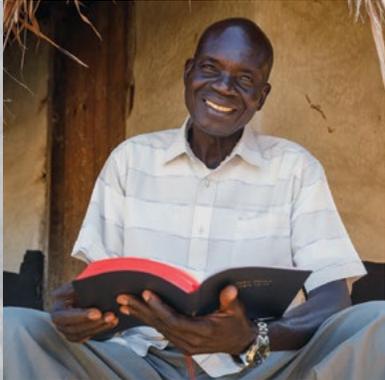
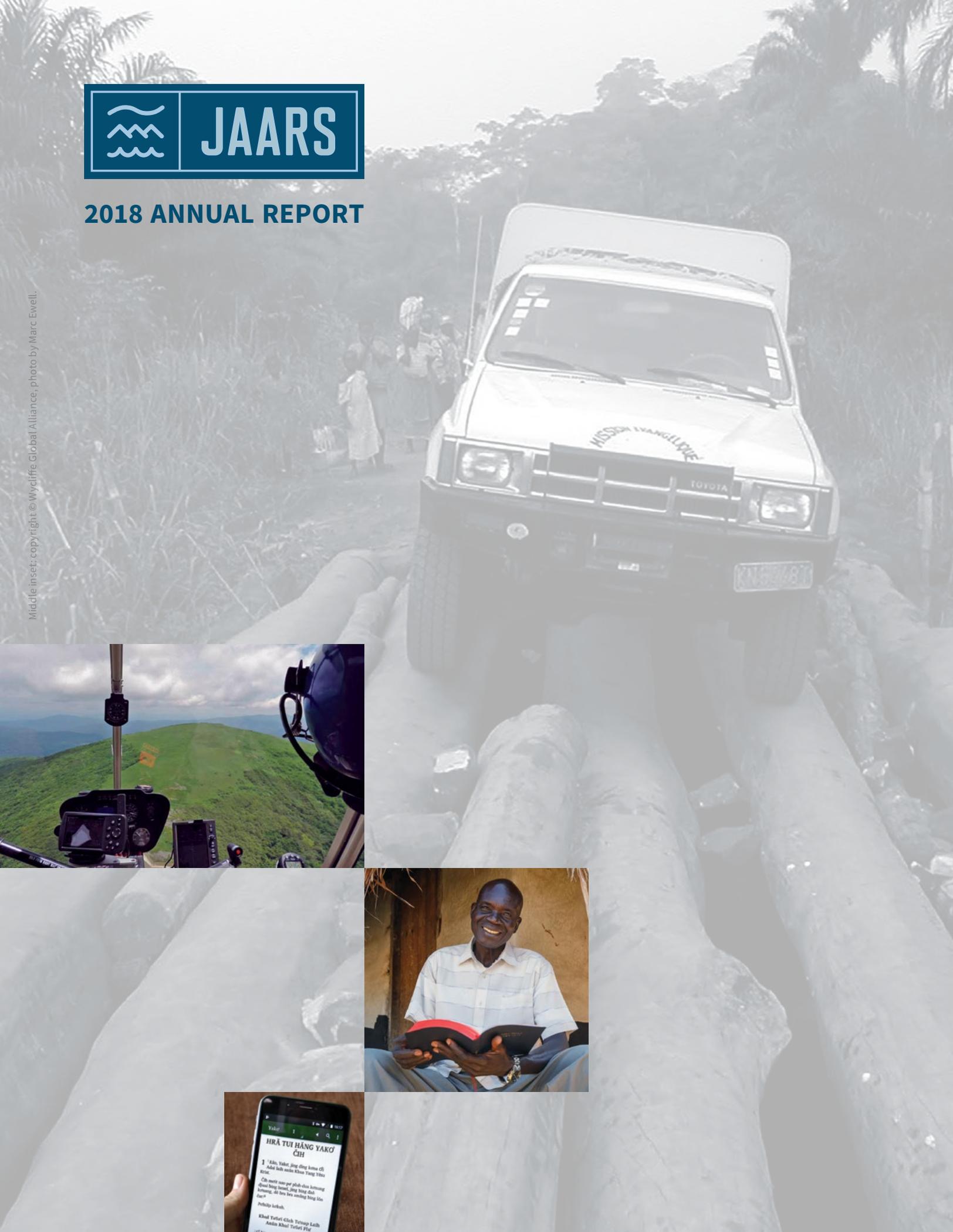




# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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**JAARS gets people unstuck and through the rough places in their ministry. We love coming alongside others to help them.**

## Building Bridges

When I have the privilege of sharing about JAARS with people in the United States I often ask,

“Did you notice how many bridges you drove across to get here today? Did you wonder if you could safely cross them all?”

Most people pause for a moment and then realize they didn’t think about it at all because they don’t have to. Bridges in the United States are almost always open, safe, and dependable.

But that’s not the case in other parts of the world.

In many ways I like to think of JAARS as a bridge-building organization. We don’t literally build *physical* bridges. Instead, we build *impact* bridges with solutions in technology, transportation, media, and training that make it possible for God’s Word to touch—and bless—people in some of the most remote and difficult places on earth.

In this 2018 Annual Report you’ll read about spiritual, relational, and practical ways that God worked in and through the people of JAARS to build bridges that open the way for Bible translation in places like Papua New Guinea (PNG), Brazil, and Cameroon. JAARS has a unique role in the Bible translation movement because we’re privileged to come alongside both global and local partners—enabling them to be more effective and fruitful in their ministry.

JAARS gets people unstuck and through the rough places in their ministry. We love coming alongside others to help them.

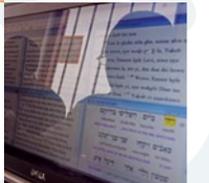
To those of you who are on this journey with us, thank you! And to those of you just learning of our mission, we invite you wholeheartedly to learn more and explore with us how God might bless your gifts and talents through this work!

Yours for God’s glory,

Woody McLendon  
*President*



JAARS President Woody McLendon and his wife, Mary, (far right) visit a village in Papua New Guinea with (left to right) pilot Jonathan Federwitz, JAARS Board Member Deborah Carter, and JAARS Vice President Craig Russell.



## Flexibility to serve our partners better

In 2018 we asked you to invest in our Initiatives and Solutions funds to support projects like those featured in this report ... instead of giving directly to individual projects.

Your support of this vital change has given us much greater flexibility in serving our partners. Bible translation models are changing quickly, and newer, smaller translation partners have needs and priorities that shift quickly as well. When you give to Solutions and Initiatives, we can flex with changing field realities and design new models to solve emerging problems.

We'll always be working on ground-level problems, and we'll always share our specific project commitments with you—what is needed and why, and how recent solutions are making a difference.

Thank you for joining in this work as we move forward together. Matthew 25 clearly shows that our Lord promises to bless all who invest the talents they've been given for his glory!

His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"  
—Matthew 25:23a



When you give to Solutions and Initiatives we can flex with changing field realities and design new models to solve emerging problems.

## Wings to Rotors: One pilot's experience training at JAARS

A JAARS partner, Ethnos360 Aviation, decided to adjust their aviation strategy in Brazil to be more effective. Their challenge: the region within three flight hours of their hangar has hundreds of villages but only two operational runways. The solution: a helicopter that can reach places an airplane cannot.

So they needed a helicopter pilot. Experienced pilot Jeremiah Diedrich had been flying fixed-wing aircraft in an SIL/JAARS program in Brazil since 2006. He agreed to retrain as a helicopter pilot and be assigned to Ethnos360 Aviation for four years to help start their helicopter program. But to bridge the gap from fixed-wing pilot to helicopter pilot—and accomplish such a big transition while his family was on furlough—he needed help from JAARS.

*"JAARS Aviation Training department quickly changed their schedule to accommodate my change of assignment," Jeremiah says. "Within a couple of weeks, I was flying with [JAARS trainer] Mike Bunn in the helicopter as much as I could handle. As a result, I finished my commercial helicopter license and gained 100+ hours of flying in only three months."*

This helicopter program exemplifies cooperation among JAARS, Ethnos360 Aviation, and Asas de Socorro, a Brazilian mission aviation group that provides maintenance for the helicopter.

**Solution:** Training  
**Initiative:** Americas

Global Reach:

In FY2018, the JAARS aviation training program provided:

- 150** individual courses to
- 102** pilots and/or aviation maintenance personnel from
- 13** different mission organizations serving in
- 8** different countries

JAARS Aviation Training prepares pilots and mechanics for mission service around the world.



## Scripture in Culture: How God is using media to touch hearts

Pastor M\* attended many weddings last year, and he noticed something: Christians couldn't express their faith musically as part of their ceremonies, because Christian wedding songs don't exist. In a country where Christians are a persecuted minority, this missed opportunity grieved him. That's why he composed new wedding songs proclaiming truths from God's Word.

The songs were recorded at a studio supported by JAARS since 2014. The Bible translation organization there uses the studio for local-language projects such as audio recordings of Scripture, dubbing of the *JESUS* film, and composing and recording Scripture-based worship songs. Their desire: to see God's Word incorporated throughout their community and culture, even—and especially—where literacy and written translations are not yet found.

\*name withheld for security reasons

**Solution:** Media  
**Initiative:** Pacific

Cynthia Rollins, Scripture-use specialist for the Solomon Islands Group, emphasizes how important audio Scriptures are for spreading God's Word throughout communities. Audio Scriptures are especially important in communities where oral communication is highly regarded and preferred over written communication.

JAARS invested in technology and training programs in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea to support and equip local workers with skills to complete and distribute audio Scripture recordings.

*"We are grateful to you who make it possible to bring God's Word in audio format to the peoples of the Solomon Islands."*  
—Cynthia Rollins



**Solution:** Media  
**Initiative:** Asia

Recording studio highlights:

- Audio New Testament portions were recorded for 3 language communities with more than 4 million speakers.
- The *JESUS* film was dubbed into 3 more languages. One of these language communities has almost no known believers.
- Hundreds of new worship songs were composed in songwriting workshops.



## Connected to the World: The crucial bridge between technology and Bible translation

A team of Bible translators in Cameroon crowd into a room, laptops open, learning together how to work with Bible translation software called Paratext. On the roof of the one-room structure is a solar panel. In the doorway sits a small white box, a mobile satellite internet connection.

*"We will now be connected to the world," explains Jerome, president of the Njyem language translation committee. "We can connect to our partners with no problems."*

The new technology tools pushed past the hurdles of unstable electricity and lack of mobile connectivity, allowing Bible translation work to continue until mobile connections were established in the area.

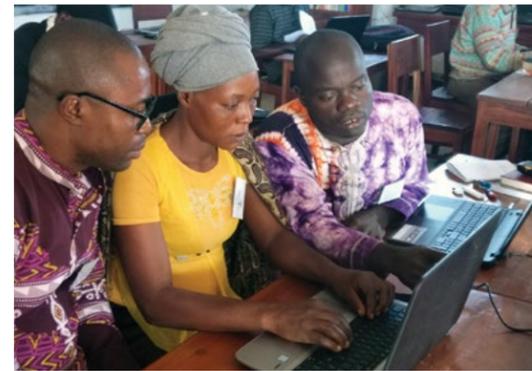
### IT Connect Conference

Bible translators today depend upon computers to complete their work. That's why JAARS invests heavily in providing technology tools to people who need them. And why, for nine years, we have sponsored two annual IT Connect training workshops in Africa (one in English, one in French) that enable IT workers who support Bible translation teams to sharpen and upgrade their knowledge and skills.

IT Connect participant Eric Esse, representing SIL Togo-Benin, explains that translation teams need reliable computers and IT systems in place so that they can do their work well. Participants from across the continent learn how to overcome a wide array of technology-related challenges that could potentially hinder Bible translation.



*"We help translators have computers that work and systems in place to do their work well so that the Word of God—our common purpose—can reach communities that need it."*  
—Eric Esse



A Bible translation team in Cameroon learns how to use Bible translation software called Paratext.

**Solution:** Technology  
**Initiative:** Africa

**58** language projects in  
**12** countries were impacted by technology solutions

## Transportation for Translators: How JAARS makes it possible to reach difficult places

**Solutions:** Training and Transportation  
**Initiative:** Pacific

How many people have to cross rivers without bridges just to get to work? Unfortunately, that's a reality faced by Bible translators in Papua New Guinea (PNG), where dangerous driving situations routinely challenge drivers. Esther and her husband work on a multi-language project that requires travel between several remote villages. They have to contend with large rocks or trees on the roadway, potholes, and excessive mud on treacherous mountain roads. JAARS provided their team with a 4WD vehicle and an ATV, but Esther faced another challenge.

She feared she wouldn't have the skills or confidence to face such daunting driving challenges—until she attended JAARS-sponsored driver's training in Ukarumpa. There she learned how to handle the vehicles to minimize risk as well as how to properly handle situations when a vehicle got stuck.

*“During the training I gained so much confidence to drive on the roads here,” Esther says. “A 4WD and an ATV will make travelling so much easier and safer, that we will be able to visit [the local translation teams] more often and thus engage with them more.”*



Members of a Bible translation team in PNG learn how to overcome a variety of challenging driving situations.



**Solution:** Transportation  
**Initiative:** Asia

### Accessing Remote Areas

JAARS also helped provide a 4WD truck to a local Bible translation organization in a restricted-access country. Representatives from the organization use the truck regularly to transport guests, travel to conduct workshops, and deliver Bibles and other Scripture-based materials. Recently representatives from the organization drove nine hours over difficult terrain to meet with and encourage a group of pastors who live in an isolated part of the country.

*“We thank the Lord for having a 4WD truck,” one of the workshop leaders said. “Otherwise traveling to this region would not have been possible.”*

## Thank you for standing with us— past, present, future

*Vision 2025.* For many of us in the Bible translation movement, Vision 2025 was a vital catalyst. It called us to collaboration and innovation like never before to ensure translation work was begun among every language group needing it by that ambitious date.

That vision is still a catalyst, and progress has been strong. But language communities around the world—and those who love them and serve them by partnering to share the gospel with them—are increasingly focused on something even more transformative: the *completion* of all those Scripture translation projects, and the delivery of God's Word in the languages and forms that serve each community best.

*That is where you make a clear difference when you partner with JAARS.*

Our role, for over 70 years now, is to solve transportation, training, communications, and power-access problems that slow, stall, or stop translation among people groups living far off the grid. In those situations—*because of your gifts and your prayers*—we can help make Bible translation possible.

Thank you for partnering with us and through us to bring life-transforming gospel truth into the hearts and homes of people all over the world who—just like you and us—are made in the image of God.

The Keliko people of South Sudan celebrated the completion of the New Testament on August 11, 2018. The Scriptures are also available on [keliko.org](http://keliko.org), thanks to a website-building workshop sponsored by gifts to JAARS Media Solutions.



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## Financial Summary

In Thousands of U.S. Dollars

### Income

Cash Contributions . . . . .	\$3,174
Non-Cash Contributions . . . . .	\$8,098
Program Activity Revenue . . . . .	\$1,725
Investment Income . . . . .	.\$63
Other Income . . . . .	.\$23
<b>Total Income . . . . .</b>	<b>\$13,083</b>

### Expenses\*

Program Services	
Transportation . . . . .	\$4,775
Information Technology . . . . .	\$342
Media . . . . .	\$288
Ministry Operations . . . . .	\$4,884
Management and General . . . . .	\$1,363
Fundraising . . . . .	\$742
<b>Total Expenses . . . . .</b>	<b>\$12,394</b>

<b>Total Gain from Operations . . . . .</b>	<b>.\$689</b>
<b>Ending Net Assets . . . . .</b>	<b>\$10,246</b>

\*Excludes depreciation

### 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 [jaars.org/about/finances](http://jaars.org/about/finances).

Non-cash contributions include a labor grant for supported staff—supported by the financial and prayer contributions of friends and churches through Wycliffe Bible Translators—plus donated labor from volunteers; both are also recognized as expenses. Amounts in the report represent the financial activity of JAARS, Inc. for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018.

**100%** of giving to a *Solution* or an *Initiative* fund goes directly to support the range of opportunities within that area only. This is possible because the majority of our core operating expenses—including research and development, certain project management and training needs, communications, fundraising, and a range of missionary support services—are covered by internal operations. The balance is covered by generous gifts to our *CORE Mission Operations* and/or our *Where Needed Most* fund from faithful partners like you.

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Former SIL translator,  
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(term completed Dec. 31, 2017)

**Grace Townsend Goreth**  
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Tustin, CA  
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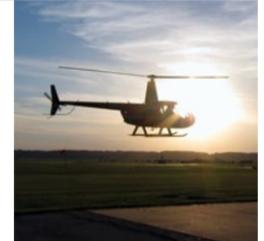
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Michael A. Graham, LLC  
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\*Retired



## JAARS Officers

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*Chief Financial Officer*  
(as of May 29, 2018)

**Tim Staples**  
*Chief Financial Officer*  
(through Jan. 31, 2018)

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(as of Jan. 1, 2018)

**Kathy Andrews**  
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**John Hutchison**  
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(term completed Dec. 31, 2017)

**Dan Wills**  
*Assistant Corporate Secretary*  
(term completed Dec. 31, 2017)



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**JAARS**

**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.**