally over the next 4 years;
4. Encourage and support global partners and leaders here in the United States who have made a vocational commitment to provide a quality education to children in their communities;
5. In all of these efforts, place particular emphasis on children in poverty or otherwise at risk;
6. Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency to shape and guide this initiative, developing tangible metrics to determine success and impact and to report back to the 222nd General Assembly (2016), sharing progress made and identifying strategies for deeper engagement in 2016-18.

Background:

For 176 years, the Presbyterian Church has served as one of the greatest forces for education in the world, helping hundreds of thousands of children to learn to read and write, to think critically, and to understand their work as their Christian vocation. Our Church’s core belief that every child is created in the image of God motivated our early mission workers to reach out to new communities with the offer of a quality education. In hundreds of communities, Presbyterians were the first to open up opportunities for formal education for girls.

The Presbyterian Church has a deep and rich commitment to providing access to education as a part of its core missional identity. Our church is a church of educators, school administrators, PTA members, school board members, and school volunteers, and we believe God is calling our church to collectively impact the quality of education for children in this country and around the world.

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The World Bank and other international organizations have shown that primary education for young children reduces poverty, improves health and improves the distribution of income. Globally, the recent U.N. Development Goals have helped many communities in the Global South to bring previously uneducated children into the classroom. However, the sad reality is that in South Sudan, Guatemala, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and many other countries, the combination of overcrowded classrooms, poorly trained teachers and inadequate infrastructure prevent students from receiving the quality education they need.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency's Mission Work Plan identifies "addressing the root causes of poverty, particularly as they impact women and children" as a priority focus of its work. The intersection of this critical need for children around the world today and our church's commitment to education constitutes a clear calling to challenge the church to engage in mission together.

This initiative will support PCUSA global partners and education leaders in the United States as they address persistent poverty through critical investments in quality education of young children. The goal is to reach 1 million children in the next four years, inspiring, equipping and connecting hundreds of congregations and mid-councils to focus a portion of their mission efforts in support of the following activities:

- Train teachers, develop curricula, and help partners adopt "best practices" in education;
- Help global partners build or refurbish school buildings;
- Financially support mission workers in education and specific education projects;
- Advocate for better funding in public education in the U.S., particularly for children at risk;
- Pray for educators, students and administrators, as well as this education initiative;
- Get involved in "Adopt a School" programs, offering tutoring and other forms of support for local schools, focusing on children at risk; and,
- Open the doors of the church during the week to offer afterschool programs that include tutoring, mentoring and other enrichment opportunities

Following the movement of the Holy Spirit and working together with our global partners, mid-councils, congregations and other leaders in education, the Presbyterian Church will transform the world, one child, one educator, one school at a time, collectively impacting more than one million children over the next four years.

Financial Implications Cover Sheet for Reports to the General Assembly

Name of Agency Submitting Report: Presbyterian Mission Agency
Program: World Mission and Compassion, Peace & Justice Ministries **Date: 01/14/14**

Contact Person: Hunter Farrell **Telephone#: 502-569-5348**
Sara Lisherness **502-569-5779**

This RGA Cover sheet must be submitted with each Report to the General Assembly. Even if the report does not contain financial implications, the cover sheet must be attached stating that there are no financial implications. Any report received without the financial implications sheet will be returned. **If you have any questions about the form, please contact the Financial Implications Team: Chris Nicholas at 502-569-5411 for per capita, and Andrea McNicol at 502-569-5555 or Denise Hampton at 502-569-5575 for mission budget related financial implications.**

Name of Report: “Educate a Child, Transform the World”: a proposal to the General Assembly for Presbyterian collective impact in national and global mission

1. Does this report include recommendations that have financial implications? (YES or NO)
2. If YES: (Attach extra sheets, if necessary)
 - a. Identify the area of the reports which have financial implications.
 - b. Define the components of the financial implications (basis for computation only).
(For new committees/Taskforces- please limit as far as possible to 2 face to face mtgs, plus 2 virtual mtgs & conference calls – from GA to next GA)
 - c. Identify the proposed source of funding, and the year it will impact (2014/ 2015/2016):
 - (1) Per Capita: OGA____ PMA ____
 - (2) PMA:
 - (a) Unrestricted or Restricted (Circle one)_____
 - (b) Restricted Source_____
3. If there are financial implications, are these being absorbed in the current year budget? YES or NO
If YES, what is the source of funding:_____
4. Have these financial implications received approval from the following sources?
____OGA/PMA (Circle one)
____PMA Ministry Area: (Communications and Funds Development; Compassion, Peace, Justice ; Evangelism & Church Growth; Racial Ethnic & Women’s Ministries; Shared Services; Theology, Worship and Education; World Mission,) (Circle one)
____Other Entities (BOP, Foundation, PILP, PPC) (Circle one)
____Advisory Committees (ACSWP, ACEIR, ACWC, Other - _____)
5. If the action proposed in report involves another Ministry Area to do something, has this been discussed with the areas concerned? YES/NO. (If Yes, give names)