

Position Description

Title: International Partnerships Manager

Workload: 1 FTE

Purpose of the Position

To nurture and grow the relationships between overseas partner churches and the people of the Uniting Church, to centre the identity and the work of the Agency in the gospel through theological reflection, working alongside Programs and Fundraising Communications Teams, to achieve the strategic goals of UnitingWorld.

Business Context

UnitingWorld collaborates with churches across the Pacific, Asia and Africa to deliver programs that address poverty and injustice and build leadership and institutional capacity.

UnitingWorld is an agency of the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA), working exclusively through collaboration and relationships with partner churches in our region. The relevance and effectiveness of UnitingWorld programs is built on the foundations of strong partnerships between churches, based on shared faith and history.

We work with and through churches, but our programs include all people regardless of their faith, sexuality, ethnicity, ability, or gender. Our partners are part of the fabric of the local community, they know the culture and the context. They are well placed to identify the solutions to their own problems. We contribute our capacity as an accredited development agency to help fulfill their vision. We help translate sustainable community development principles through the lens of our shared Christian faith. We ourselves are changed by the wisdom of our partners, their courageous actions and their tenacious faith. We offer this gift back into the life the Uniting Church. Faith is the heart language we share with our partners.

Working relationships:

Reports to: National Director

Works alongside: Head of Programs, Head of Fundraising Communications & Head of Operations

Team: Is a member of both the Programs Team and the Donor Relations Team.

Location & Scope of Role

This role is ideally based in Sydney, but alternative locations can be negotiated. It will include some international and in-Australia travel.

Key Responsibility Areas

Partner Relationships

1. Nurture relationships between the Uniting Church and partner churches by identifying and facilitating opportunities for connection between leaders and influencers.
2. Share news, insights and wisdom from partner churches with the UCA community using a range of platforms.
3. Build understanding and support of UnitingWorld's work with partner churches within the UCA community, with a special emphasis on the theological understanding of the post-charity, post-missionary partnership paradigm.
4. Support as/when necessary matters arising between partner churches and UCA diaspora communities and National Conferences.
5. Manage all non-program related communications, interactions and visits to and from partner churches in a timely fashion, including liaising with appropriate UCA bodies.

Theology

1. Provide strategic leadership and spiritual direction in maintaining alignment between UnitingWorld as a church agency and UnitingWorld as an aid agency.
2. Engage with and facilitate theological dialog between partner church theologians and UnitingWorld and UCA, to promote mutual learning and to inform program design and implementation.
3. Strengthen theological frameworks and develop resources to guide the shared work of UnitingWorld and partners in line with strategic program plans.
4. Strengthen theological frameworks and develop resources and language to guide education, communications and fundraising work in line with strategic plans.

Skills & Experience Necessary

Essential

1. Tertiary qualifications in theology or related field
2. Demonstrated experience in theological reflection relating to social justice, ecumenical partnerships, cross-cultural relationships etc.
3. Experience in establishing and cultivating strong relationships with professional and personal integrity
4. The ability to network and communicate with people of very diverse backgrounds
5. Experience in church based organisations, including ability to engage with church leadership on theological and faith matters
6. Strong spoken and written communication skills
7. Familiarity with the Uniting Church in Australia.
8. Preparedness to work within the ethos and practice of the Uniting Church in Australia
9. Willingness to travel within Australia and internationally.
10. Willingness to work on some Sundays to visit church congregations.

Desirable

1. Experience of living and working internationally - ideally in Asia or the Pacific
2. Familiarity with international development and aid.
3. Familiarity with Client Relationship Management (CRM) software.

We prioritise the safeguarding of all people, including the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, and the protection of children. Employment and engagement is conditional upon the outcome of appropriate checks.