Remembering God’s faithfulness in the past, and rejoicing in his provision in the present, gives us courage to pursue what he promises to make possible in the future.


Anniversaries serve an important purpose in our lives, our communities, and our nation. They call us to remember, to rejoice in God’s faithfulness, and to resolve to carry forward our commitment into the future.

In 1948, Cameron Townsend founded JAARS to support the work of Bible translation in the Amazon rainforests—and beyond—through aviation and radio services. In this our 70th anniversary year we remember with gratitude his vision and courage. We also humbly rejoice in God’s faithful provision for the ministry of JAARS over these seven decades. I’m continually amazed as I hear stories of God’s work in and through JAARS and the many faithful women and men around the world—who go joyfully, pray faithfully, give generously, and serve in love.

Thank you.

Going forward, we resolve to continue serving God’s purposes in Jesus Christ for this ministry. The need for Bible translation and language development worldwide is still enormous—so remembering God’s faithfulness in the past, and rejoicing in his provision in the present, gives us courage to pursue what he promises to make possible in the future.

In this annual report you’ll read about God’s amazing provision for solutions over this past year—including a turbine R66 helicopter for Cameroon that seemed impossible just a year ago and yet has now entered service. Thanks to many friends like you, we have invested in training, technology, and transportation solutions to make the ministry of Bible translation possible around the world. We hope you are encouraged and blessed as you read about the progress around the world.

So now we’re preparing for another 70 years for JAARS, or until Jesus says our work is done. We invite you to join with us for this next season of ministry—we believe it will be the most amazing yet!

Your brother in Christ,

Woody McLendon
President
A few ways your gifts made a difference in 2017.

**BTA Papua New Guinea**

Gifts from our Where Needed Most fund were used to provide a heavy-duty 4WD truck to our translation partner BTA in a region where poor road infrastructure and heavy rains make ground transportation extremely slow and risky. This truck will support Bible translation/language development among numerous language groups.

**SIL Cameroon**

Gifts from scores of generous partners, including a single gift covering 50% of the purchase price, made it possible to acquire, upfit, and deliver an R66 turbine helicopter in record time. The R66 will support 14 Bible translation/language development projects and provide aviation medevac services that tangibly demonstrate God’s love to more than 100 language groups in this mountainous region.

**SIL Global Technology Information Systems**

Twenty-four IT staff from Bible translation organizations across Africa were able to attend training workshops to build and maintain their technical skills, develop support relationships across organizations, and grow in their faith—due primarily to funding through JAARS.

> I say ‘thank you’ because thanks to IT Connect, I can administer our Linux servers, do backups, and some things that I did not understand before.

Frédéric Keuđjitoloum, IT support technician with translation partner ATALTRAB in Chad

**Wycliffe Global Alliance**

Eighteen Bible translation leaders from national organizations around the world came together in Africa for training, collaboration, and spiritual growth—made possible in part by our Where Needed Most funding.

> I am making plans to share what I learned in the event with leaders of 12 native languages in Pucallpa-Peru so please pray with us.

Your servant: Jairus

**Townsend Field at the JAARS Center**

Estate plan gifts to JAARS enabled us to replace an aging, leaky hangar roof and protect the aircraft, R&D activities, and world-class training programs we conduct in North Carolina.

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*Already the R66 is having an impact. I’m delighted to witness God’s provision for Cameroon and the rural, isolated communities that will be touched and transformed using His word, His servants and His tools.*

Daryl Young, SIL Cameroon Aviation Manager
Over the past five years (2013-2017), God has blessed JAARS with the capacity to provide transportation, technology and media solutions for 774 language communities in 33 countries, serve 49 partner organizations, and train 1447 people.

- **1447** people trained
- **33** countries
- **49** partner organizations
- **774** language communities
- **200** MegaVoice scripture audio players provided to the Roviana language community in the Solomon Islands
- **0** aviation accidents across JAARS/ISJAO community in 2016 and 2017 combined
- **12** projects, ranging from 4WD trucks to recording equipment to IT training and more, completed globally due to disbursements from our Where Needed Most fund
- **$176,164**
The Road Forward

We trust the last few pages have demonstrated the broad range of support you have made possible—through your advocacy, your prayers, and your generous giving. After 70 years, we are still humbled by the privilege of partnering both with you and with those on the frontlines of Bible translation and language development. Together—and with many others—we are getting God’s Word to those still waiting for it in the language(s) they understand best!

One thing we want you to know—as Bible translation moves faster than ever—is that completing the task for the last, most remote people groups is still a difficult process. Logistical barriers are shrinking across the world, but are still nearly insurmountable in specific situations. So we remain committed to identifying and deploying the most locally appropriate and sustainable solution wherever we are able to help.

In many cases, as throughout our history, the best solution will still be “equipment”—an aircraft or other vehicle, technology resources, recording studio equipment, and so on. And, since translation tools, methods, strategies, partners, and local conditions continue to evolve, so will we. A number of logistical problems we’re now being asked to solve require not “equipment” but a new or better service, a new process, a collaborative joint venture, a financial commitment, or sometimes just a new way of thinking about the problem.

This is nothing new for JAARS. We will continue to let go of what was needed in order to focus on what is or will be needed.

So, early in 2018, you’ll see an expansion of the approach we began with our Africa Initiative in 2016. Our work with translation partners more than ever requires consultative, advisory, and even operational support—meaning we need the flexibility to respond more quickly to urgent needs, to test options inexpensively before funding long-term solutions, and to ensure the greatest possible impact on the outcomes that really matter:

- Scripture projects completed and delivered to language communities in need
- Lives and communities transformed by the gospel and by the love of those bringing it

Shifting Focus

To make this flexibility and speed possible, our funding focus is shifting to four regional Initiatives—Africa, Asia, Pacific, and the Americas—and to four primary Solutions groups—Transportation, Technology, Media, and Training. We’ll invite our faithful partners to fund and pray for these key areas, and then we’ll deploy funds from these Initiatives and Solutions into the range of project and solution commitments we make to our partners there—and which we will continue to share with you—based on critical factors like urgency and scope of impact.

So, we are not celebrating 70 years as an accomplishment so much as using that platform of experience to embrace—once again—the changes needed to help make Bible translation and life transformation possible around the world.

We are deeply thankful for all the ways you partner with us in this mission, and we are committed to being faithful, transparent stewards of the passion, prayers, people and funding God provides for this task.
Financial Report

Income
- Cash Contributions: $3,051,887
- Non-Cash Contributions: $7,935,276
- Program Activity Revenue: $1,799,652
- Investment Income: $49,948
- Other Income: $55,240
- Total Income: $12,886,003

Expenses
- Program Services:
  - Transportation: $4,267,268
  - Information Technology: $296,021
  - Media: $254,806
  - Ministry Operations: $4,910,966
  - Management and General: $1,033,433
  - Fundraising: $852,719
- Total Expenses: $11,614,213
- Gain/(Loss) from Operations: $1,271,790
- Gain/(Loss) from Disposal of Assets: $0
- Total Gain/(Loss) from Operations: $1,271,790
- Ending Net Assets: $9,944,018

Notes
The financial results reported here are a summarization of our full financial statements. Complete financial statements, audited by Capin Crouse LLP, are available upon request or by visiting www.jaars.org/about/finances. Non-cash contributions include a labor grant for career members—supported by the contributions of friends and churches through Wycliffe Bible Translators—plus donated labor from volunteers; both are also recognized as expenses. Depreciation is not included in expenses here. Amounts in this report represent the financial activity of JAARS, Inc. for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017.

100% of giving to all Projects, Initiatives, and Solutions within “Program Services” goes directly to those designated areas. This is possible because JAARS is blessed to cover 2/3 of our Core operating expenses—including research & development, certain project management and training needs, communications, fundraising, and a range of missionary support services—through our own operations. The balance is covered by generous gifts to our CORE Mission Fund from faithful partners like you.

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JAARS requires emergency training for float plane pilots and pilots who are exposed to extended over-water flights.
Our mission is to make Bible translation and language development possible, especially in the most remote and difficult places on earth. We do that by enabling locally appropriate and sustainable solutions in transportation, technology, media, and training.

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