**New Missions Board**

*Note:* Synod 2015 approved the unification of the Christian Reformed Home Missions and Christian Reformed World Missions agencies. Together, the new board will eventually become the Christian Reformed Unified Missions Board, the details of which are to be worked out in the coming year. Please find below the current information for CRHM and CRWM.

**Christian Reformed Home Missions**

**Introduction**

**Christian Reformed Home Missions** (CRHM) exists to spread God’s name and renown in North America is by starting and strengthening missional churches and campus ministries that bring glory to God by transforming lives and communities.

Our mandate calls us to give leadership in this task and encourage, assist, support, cooperate with, and guide churches and classes in this work. Our regionally distributed ministry teams led by Regional Leaders, together with Ethnic Leaders and Catalytic Leaders, coordinate and support the work of the mission regionally and bi-nationally so that persons are brought to Christ and welcomed into our denominational community of faith.

At CRHM we hear the words of Article 41 of the Contemporary Testimony speaking directly to this calling as an agency:

*Joining the mission of God, the church is sent with the gospel of the kingdom to call everyone to know and follow Christ and to proclaim to all the assurance that in the name of Jesus there is forgiveness of sin and new life for all who repent and believe. The Spirit calls all members to embrace God’s mission in their neighborhoods and in the world: to feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and free the prisoner. We repent of leaving this work to a few, for this mission is central to our being.*

As an agency, we see God calling us to collaborate with God’s missionary people in the CRCNA to discover their place in God’s mission. In some ways CRHM is more than a few staff members—it’s a family made up of the 250,000-plus people in the CRCNA. In collaboration, we listen, we discern together, we coach, we have our eyes opened to different ways of ministry, and we open our eyes to God’s mission in the world. We also hear God leading us by the Spirit to be an organization that joyfully and graciously, but persistently, calls and leads all of us in the CRCNA to see and pursue God’s mission.

**Mandate**

Home Missions shall give leadership to the CRC in its task of bringing the gospel to the people of Canada and the United States, and drawing them into fellowship with Christ and his church.

This mandate has these aspects:

1. Encourage and assist churches, classes and regions in the work of developing and sustaining missional churches.
2. Initiate, support and guide church planting and development in cooperation with local churches, classes and regions.
3. Initiate, support and guide educational ministries in cooperation with local churches and classes.

**Mission Statement**

Joining the mission of God, CRHM calls, catalyzes, and collaborates with God’s missionary people to start and strengthen missional churches and campus ministries that transform lives and communities.

**Board Delegate Roles**

The roles that Home Missions board members are asked to fulfill include that of communicator, advocate, encourager, and trustee.

**Communication, Advocacy, and Support**

* Regularly attend board meetings and read all Home Missions communications.
* Understand the vision, goals, policies and programs of CRHM.
* Promote the ministry and mission of CRHM in your region.
* Actively participate at board meetings, aiding CRHM staff in understanding local ministry opportunities and concerns.
* Communicate regularly with the alternate delegate and representatives from your region prior to and following each board meeting to hear classical voices and communicate what has transpired at meetings.
* Work with the Advancement team to encourage financial support within your region of CRHM’s ministries and contribute personally when able.
* Practice disciple-making and/or a ministry that fits your gifts.
* Be an encourager of missionaries in your region and in the bi-national office.
* Regularly pray for the ministries, staff, and board of CRHM.
* Attend and report at Classis meetings at least annually.
* In collaboration with CRHM regional leaders and regional teams, be available to connect local ministries with resources/services that assist them in mission-oriented activities.

**Trusteeship**

* Contribute to and approve long-range ministry and financial plans, balancing overall vision with regional/local needs and interests.
* Ensure that the board be legally incorporated according to the laws of Canada and the U.S.
* Meet at least once a year.
* Fulfill responsibilities assigned by Synod such as electing officers; with the CRCNA Director of Denominational Ministries select, support, and evaluate performance of the Home Missions director; serve as court of appeals for personnel and ministries.

Sources, The Home Missions Order, 2008; Home Missions Board Member Duties, 1998, 2002, 2008; CRC agency board member position descriptions

**MEMBERSHIP ON THE**

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED WORLD MISSIONS BOARD**

**Mission:**

CRWM exists to glorify God by leading the CRC to respond obediently to our Lord’s commission to witness to the good news of God’s Kingdom and make disciples of all nations.

**Vision:**

We see the CRC vigorously participating in Spirit-led mission with churches and other Christian organizations throughout the world, the gospel proclaimed to more and more people who have not heard it, healthy churches emerging and the Kingdom of God advancing.

**Values:**

The following are the key values of CRWM. We hold one another accountable to live out these values faithfully because we believe that they are needed to implement transformational strategies in pursuit of CRWM’s mission. These values also make explicit our commitment to the Bible and to the ecumenical creeds, the Reformed confessions, the CRCNA governance documents and the Ministries Plan for agencies and institutions of the CRCNA.

* We Value Faith in God and Passion for God’s Mission in the World
* We Value a Confessionally Reformed Understanding of God’s Word
* We Value the Body of Christ
* We Value Proclaiming the Gospel to People Who Have not Heard It
* We Value the Image of God in all People and the Humility that Opens Us Up to Respect, Learn from and Grow With Them
* We Value Being a Caring Community
* We Value Sustainability
* We Value Contextualization
* We Value High Standards of Stewardship
* We Value Lifelong Learning and Growth

**INFORMATION FOR SERVICE ON THE BOARD: board members . . .**

1. Have a core responsibility to *governance* and policy setting. The administration and management of CRWM are staff functions.

2. Learn and work within CRCNA and CRWM policies and procedures.

3. Pray regularly for the ministries, missionaries and staff of CRWM.

4. Recognize the importance of distinguishing between policy/governance (board functions) and administration/management (staff functions).

5. Attend all board meetings unless unusual circumstances prevent it.

6. Prepare for board meetings thoroughly by reading all distributed materials and, if at all possible, ask for clarification on what they read before the meetings begin.

7. Strive to be creative in their thinking, maybe even challenging the status quo, in a spirit of love, for the benefit of the ministry.

8. Serve as a member of the Christian Reformed Church to ensure that the work of World Missions effectively serves Christ and His church.

9. Serve as a spokesperson for World Missions in their region when the opportunity arises.

10. Are appointed to the board for a (3) year term, renewable for a second (3) year term. Meetings of the board are usually held in late September, early February, and late April.

*Note:* CRWM reimburses expenses incurred by members for attending board meetings and other board-approved service within the travel and other policies of CRWM and the CRCNA.

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT: www.crwm.org

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