

# International Worker Member Care Ideas

## MISSIONS MOBILIZATION

Need some creative ideas on how to care for our International Workers (IWs)? Here are some ideas we have collected from other churches:

### 1 HOME TOURS

- Provide “rest and restoration” for IW couples coming home prematurely from the field.
- Provide transportation to/from the airport any time it is needed.
- Provide vehicles for IWs on Home Assignment.
- Secure housing for IWs on Home Assignment.
- Provide meals during quarantine once an IW/family arrives home.
- Collect furniture that is available for IWs to use on home assignment.
- Stock IW’s cupboards when they come on Home Assignment.
- Host families for a “retreat experience” when returning to the U.S.

### 2 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Offer Christian counseling services from providers within churches to IWs.
- Provide additional support when regular support falls short (i.e., emergency trips home, outfit/vehicle needs, or specific projects happening on the field).
- Resource specific ministry projects that IWs are engaged in.
- Create “Care Teams” to meet various needs of IW families

### 3 IW KIDS

- Connect children from churches with IW children as Pen Pals.
- Provide support for IW kids to attend the LIFE conference.
- “Adopt” specific MKs/TCKs so that the family and children look forward to being on home assignment.

### 4 FIELD VISITS

- Pastors: Make trips overseas every year (or so) to provide R&R, conversation/counseling, and prayer for IW families.
- Provide gift bags when church members travel to the field and bring specific items that are requested by the IWs.
- Send interns to the field to teach IW children and support families who are homeschooling.

### 5 CORRESPONDENCE

- Send care packages to IWs.
- Maintain frequent correspondence as a way to care for IWs. This includes e-mail, snail mail, and phone calls.
- Send virtual devotional messages and encouraging videos specifically for IW team meetings.
- Form a greeting card ministry for IWs; celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays.

### 6 CHURCH SERVICES

- Host intentional prayer times for individual IWs and their families.
- Highlight an individual IW family in the service each week; display their picture on the screen as the church prays for them as a whole.
- Connect technologically with IWs—Utilize video conferencing to engage with IWs during services.