

An Institute's Survival in France - Steve Darling

Objective:

Enable the Chez Vous Normandy Ministry Center to survive the winter of 2020/21 by giving a one-time contribution of \$15,000 to cover the ministry's fixed costs through winter (\$3-4,000 monthly).



Why is this project important?

The current Covid pandemic has impacted Steve Darling's ministry significantly. All North American programs since March have been cancelled, including the summer-study programs for Christian college students. Apart from regular giving, these programs normally provide the most support for year-round overhead expenses – particularly for the winter months of October to March. France now remains closed to North Americans at least until the end of March.

France did allow the Center to receive some French guests beginning in July, which has helped just a very little. But the country is now, once again, closed down internally.

For the Institute's general overhead expenses of \$3500 monthly, a one-time contribution of \$15,000 would have a huge impact on the Institute's ability to survive the winter.

Strategy:

The ministry offers courses that provide a foundation for evangelizing the spiritually resistant French people and those in other Francophone countries (56 countries and ½ billion people). They do this through three programs. 1) *From France*: Through "Gospel without Borders", they enable French believers to participate in mission trips; 2) *Within France*: They reach out to unbelievers through service projects and outreach programs; and 3) *Into France*: They partner with North American Christian Colleges and Universities offering courses that help students grow in using the French language, develop a love for the French people and culture, and give students a vision for future ministry involvement.

The Missionary and Our involvement with the Mission:

BRBC has a long-term relationship with Steve Darling and the Institute he established. A total of nine teams and 68 team members from BRBC have served in Normandy at the Ministry center since 2006. Another service team of eight members is ready to return in April 2021. Francesca Edling, one of our members, is on the Ministry Center Board.

Key Strengths of this Project: The project gives the church the opportunity to offer substantial help at a time of unprecedented challenge. These unsolicited funds will provide encouragement. We can be God's instrument of rescue.