

PCCO Policy on Short Term Mission (STM)

April 11, 2013

God has put PCCO in a strategic location between the University of Pittsburgh and the Carnegie Mellon University. Many of the unevangelized and least-evangelized people groups from the 10-40 window are coming to study at these 2 universities. Our principal mission field is right here at our backyard. Nevertheless, strategically selected STMs by our pastors can strengthen PCCO's Greater Impact vision and will help brothers and sisters, particularly our youths, grow in Christ via the Great Commission.

To ensure alignment with PCCO's vision and goals, our pastors must develop their STM proposals and plans under the guidance of the Missions Committee and subject to the approval of the Council per the following protocol:

- (1) September and October should be avoided given the time and effort required for the preparation of the November Annual Coworker Meetings for our two congregations, respectively.
- (2) Engage the Missions Committee to examine the relevance of a potential STM and the local organization(s) with PCCO's Greater Impact vision and goals as early as possible.
- (3) If aligned and relevant, develop the purpose statement and goals of the STM, identify roles and responsibilities of team members, and compile a list of prayer requests with guidance from the Missions Committee chair. Include recommendations from previous STM trip reports into planning considerations.
- (4) Submit formal STM proposal and plan, which has been endorsed by the Missions Committee, to the Council for approval and feedbacks.
- (5) Obtain the commitment and co-ownership of the local organizations and leaders on the scope, dates, theme and target groups of the STM. Define clear roles and responsibilities of the STM team and the local organization; hold each other accountable.
- (6) Announce STM to the congregations for participations and prayers, and financial supports as necessary. Update congregations on progress frequently.
- (7) Dedicate regular time for prayers, fellowship and team building before and during the STM trip. Review and debrief daily against goals and plans during the trip.
- (8) After the trip, evaluate against purpose and objectives for lessons learned and improvement opportunities. Submit evaluation report to the Missions Committee and Council.
- (9) Follow up with local organizations and leaders as necessary.

The same process and protocol apply to congregational members too should they seek PCCO's support of their STM trips. They are to develop plans with guidance from Missions Committee and submit the plans for approval by the Chinese Core Team.