



**Nazarene
Compassionate
Ministries**

Compassion as a lifestyle



February 2016

In This Issue

[Current Funding Opportunities](#)

[Growing Food](#)

[Compassion & Justice Conference](#)

[Save the Date: Compassion
Conference](#)

[Need Quality Computers or
Technology Accessories for your
Non-Profit?](#)

About NCM USA/Canada

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries seeks to live and act compassionately in the world following Christ's own life and ministry. We seek to be incarnations of the same gospel that Christ lived and preached and to be witnesses to the same love and compassion God has for our world.

In the United States and Canada, NCM works closely with Compassionate Ministry Centers (CMCs) to bring compassion and healing to communities that need the love and presence of Christ.

Mission

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries USA/Canada partners with Nazarene interests to facilitate ministries which address the temporal as well as the spiritual needs of the



Forward to a Friend

Dear Friends,

As we deal with so many issues, let us be reminded that it is all about **going to broken places and connecting with broken people.** That is our call. In a wide variety of ways we accomplish this call in our lives and in the lives of others.



As we dive into this month's eNews, **we'll look at one key way we can help those struggling in our communities: food.** There are multiple times in scripture where we see **food playing a critical role in the message God is delivering to His people.** Mana delivered to the children of Israel every morning, the Last Supper, Zaccheus, Mary and Martha, and so many more.

One specific instance I love to read in scripture is when Christ spoke to tens of thousands and fed them with a child's simple lunch of five loaves of bread and two fish. Scripture says, "They all ate and were satisfied." (Matthew 14:20). **Jesus knew that in order for them to truly receive His words, the people's physical needs had to first be met.**

If we first meet someone's physical needs - food, clothing, shelter, health - we can then, along with the Holy Spirit, work to meet their emotional and spiritual needs as well.

But, we must do it all in His strength and serve in His power! Our world needs Jesus lived out, and you are the one He has chosen to do it! What a privilege we have to be His hands and feet.

Be encouraged, God is on the move. He can and will do great things through us when we allow Him.

Serve well,

economically disadvantaged.

Churches

Local churches are the primary avenue for Nazarenes to reach out to those in their communities. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries seeks to support churches in starting and maintaining ministry to the under-served and marginalized. We believe every church, no matter size or budget, can find ways to meet needs in their community with compassion, creative, and the firm foundation and life-changing power of the Gospel message.

CMCs- Compassionate Ministry Centers

A Compassionate Ministry Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the under-resourced in the community. While these organizations are often affiliated with a specific local church, they are in a strategic position to unite others in their community around a high-needs cause.

NDR- Nazarene Disaster Response

Nazarene Disaster Response is Nazarenes mobilizing for disaster through Readiness, Response, and Recovery. Local Nazarenes are in a unique position to understand, serve, and remain with disaster victims in their own neighborhoods. In large-scale events the denomination can come alongside local efforts with the support of volunteers and donors from across the country and through our strong partnerships with other disaster relief agencies. NDR serves victims regardless of race,

Jay Height

jheight@nazarene.org

Coordinator, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries USA/Canada

Current Funding Opportunities

OJJDP FY 2016 Second Chance Act Strengthening Relationships Between Young Fathers or Mothers and Their Children: A Reentry

Mentoring Program seeks applicants to provide transitional services and mentoring for young fathers or mothers (younger than 25 years old) who are offenders reintegrating into their communities. Programs should promote reduced recidivism and positive parenting behaviors. [Review the full RFP](#)

Deadline: March 3, 2016

Amount: \$350,000 (over 3 years)

RGK Foundation is accepting proposals for projects focused on human services, community improvement activities, abuse prevention, and youth development. [Apply](#)

Deadline: March 4, 2016

Amount: \$25,000

OJJDP Mentoring for Child Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Sex Trafficking: Develop mentoring capacity, facilitate outreach efforts, and increase availability of direct services for children at risk and child victims (17 years old or younger) of sex trafficking. [Review the full RFP](#)

Deadline: March 7, 2016

Amount: \$450,000 (over 3 years)

World of Children is accepting nominations for Protection, Education, Humanitarian, and Health. [Review guidelines](#)

Deadline: April 1, 2016

Amount: \$50,000

Ben & Jerry's Foundation seeks proposals for social and environmental justice projects from nonprofit, grassroots community-organizing groups with annual budgets under \$500,000. [Review eligibility and application guidelines](#)

Deadline: April 15, 2016

Growing Food

According to the USDA, food security means that all people have access enough food to live an active, healthy life at all times. **USDA's 2013 Household Food Security Survey found that 14.3 percent of American households were food insecure at least some of the time.**

creed, or economic status by concentrating on assistance to the poor, elderly, and handicapped.

W&W- Work & Witness

Work & Witness provides opportunities for Nazarenes to serve together in support of existing ministries such as churches, CMCs, and Nazarene Disaster Response. Work & Witness can be any type of project, from construction to evangelism to compassionate outreach.

Contact

Toll Free Number: 1-800-306-9950

Fax: (913) 577-0893

General Email:

ncmusacan@nazarene.org

Coordinator: **Jay Height**

Direct Line: (317) 281-6768

E-Mail:

jheight@nazarene.org



There are five elements within a continuum of food security strategies that collectively improve access of low-income households to nutritious foods:

1. Emergency, Charitable Food Distribution
Food pantries and soup kitchens
2. Improving Access to Public Nutrition Programs *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*
3. Urban Agriculture
Community and backyard gardens
4. Nutritious, Affordable Food in the Commercial Sector *Healthy corner store campaigns and farmers markets*
5. Advocacy and Local Food Policy Councils

These strategies are most effective when they are integrated with community building and focus on increasing the community's ability to provide for its own food needs.

Local agriculture plays an important role in building community and improving long-term food security.

Community Gardens are large plots of land that have been divided into smaller plots for each household to grow their own vegetable gardens as well as a shared space where people come together to grow. Benefits include:

- Neighborhood beautification and greening
- Access to nutritious vegetables, especially in areas not well served by commercial sector
- Building community and gathering space
- Opportunities for education and demonstrations
- Physical and mental health

Starting a Community Garden

1. Involve the neighborhood. Survey residents to see if they are interested and would participate in a community garden. **Identify community assets and connect with local children through partnerships with schools.** Organize planning meetings.
2. Form a garden club that makes decisions, establishes garden rules, reviews applications, makes plot assignments, collects dues, pays water bills, and resolves conflicts.
3. Secure land for the garden.
 - Identify vacant lots within walking distance of the neighborhood that get at least 6 hours of sun each day.
 - Find out who owns the land.
 - Find out if the sites have water access.
 - Contact the land owners to ask permission to use their property for a community garden. Establish terms of use and negotiate a lease.
 - Test the soil for fertility pH and heavy metals.
 - Sign the lease and obtain liability insurance.
4. Plan the garden with community members to include at least 15 plots for community members, simple irrigation, fencing, tool storage, a place to rest in the shade, a sign, and a composting area.

5. Create a garden budget and acquire start-up funds and materials donations.
6. Plant and maintain the garden using **sustainable, organic practices**:
 - Hold work days to clean up the garden site.
 - Install an irrigation system.
 - Stake out beds and pathways, mulch pathways, and plant trees and vegetables.
7. Celebrate with a grand opening event.

Sustainable Agriculture involves growing food without depleting resources or polluting the environment. Based on **principles of stewardship** and economic justice, the main objectives are:

- **Environmental Sustainability** through imitating natural systems that turn waste from one process into inputs for the next.
- **Economic Sustainability** through financial planning.
- **Social Sustainability** through connecting producers with consumers and educating the community.

Strategies to Increase Environmental Sustainability

Build soil structure and fertility by (a) reducing use of synthetic fertilizer by improving the on-farm nutrient cycle, (b) basing fertilization decisions on soil tests, (c) minimizing tillage, (d) encouraging healthy diversity of soil organisms, and (e) maintaining year-round ground cover.

Protect water by (a) building organic content of soil, (b) reducing water runoff and erosion, (c) planting trees and shrubs, (d) planting catch and cover crops to take up nutrients that may leach into subsoil, (e) planning buffer areas between fields and water, and (f) using irrigation that enhances nutrient uptake and decreases nutrient leaching.

Ecological pest management by (a) building healthy soil that contains beneficial organisms, (b) choosing appropriate plants for the conditions, (c) restoring pest-predator balances, (d) identifying and learning about ecology of both pests and their natural enemies, and (e) adjusting crops and surroundings to favor natural predators.

Maximize biodiversity by (a) integrating crop and livestock production, (b) using supportive plants to attract beneficial insects, bats, and birds, (c) implementing crop rotations, intercropping, and companion planting, (d) avoiding mono-cropping and (e) planting off-season cover crops.

Guides for Community Gardening and Sustainable Farming

1. **Vegetable Garden Planning and Development Guide**
2. **Applying the Principles of Sustainable Farming Guide**
3. National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) **ATTRA Sustainable Agriculture Master Publication List**
4. Trevecca Urban Farm Tutorial Videos
 - **How To Create an Urban Farm**
 - **USA/Canada NCM**

Support [sustainable agriculture projects in developing countries](#) to promote environmental stewardship, contribute to local food supply, and assist poor families to earn an income and feed themselves through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries' partnership with Food Resource Bank (FRB). Local Growing Projects brings together congregations, community groups, farmers, and agribusinesses in the U.S. to rent land, secure inputs, and volunteer time to produce crops. The harvest is then sold locally and proceeds are donated to NCM to carry out programs in developing countries that address hunger and food insecurity through sustainable agricultural training and development. [Learn More](#)



Compassion Conference
February 16 - 18, 2016
at Trevecca Nazarene University

The J.V. Morsch Center for Social Justice at Trevecca and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries USA/Canada are partnering to host the Compassion and Justice Conference, February 16-18, 2016.

The goal behind the conference is to inspire pastors, church leaders, parachurch leaders and students toward compassion ministry and equip them with quality, proven and effective models for engagement in compassion and social justice. The conference aims to show the connection between the Great Commission and biblical justice, and set out the theology, and practical steps for ministry. Participants will be challenged by a variety of speakers including, Dr. Tim Green, as well as those serving in the field sharing about their personal experiences with social issues such as, Human Trafficking and Creation Care. The Connection Café will provide an opportunity to connect and network with leaders and colleague, many of whom will inspire you with creative ministry ideas to bring back to your congregations.

[Learn more about the Compassion & Justice Conference](#)

[Keynote Speakers](#)

- Dr. Tim Green
- Dr. Tom Nees
- Rev. Cosmos Mutowa
- Dr. Robert Broadbooks

Workshop topics

Workshop sessions will be held covering the following topics:

- Community assessment tools
- Anti-human trafficking
- Environmental justice
- Marketplace/non-profit management

Cost:

- Conference - \$50
- Conference & Lodging (2-night) - \$150

[Register](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

Compassion Conference
July 14-16, 2016
at Olivet Nazarene University

Compassion Conference is a global gathering that will inspire you to lead your church in living out God's call to compassion and equip you for transformational ministry.

It's an intentional space where you can connect, collaborate, create, and begin to change your world.

Join together with other leaders and practitioners from the Church of the Nazarene around the world.

Learn together what it means to live in the margins of your community, and reflect on biblical perspectives on the church's role in living out compassion in transformative ways.

We can no longer turn our heads to the needs in our communities. Compassion is the Church in action. And the time is now to go deeper.

[Register Today](#)

**Need Quality Computers or Technology
Accessories for Your Non-Profit?**

Quality Refurbished Computers

- ✔ Professionally Refurbished
- ✔ 12 Month Warranty
- ✔ All purchases support our mission



InterConnection, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit based in Seattle, whose mission is to connect nonprofit organizations and under-served communities around the world to the computers and technology they need.

InterConnection wants to connect with nonprofits in need across the country to this great opportunity.

At InterConnection, nonprofits based in the United States get access to high-quality desktops and laptops at a discounted price. **InterConnection is a Microsoft Registered Refurbisher, which means that all of their computers come with Windows 7 Professional and Microsoft Office 2010 Home & Business.** Every computer they sell also undergoes an extensive quality control process and comes with a **1-year warranty**.

InterConnection sells laptops for as low as \$99 and desktops starting at just \$79. They also offer other products like Macs, LCD monitors, Windows Multipoint servers, keyboards, and mice all at discounted rates. **[All products can be viewed through their online store](#)**

[You can also sign up to get deals in your inbox weekly](#)

For those of you who do not qualify for their nonprofit store, they also have an [online retail store open to everyone](#). Their retail store also offers high-quality, affordable laptops and desktops, with proceeds benefiting their mission of spreading access to technology to under-served communities.

[View the InterConnection Flyer for More Information](#)

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

USA/Canada Region

17001 Prairie Star Parkway

Lenexa, KS 66220, USA

Phone: 1.800.310.6362 * Email: JHeight@nazarene.org