

telling the world about Jesus
one person at a time

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[About CRWM](#)

[Opportunities](#)

[Resources](#)

[Mission Emphasis](#)

[Donor Options](#)

[Contact CRWM](#)

[Local Reps](#)

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[Home](#) • [Opportunities](#) • [Summer Missions Program](#) • SMP
Alumni News, Summer 2001

SMP alumni news



SMP 2001

There were 43 participants in the Christian Reformed World Missions Summer Missions Program this year. After a 6-day orientation at Calvin Seminary, teams were sent to China, Eastern Europe, Nigeria, and the Philippines. A Summer Missions team was also sent to Japan, but their pre-field training was held in Southern California.

SMP Pre-field Orientation

June 19 began the SMP Pre-field Orientation at Calvin Seminary, and for six days, participants engaged in country orientation, language lessons, and English as a Second Language training. Other sessions included a meeting with former SMP volunteers, a game entitled Bafa Bafa (introducing volunteers to cross-cultural communication), a lecture on verbal witnessing, a seminar on picture-taking, and a potluck of ethnic foods.

On Sunday, June 24, all SMPers participated in a commissioning service at Cascade Fellowship Christian Reformed Church. In the afternoon, Rev. Ben and Mrs. Bev Becksvoort led the group in a prayer service, then the teams met separately in the homes of former missionaries.

All teams left on Monday, June 25, for their respective countries. While on the field, teams were involved in a variety

A Summer, a Year, a Career Summer Mission Program volunteers from 2000 enter full-time mission work with CRWM.



Josh and Mandy Shaarda, both 2000 graduates of Reformed Bible College, participated in the Summer Missions program 2000 to Nigeria. They are now in Nigeria as church planters in the Kambari region.

of tasks. The China, Eastern Europe, and Japan teams spent the majority of their time teaching English to the local people. The Philippine team spent the majority of their time in a basketball ministry, witnessing for Christ primarily to youth through the use of this sport. The Nigeria team spent much time observing the work of current missionaries including church leaders, teachers, and health care workers. In the midst of their ministry, the SMP groups also learned much about the culture and the people with whom they worked.

Participants 2001:



Rebecca Van Ee, Tina Mulcahey, Sejin Oh, Susan Khang, and Mary Jo Persenaire
 Second row (left to right): Dave Stienstra, Chris Melenberg, John Zigterman, Kara Bouws, Julie Schenk, Irene Bosma, Jennifer de Bruyn, Charlene Stam, Janelle Saarloos, Alexander Dykstra, Jessica Abbott, and Laura Schippers
 Back row (left to right): Chad Weener, Melanie Schipper, Diane Kapteyn, Tony Lara, Charissa Lara, Paul Kortman, Ed Speyers, Nancy Vander Meer, Christine Skinner, April Van Amersfoort, Stacey Workman, and Tanya Top



Michael and Megan Ribbens, both 2001 graduates of Dordt College, participated in the SMP 2000 to Eastern Europe. They are now in Jos, Nigeria, West Africa, as short-term missionaries for the next two years. They are houseparents at Mountain View Hostel, a boarding house for students of Hillcrest School.

Front row (left to right): Kate Reinsma, Beth Vander Ziel,

Where in the World Are You?

We at World Missions want to stay in touch with you. Please take a minute to send us an email to buysg@crcna.org with the following information:

Name

Your SMP year

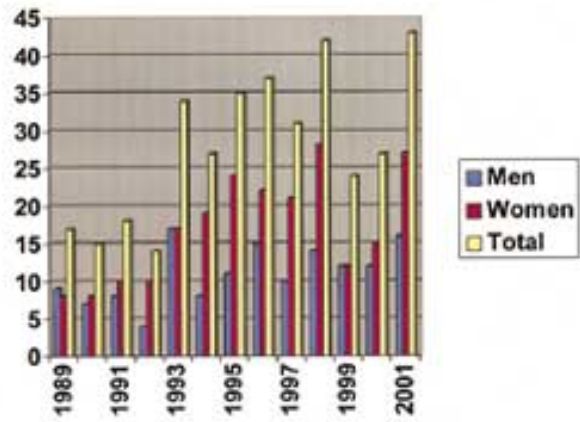
Address, Phone #, Email

Occupation

SMP Participants 1989–2001

The Summer Missions

Program has grown steadily, from 17 total participants in 1989 to 43 in 2001. Over 12 years, 364 volunteers have participated in SMP.



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