

Life Lines

Spring 2011

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT – BUDAPEST HUNGARY, JANUARY 2011

IHS Heartbeat | Partners Confirm Commitments

Trainers and leaders within the INTERNATIONAL SALINE Partnership, 46 participants with spouses included, met in Hungary for a Leadership Summit in January. During three days spent discussing ministry strategies and being spiritually refreshed, and through prayerful consideration, the leaders reassessed the Partnership's priorities and affirmed the nature and scope of their collaboration.

"It certainly was a foretaste of heaven," said Latha Mathew, International Saline mentor and strategist for Evangelical Medical Fellowship of India. "I'm amazed at what God is doing in establishing His kingdom in different parts of the world." Peter Saunders, chief executive of Christian Medical Fellowship-United Kingdom, was also encouraged and said, "It was wonderful to renew old friendships and make new ones."

The International Saline Partnership is built on the foundation of prayer and gains its strength for mission from relationships

among Christ's disciples. Susan from China said, "The Summit was very useful, giving me an inspiration of being united by the Lord globally. I now have a clearer vision for China!" While representing a diversity of cultures, associations and healthcare occupations, the partners are unified in their commitment to train Christ's witnesses.

Healthcare workers daily serve in places where hurting

people seek help but traditional church planters and evangelists cannot go.

Therefore, the partners renewed their covenant to equip their members to make the most of their unique opportunity to minister to and share the love and reality of Jesus. They affirmed their partnership around International Saline, with International Health Services as a facilitator:

"This is God's mission that has captured us, not a mission that we have! That we are proceeding with prayer and faith is our greatest hope of fulfilling it," said Bob Snyder, president of International Health Services.



Group meets during a discussion break-out session at the summit in Hungary.

Saline Supply

Worship Devotions Set Spiritual Tone of Summit

Pablo Martinez, a medical doctor and psychiatrist in Barcelona, Spain, led worship devotions at the Budapest Summit. His clear manner of communicating biblical truth spoke directly to the heart of each listener, transcending all cultural boundaries. IHS President Bob Snyder said, "We could not orchestrate the melding of hearts and minds that happened in Budapest, only the Spirit of God could do that!"

Dr. Martinez's skillful handling of God's Word brought spiritual refreshment, ministry equipping and personal engagement, which set the spiritual tone of encouragement at the summit. His devotions focused on how faith in God through Jesus is integrated into and demonstrated in daily life, using great biblical models to illustrate six hallmarks of mature faith: in society, the friends of Daniel show integrity and obedience; in the church, Timothy and Epaphroditus exemplify commitment and service; and in relating personally with God, David epitomizes gratitude and praise.



Pablo Martinez brings devotional focus for the day.

Vital Signs

The Summit was an opportunity for the INTERNATIONAL SALINE Partnership leaders and trainers to align themselves with a common vision and mission:

SHARED Vision – Fulfill the Great Commission in our lifetime;

SHARED Mission – Equip healthcare workers throughout the world to be witnesses for Christ in their workplaces;

SHARED Priority – Pray faithfully; and use the...

SHARED Tool – International Saline training.

With everything poised for the training — Partnership, Process and People — the International Saline Partnership has pledged to work together for its shared vision to become a God-glorifying reality!

For the Record

To become a trainer, a healthcare worker must possess five marks of discipleship: Christ-like character, professional competence, compassion, wise communication and courage.

Please Join Us in Prayer

The work of International Health Services is being established through a partnership that is coalescing around a shared vision and mission, a training process that continues to be adapted across cultures, and people who are disciples of Jesus, working in healthcare and bearing witness to Christ's love each day, also training others to do so with sensitivity, respect and permission. (Learn more inside this issue of *LifeLines*.)



Please pray for the International Saline Partnership organizations and leaders:

Facilitator – International Health Services, Bob Snyder

- IHS is the “glue”, solidifying the collaboration of the nine member organizations by communicating with all partner leaders and with training mentors and coaches

Christian Medical and Dental Fellowship of Australia, Michael Burke

- CMDFA is a fellowship of more than 600 members who seek to integrate their faith in Jesus Christ with the practice of medicine, dentistry and other health professions.

Christian Medical Fellowship—UK, Peter Saunders

- Formed in 1949, CMF-UK has about 4,500 UK doctors and 1,000 UK medical students in its membership, and other healthcare workers are joining them.

Evangelical Medical Fellowship of India, Latha Mathew

- EMFI is an interdenominational fellowship of Christian doctors and dentists who profess Jesus to be their Lord and Savior.

Healthcare Christian Fellowship International, Chris Steyn

- HCFI is a prayerful evangelical fellowship with trained people implementing Christ's Great Commission in the healthcare field.

International Christian Medical and Dental Association, Vinod Shah

- ICMDA encourages and equips Christian medical and dental students and graduates to grow to Christian maturity and live out their faith within clinical practice and beyond.

International Health Services Alapitvany, József Györi

- IHS Foundation was established in 1997 for charitable, educational, religious, medical and scientific purposes; associated with International Health Services since its founding in Hungary.

Nurses Christian Fellowship International, Barbara White

- NCFI brings the Lord Jesus Christ to nursing worldwide—communicating Christian principles in the international professional nursing arena.

Ukraine Medical Outreach, Jim Peipon

- UMO exists to transform Ukrainian medical professionals, enabling them to use their God-given gifts to be competent and compassionate care providers with Christ-like character.

Praise God!

Training in Albania in March was the first ever for International Saline, led by Gábor and Alet. “What a privilege to wake up in Tirana, Albania, and finding out it is not a dream!” Alet said. “For so many years we prayed for this country.” Please pray for Eralda, who organized the training session, and for each one who attended in Albania, that God will empower them to make a difference in their country.

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“God is working to bring together different organizations, each with its own role to complete the Great Commission. Not ‘one of us’ is as good as ‘all of us’ for the great task.”

— Latha Mathew, International Saline mentor in India



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