



# Partnerships and Presence in the MENA Region

FOWM #248



## DEAR FRIEND OF WORLD MISSION:

For the past two years, we have been seeking to build a solid foundation from which to serve the region of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Our four focuses in MENA are religious persecution, Muslim engagement, ministry to refugees, and peace and reconciliation. We know God is at work in the region in powerful ways.

And our work there was launched by building relationships through strategic partnerships.

One pastor in the area told MENA staff, “We are seeing the book of Acts come alive!” Indeed, people of faith are working together to seek the full shalom of God’s kingdom. The body of Christ makes up less than 2 percent of the total population, but they are committed to sharing and living the gospel holistically.

We have sought partnership with local ministries, seeking to see the love of Christ transform individuals and communities. These partnerships have produced ten projects so far. This FOWM appeal moves us into the second stage of our launch: continue our partnerships while moving deeper into presence in this region.

Your gift will enable Serve Globally to facilitate moving team members into MENA in response to the expressed needs of our partners. Funds will be used for moving and settling into a new home, language and culture acquisition (learning Arabic requires at least two years), and the purchase of vehicles where needed.

We are excited that our first team members will move to a country in North Africa in early 2020! This couple will be part of a team working for community transformation with ministries already established and recognized by the local government. The organization shares Covenant values and has need for the gifts this couple brings. While this is our first global personnel relocating to the region, we hope that more will join what God is doing through Serve Globally and our partners. Thank you for your partnership in the launch of ministry in the MENA region.

**For the sake of the whole gospel,**

AL TIZON, Executive Minister of Serve Globally



# Testimonies



We recently had the opportunity to spend a month living in a North African country. Nothing is quite as powerful for understanding another culture than living within it. The global personnel we have met in the MENA region live there because they love the region and its people. They live among the community rather than in enclaves of foreigners. Their home is an important place for blending their country of origin and their new home country. They are places for both hospitality and rest.

— J & D (Global Personnel)



This FOWM appeal for start-up costs is invaluable for global personnel. For one, it is a necessary capital expense to establish global personnel in homes around the world. However, start-up costs provide more than just essential living needs. What may be overlooked is that our homes are an extension of our ministries. Our homes become meeting places for national leaders' meetings, social events, and for raising up young leaders in the area. Both in Mexico and East Asia, young future leaders were in my home five days a week to learn about community transformation. My home was truly a training center.

Thank you for your support over the years—especially for providing a furnished space to serve future leaders.

— Nancy Jo Hoover (Global Personnel)

## WAYS TO GIVE...

- Give online at [CovChurch.org/donate](https://CovChurch.org/donate)
- Charitable gift planning at [CovenantTrust.com](https://CovenantTrust.com)
- Monthly donations at [CovChurch.org/resources/eft-forms](https://CovChurch.org/resources/eft-forms)

Your regular gift to FOWM projects makes a difference. You can also endow your annual support through your estate plan. Contact our partners at Covenant Trust Company, (800) 483-2177, to learn more.

**To make your gift today, please fill out and return the enclosed donation card in the return envelope, or mail to:**

The Evangelical Covenant Church  
Attn: Friends of World Mission  
8303 W. Higgins Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60631

For more information, visit [CovChurch.org/fowm](https://CovChurch.org/fowm)

PROJECT #235  
**FOWM**  
UPDATE

## A New Region for Missional Engagement

The first FOWM appeal (#235) for MENA has helped this newest region establish itself in Covenant ministry. Your gifts provided opportunities for ministry exploration and for communication about this newest ministry region to the broader Covenant. Beyond that, funds have been used for connecting with new ministry partners; scholarships to provide covenanters with education about MENA; and culture, language, and security training for those joining the MENA team. Your generous support has enabled our MENA team a successful beginning to their work in a new mission region.

