



KNOW GOD TAKE **ACTION**

The distinctive characteristics of
Action International Ministries





A Message From our Director

Welcome to Action International Ministries!

Please give a quick read of what makes ACTION different and see whether this is a family where you would fit, prosper, and bloom.

ACTION can be a real breath of fresh air to missionaries needing administrative help. Those who have tried to do it all themselves find it quite a relief to turn over all the fine points of administration to a full-service home office.

Others whose vision didn't quite fit with a tightly-crafted organizational purpose statement or who have chafed under too much well-intentioned but unhelpful supervision find ACTION a place to flourish.

If you have not yet been to the mission field, let me assure you that we are focused on helping you find your place in the Great Commission!

We hope to serve with you soon.

Yours in Christ,

Rex Lee Carlaw
ACTION USA



Quick Facts About ACTION

- Is committed to sending missionaries who treasure Jesus Christ and minister His Gospel in word and deed, primarily to the poor.
- Has a three-pronged strategy for ministry: evangelism, discipleship, and development.
- Specializes in pastoral leadership development and ministry to children at risk.
- Founded in the Philippines in 1974.
- Incorporated in the USA in 1975.
- Has at present 264 missionaries serving in 26 countries.
- Maintains administrative offices in or near Seattle, Calgary, Liverpool, and Manila.
- Desires to “know God and take action” (Daniel 11:32).



Vision and Ministry Philosophy

Biblically-based. The Bible is ACTION's source book of principles and practice.

Gospel-centered. Whatever the specific project or outreach, our missionaries' main goal is to bring light to those in darkness.

Action-oriented. This may seem like a play on words, but our mission is truly designed to react quickly to needs. We are willing to stretch ourselves, turning faith into action by trusting God in difficult situations.

Flexible in ministry. Our desire is to empower missionaries to fulfill the call of God on their lives.

Close-knit atmosphere. We are large enough to serve you but not too large so as to think of you as just a number. We value teamwork, respect one another, and care for each other as part of the body of Christ.

Balanced in approach. We seek equilibrium in doctrinal emphases and mission strategies.

Focused on the local church. We believe in building the local church in all countries by conducting our ministries in ways that support and complement each church's ministries.



Leadership

Directed by experienced missionaries. Our leaders are missionaries like you. They raise their own financial support and continue to travel internationally for ministry. They know what it is like to live by faith, preach Christ in other cultures, and manage a missionary's workload while raising a family.

Thoroughly multicultural. Our top administrative body is our International Council, which has members from the following nationalities: American, Canadian, Brazilian, Filipino, Indian, and Zambian. Overall, our 264 missionaries come from 18 countries.

Encouraging but not overbearing. ACTION takes great care not to become a top-down or authoritarian mission society. Our missionaries carry out their God-given responsibilities with considerable freedom, knowing they can call on someone in the mission structure if assistance of any kind is needed.

Ready nearby. ACTION has appointed a coordinator in each region who is available to assist missionaries and their families.



Financial Department

Committed to financial integrity. We are an evangelical faith mission supported by churches and individual believers. Our Board of Directors assures that all donations received are used as designated.

Accountable. Audits are performed annually by an outside accounting firm and audited financial statements are available upon request.

Service-oriented in handling expenses. We reduce your personal tax hassles by signing you on as an employee of ACTION, thereby granting you an end-of-year W-2. This does not reduce your responsibility to raise all the finances you need to serve overseas, but it does make tax time a lot easier.

Our system does not use the 1099 form that other agencies use. With ACTION, valid ministry expenses that meet IRS criteria — such as travel and supplies — are deducted from your donations prior to calculating your monthly income. But you are still eligible for a housing allowance if that is advantageous to you.



Administrative Services

Insured. Missionaries serving overseas join our group policy, which provides health insurance both internationally and in the USA. You will be covered for both major and minor illnesses, whether you are on the field or home in America. In many cases, especially for families, the monthly premiums are less than what you would pay to purchase health insurance in the States. Emergency evacuation insurance is included.

Informed. Our choice has been to keep mailing list maintenance and newsletter printing in-house, so that your important communication needs are handled by people who know you, care about you, and respond promptly to your urgent and special requests.

Publicized. We are proud of our missionaries and the work they carry out for the Lord. It is our pleasure to gather reports from the field and share them regularly with supporters.

Commissioned. All applicants are carefully examined for their Christian testimony and suitability for missionary service. Therefore, once approved with ACTION each missionary becomes a commissioned minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and can request a ministry commissioning certificate. This document can be helpful when applying for visas and other permits overseas.



Doctrine

Solidly evangelical. Our 9-point doctrinal statement, available on our website, expresses the core evangelical beliefs that are necessary for fellowship and cooperation.

Gracious toward differences. In keeping with our nondenominational status, secondary truths or denominational differences are welcome, but are not to be emphasized in public ministry.

Both truthful and uniting. We subjugate any personal doctrinal views that might cause controversy or division among the team. Our conviction is summed up in the following quotation:

In essentials, unity
In non-essentials, graciousness
In doubtful things, liberty
In all things, love

— Peter Meiderlin, 1627

ACTION USA
PO Box 398
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398

info@actionusa.org
425-775-4800

actioninternational.org

