Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission

2018 Annual Report

Making Mission Trips Better.
Because organizing and leading mission trips is hard.
Letter from the CEO

Jesus traveled all the way from heaven down to our living places in order to bring God’s love and grace to anyone who would receive it. He then charged those of us who believe to do the same thing by loving and blessing the people around us, somehow being in the world and yet not of the world.

Short-term missions have been a massive vehicle for taking the Gospel places around the world, as well as inspiring those who go to be more engaged in Gospel outreach when they return home.

Yet, everyone has varied opinions about mission trips. These opinions are based on outcomes which are directly affected by how excellent the planning process has been. When done well, great things can happen. When done poorly, as some missionaries have described, “more harm is done than good.”

At SOE, we know that doing excellent mission trips is hard and that’s why we exist – to help anyone do any better with any mission from anywhere to anywhere. Your giving and praying made it possible to affect the lives of more than 250,000 short-termers in 2018! With better recruiting, training, logistics, partnerships and debriefing, more people are being impacted in the places where Christ needs to be proclaimed.

Whether you know all that goes into organizing an effective mission trip or not, one thing you can be sure of: because you support the efforts of SOE and all its partners, you are part of encouraging team leaders, pastors and missionaries to strive for excellence, and that translates into making mission trips better everywhere.

Thank you for being part of changing so many lives.

With love and excitement,

Brian Heerwagen, CEO

Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission
www.soe.org

Kate Borders
Sr. Director of Mobilization
World Orphans

We couldn’t be more thankful for the SOE. We were introduced to the standards at a formational time in our ministry and they brought direction and clarity. The standards guided our organization to develop a firm base, both philosophically and practically, for sending short term teams. To this day, years after going through the accreditation process, the standards help us continually ask questions about mobilizing with excellence, how short term teams support the overall mission and vision of our organization, and most importantly, what it looks like to honor God as we mobilize the church.

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE IN SHORT-TERM MISSION
2018 Ministry Summary

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The SOE Board and staff are appreciative of faithful prayer and financial support from our ministry partners. The vision of SOE is way too big to be accomplished alone! Below is a statistical summary of the scope of our work, but it only tells part of the story. Each number represents a follower of Jesus being mobilized into action for the Great Commission—moreover, each participant represents a transformed life that sends ripples across their own community and communities all around the world. What a privilege to be part of the SOE team together!

SOE Member Organizations 144
Attendees of On-site Trainings 175
Attendees of Conferences/Workshops/SIW’s 433
Mission Trip Participants 312

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

INCOME

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; General Support</td>
<td>$240,649</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Missions Team Support</td>
<td>$571,441</td>
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<tr>
<td>Various Team Fee Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Product Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind- Contribution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
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EXPENSES

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Program</td>
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<td>Support &amp; Administrative</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$935,410</strong></td>
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Change in Net Assets 42,322
Beginning Net Assets 59,899
Ending Net Assets 102,221
Vision Statement
Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission assists mission sending and receiving entities in pursuing excellence for effective Kingdom service.

Mission Statement
Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission is a catalyst for excellence in all short-term mission endeavors by the promotion of the Standards through training, membership, accreditation, resources, facilitation, and donor connections.

Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission
1800 NE 136th Avenue, Suite 201
Vancouver, WA 98684
503-360-1865
admin@soe.org | www.soe.org

“We, at Jews for Jesus, are so very thankful for the partnership we had with Standards of Excellence during our 2018 Behold Your God outreach campaign. Using SOE’s training materials we were able to equip over 150 volunteers to love and serve people in the city of Jerusalem. Over the 4-week outreach, our teams engaged in over 5,000 conversations with Israelis about Jesus and were also able to serve 3,500 men and women in tangible ways. In addition, we received the names and contact information for 1,747 Israeli seekers who wanted to meet and hear more about the Lord, and 58 Israelis responded to the message by embracing Jesus as their personal Messiah. We praise God for His faithfulness and willingness to use our team as ministers of His Kingdom and are grateful that SOE could come alongside us and support us in this endeavor.”

Dan Sered, Chief Operating Officer of Jews for Jesus