

PartnerEXPRESS

OUTCOMES FROM YOUR GENEROSITY. OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE BIBLE TRANSLATION POSSIBLE.

One Last Prayer

Can dirt, grass and rocks transform people's lives?

The Ketengan people of Papua's Eastern Highlands can now read the Bible in their heart language, thanks to the fulfillment of a lifelong dream that a villager named Paulus had—a dream that JAARS and our partner YAJASI helped make possible.

One day, Paulus left his village of Pipal to hike over mountains to explore rumors he'd heard about someone named Jesus. After hearing the missionaries' words, Paulus attended Bible school, then returned to his village with the Good News.

Paulus spent the rest of his life hiking across the Eastern Highlands, carrying God's message of peace to warring people who had never heard it. But Paulus realized he couldn't continue forever, given the challenges of the terrain and his age. He confided to Nate Gordon, a pilot with YAJASI, that he had one last prayer before he died: "that my home village, the most isolated of the area, would have an airstrip."

With this prayer in mind, inhabitants of the community set out to build an airstrip. Twenty years later the villagers finished scratching a landing strip out of the mountainside.

Paulus had one last prayer: that one day there would be an airstrip in his remote village of Pipal in Papua, Indonesia.



Airstrips like this one allow planes to land safely, bringing much-needed supplies and personnel to remote locations.

Solution: Aviation
Initiative: Pacific
Opportunity: \$348,285
 For vital aviation training, aircraft maintenance, and fleet renewal
How to Give:
 Designate your gift to "Aviation Solutions" at jaars.org/give or use the enclosed response card

YAJASI pilot Brad McFarlane flew the first aircraft into Pipal, loaded with boxes of translated Old Testaments. He shares his experience after landing: "A reception committee in full ceremonial dress met the aircraft. After a prayer of thanksgiving, pastors and elders from the seven churches in the valley

received boxes filled with the words of their Creator."

So yes, dirt, grass and rocks can open the way to transformation.

For almost 70 years, with your help, JAARS has trained aviators like Brad to assess and test new airstrips in remote locations so they can continue to deliver Bibles to people like Paulus.

To learn more about Aviation Solutions, please visit jaars.org/how/transportation.



About Partner Express

This bimonthly publication highlights specific opportunities we're working on—or have worked on—to support Bible translation partners and their work around the world. Everything we do is made possible by God's provision through your gifts and prayers. Thank you!

How to Give

To support the opportunities highlighted here, we invite you to pray and to give as follows:

- Give online at jaars.org/give.
- Mail the enclosed response card to the address below.
- Call the number below for credit card or non-cash giving, or to include JAARS in your estate plans.

The JAARS Promise

100% of giving to a *Solution* or an *Initiative* goes directly to support the range of opportunities *within that specific fund*. This gives us the speed and flexibility our global Bible translation partners need, and it's only possible because our operating expenses are funded by internal operations and gifts to our *CORE Mission Operations* and *Where Needed Most* funds.

Connect with JAARS

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Conquering More Than Roads



During an intensive weeklong training course in Papua New Guinea, participants practice using a winch to haul a truck out of the mud.

Solution: Training
Initiative: Pacific
Opportunity: \$13,110
 So that translators can safely travel to those waiting for the gospel
How to Give:
 Designate your gift to "Training Solutions" at jaars.org/give or use the enclosed response card

Imagine driving through a muddy pit where four feet of sloshing water makes escape almost impossible. For the team in the Aitape West language project in Papua New Guinea (PNG), where it rains an average of 100 inches a year, muddy roads are typical driving conditions.

Esther ties a rope to her 4WD vehicle. With practice, she felt like she was controlling the truck and not that it was controlling her. She had conquered her fear.



With help from JAARS, the Aitape team recently acquired a 4WD vehicle and an ATV to better serve people, but they needed to learn how to safely drive and maintain these vehicles. So John Pepper and Jim McCabe, two staff members with JAARS, trained fourteen of the Aitape team members in Ukarumpa, PNG.

Besides learning skills in a classroom, the participants spent time traversing the newly built 4WD course. They faced some challenging obstacles: a shallow water-filled trench, a mud pit where they practiced hauling out the vehicles with a winch, and 'the badlands,' a hillside with naturally occurring ruts that the students had to traverse slowly. This course is not for the faint of heart!

Esther, a Scripture worker in the Aitape West project who attended the training, ended up conquering more than just the roads. "The first day of the course I was really afraid," Esther relates, "and thought

I wouldn't be capable enough to do the training. I'm from the Netherlands, and we don't have mountains. I had never driven in mountains, nor off-road."

The participants faced some challenging obstacles. This course is not for the faint of heart!

So the first time Esther tackled the courage-killing course, she was nervous. "But John was calm, and a good instructor as he sat next to me, and gave very good instructions. Soon, my nervousness turned into enthusiasm and joy. I enjoyed it!" During the course Esther felt like she was controlling the truck and not that it was controlling her. She had conquered her fear.

"Since we work in a multi-language project, we visit a lot of villages," Esther explains. "A 4WD and an ATV will make traveling to villages much easier and safer, so that we'll be able to visit them more often."

A similar vehicle training course will occur this summer and other times throughout the year on the JAARS campus for staff preparing to serve the Lord overseas.

To learn more about opportunities like this one that helped equip someone like Esther, please visit jaars.org/how/training.

A Land of Spiritual Desolation

Silence can hold the most capable souls. Jim discovered this during a ten-day workshop in South Asia as he trained participants to build websites and apps that promote the use of Scripture. One of the participants, Grace, attended with her husband, Pavan.

Jim says, "Grace was very quiet for most of the workshop. Her husband talked and asked questions." So Jim assumed that Grace played a supportive role. When he went to their table to answer a question, though, he realized he was wrong. "Grace was very capable, acknowledging my instruction and showing her husband the correct way to do something."

In certain areas in this South Asian country, temperatures can soar over 110° F in the summer, killing vegetation. But this physical barrenness in no way

measures up to the spiritual desolation in Grace and Pavan's community.

At the end of the workshop, Jim spoke with the couple. "They impressed me with their commitment to the Bible translation movement and their community." When Jim asked Grace about their church and the community of believers in their area, Grace looked confused.

This physical barrenness in no way measures up to the spiritual desolation in Grace and Pavan's community.

Thinking she had misunderstood him, Jim reworded his question, "How many churches are in your community?"



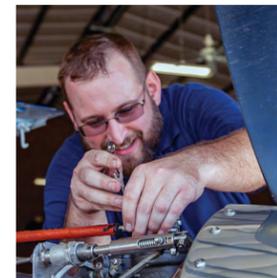
Scripture building workshops like this one help bring God's Word to spiritually desolate communities.

Grace understood and answered, "None." There were no other Christians in their language community. They had attended the workshop to create a cultural website. They hope to encourage their community to use it and plan to introduce translated Scripture on the website when it's ready.

To learn more about workshops like this one that take place throughout the year in various locations, please visit jaars.org/how/media.

Solution: Media
Initiative: Asia
Opportunity: \$42,416
 To develop websites and other audio/video media that bring God's Word to spiritually desolate communities around the world
How to Give:
 Designate your gift to "Media Solutions" at jaars.org/give or use the enclosed response card

Opportunities for Serving



Would you like to make a difference in people's lives? Help make Bible translation possible through the work you do!

Here at JAARS, we have a wide variety of opportunities in multiple departments. We need everyday, hands-on skills, as well as technical, logistical, and professional skills. Our positions are for volunteer or supported staff, and occasionally, paid employees.

"We love being able to use the skills and experience God has built into us as part of the JAARS team to make Bible translation happen. We are touching the world from Waxhaw! Amazing!"

—Rebecca Navratil

Please consider these high-priority needs for positions at the beautiful JAARS campus located in Waxhaw, North Carolina. Short-term housing and an RV park are available.

- **Digital & Social Media Manager:** Plan and manage the design, functionality, community-building, and interactive elements of digital and social media for JAARS
- **Aviation Mechanic:** Ensure aircraft are maintained in an airworthy condition and available for dispatch, meeting the demands of busy mission flight schedules.
- **Partner Relations Representative:** Build relationships with partners who invest in the mission of JAARS, helping them understand the impact of their commitment. Discuss funding needs with current and prospective financial partners.
- **IT System Administrator:** Provide networking assistance to users, including help with network connections and passwords and install, link, and maintain various Web servers and database systems

For more information and a more comprehensive list of service opportunities, please visit jaars.org/serve or contact us at outreach@jaars.org or 877.313.0139.

True Treasures

Not everyone in the world enjoys instant internet

access. Access to the internet is especially weak in central Africa, according to Bill Mayes, the information and communication technology coordinator for Africa. In one capital city, “the city is only able to budget power to neighborhoods for about six hours a day,” Bill says.

On this continent, Bible translation is underway for over 1,000 languages. And technology support is helping move those languages without slowing down.

The men and women who keep these technology tools up and running are the true treasures. Without them, the process of Bible translation would be slower and more difficult. Every year, around February, Bill pulls together a conference to teach the

IT specialists who support—via technology—language centers and teams scattered throughout the French-speaking part of Africa.

The Africa IT Connect conference “is primarily to connect us so that we can solve problems and support the people that are here,” Bill explains.

Zida came to this conference for the first time. “We didn’t even know he was out there,” Bill says. Zida is the

Those who keep these technology tools up and running are the true treasures. Without them, the process of Bible translation would be slower and more difficult.

Solution: Technology

Initiative: Africa

Opportunity: \$44,000

To help IT specialists support language centers and teams across Africa through IT Connect conferences

How to Give:

Designate your gift to “Technology Solutions” at jaars.org/give or use the enclosed response card



Participants learn from each other at an IT Connect conference held annually in Burkina Faso.

IT worker for an organization that strives to make the Word of God available to all Burkinabè in their own language.

Zida works with national translators who lack basic computer knowledge, so he must train them. “I was very moved at this conference,” he says. “I have learned a lot about new technologies. I met friendly people, and there was a good atmosphere. I am feeling confident.”

IT Connect conferences, which occur twice a year in Africa, help IT support personnel shine in their roles so that God’s work can be accomplished quickly and efficiently. Their knowledge and capability in this difficult place is just one outcome of your generous support.

To learn more about Technology Solutions like IT Connect, please visit jaars.org/how/technology.

Home Away From Home

Where are you sleeping tomorrow night?

For some Christian workers returning to the United States from serving overseas, this question can weigh heavy with worry.

This is one reason that JAARS offers furnished housing. Penny recently returned from serving overseas with her family. “It was a big help to have housing available at JAARS,” she relates. “We had sold our house before we moved, so we needed a place to call ‘home’ for a short time.”

Living on campus also allows missionaries and visitors who are engaged in long-term training to be ‘where the action is’

The facilities staff at JAARS are currently upgrading housing facilities so that missionaries like Penny’s family, as well as first-time guests at JAARS, can have the best possible experience. The staff is currently renovating an apartment in the Crowells, one of the oldest buildings on the campus—built around 1960. “We went in and gutted the whole inside [of the apartment],” Kerry Opiel, the Director of Facilities relates. “We put a new kitchen in it, new flooring,

repainted the walls, and we’re redoing the bathroom right now. We’re going to copy that throughout the whole building so each apartment will be redone.”

JAARS housing ensures that missionaries on furlough have a place to regroup and work. Living on campus also allows visitors who are engaged in long-term training to be ‘where the action is’ and connect with on-site colleagues.

Note: The cost for renovations is not covered by rental rates. To learn more about housing and other key logistical support provided by CORE Mission Operations, visit jaars.org/how/core.



Housing facilities built in the 1960s are in great need of renovation.

Initiative: CORE Mission Operations

Opportunity: \$8,500
For much-needed upgrades to JAARS housing facilities

How to Give:

Designate your gift to “CORE Mission Operations” at jaars.org/give or use the enclosed response card