



The Barnabas Group mobilizes Christian Marketplace Leaders in the San Francisco Bay Area to contribute their unique talents and resources to build the capacity of ministries addressing local and international needs.

SF Bay Area Barnabas

Journal Notes 16: February 2015 Event

Notes By Tim Hunt

WOMEN'S RIGHTS WITHOUT FRONTIERS

The February meeting of The Barnabas Group of the San Francisco Bay Area brought internationally known activist Reggie Littlejohn to Alamo to share how her organization is planning to move into India.

Her non-profit, Women's Rights Without Frontiers, has targeted the one-child policy in China that often results in forced abortions of female infants. It is as big a problem in India also, where female infants are either aborted or abandoned at birth because of the societal preference for males.

Reggie told members that the number of girls aborted in China and India is greater than the number of girls who are born in the United States in a given year. The government and cultural policies have resulted in the two countries having 74 million more men than women—a fact that drives the sex trafficking industry in those countries.

Reggie said that her organization has field workers in China who have built relationships with health-care providers who will tip them off after a woman has an ultrasound showing

that woman is carrying a female. The field workers then go to the homes of the pregnant women and offer them financial and other support during their pregnancy and for the year after they deliver. The program has resulted in 141 births.

The key question for Barnabas members was how can the organization build on its model in China and develop and execute a successful campaign in India. Reggie is banned from China, but would be welcome in India. She is looking for people who can connect her with churches or individuals in India who will be able to help her with the campaign.

While expanding in India, her organization will continue its international advocacy as well as continue to work in China. Reggie has briefed or spoken to the U.S. Congress, the European, British, Irish and Canadian parliaments as well as to the United Nations.

For more information, please see www.womensrightswithoutfrontiers.org.

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Jon Talbert, Amplify Director for Transforming the Bay with Christ, delivered the keynote address. The organization, which began in 2012, is focused on three initiatives:

*First: **Amplify*** what God is doing in and through service throughout the Bay Area. The goal is to build collaborations between churches, the private sector, the public sector and the non-profit sector to serve freely while expecting nothing in return. Jon described how a group of men at his church offered to do oil changes for single moms' cars. Surrounding businesses pitched in. The women got their cars repaired along with an oil change (parts and labor donated). Then, while waiting for their cars to be serviced, the women were given pedicures and manicures, as well as served chocolates and Starbucks' coffee.

"Amplify is about demonstrating God's love while serving others," Talbert said. Amplify has four goals:

- To see every church engaged in service to its community;
- To see every business engaged in service to its community;
- To see every school with a church-school partnership—to promote the well-being of

every student;

- To begin a “neighboring” movement where everyone in the Bay Area would experience community with their neighbors.

*Second: **Multiply** healthy churches* in the Bay Area by planting new churches. At its January meeting, TBC commissioned its first pastors to plant a church. The goal is to move from approximately 3 percent of people in the Bay Area attending church to 10 percent. This would help Christians earn the right to be heard in the public square. The organization is supporting any and all church planting efforts and strives to be the catalyst for 1,000 new church startups in the Bay Area over the next 10 years. What would it be like if the Bay Area was known as much for being a hotbed of innovative church startups as it is for tech startups?

*Third: **Unify** the Christian community* by building relationships among pastors, business leaders, non-profit leaders and civic leaders across denominational and cultural lines. All movements start with healthy relationships between a few committed people.

For information, please see www.tbc.city

LAMPLIGHTER

Mark Hamby, President, presented the amazing story of the Lamplighter ministry, which is based in upstate New York. The organization’s overall goal is to get people to know Christ intimately and build Christ-like character. Lamplighter produces books, videos and radio dramas that are compelling stories produced with excellence. The organization was founded in 1987 and now reaches 1.5 million people daily with its dramatic storytelling.

To produce the materials more effectively and to encourage Christians in the arts, Lamplighter has established a “guild” to inspire creative excellence.

Mark told an inspiring story about how Lamplighter wanted a property in New York that was being marketed for \$1.5 million. They had only \$40,000 in their building fund, which they offered to the owners. Amazingly, the owners took the offer and sold the property to Lamplighter.

Mark's key question for Barnabas was how to recruit key leaders in operations and development, as well as in other key roles, to help the ministry grow to the next level so it can reach many more people. He is stretched in too many directions and needs help to operate the organization more efficiently.

The longer term goal is to create a campus with a unique educational platform for training in Biblical theology and entrepreneurial training in a variety of areas, such as business, book-binding, drama, film, radio, woodworking and agriculture.

For more information, please see www.lamplighter.net.

VOCARI

Barnabas member Wayne Cerullo presented the vision for Vocari, which is designed to inspire young people to pursue careers that make a difference. The program was piloted in 2014 and they are excited about starting their second year.

Vocari has three key needs for this summer:

- Employers to offer summer jobs that pay \$12 an hour for 30-32 hours for seven weeks. Ideally, jobs are located within a 30-minute commute on public transit from Berkeley.
- Mentors who will work with students weekly while they are in Berkeley and potentially into the future.
- A coordinator to provide guidance and/or create relationships to secure funding.

Students will live in donated housing in Berkeley and participate in evening programs after their work day. The house can hold 15 students in addition to the advisors.

One goal is to "reclaim Monday-Friday as God's domain," as students pursue their calling. Vocari is a Latin word that means "vocation" or "calling." Wayne described the current generation of young people as "hungry for inter-generational relationships," so the door is wide open for mentoring.

The big question that Barnabas members discussed is how Vocari can engage Christians in

the marketplace, so they become mentors, employers or sponsors this summer.

For more information, please see www.vocari.org.

Copyright © 2016 San Francisco Bay Area Barnabas Group, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp