

## Love Beyond - Memo of Understanding for Overseas workers

*You'll get your reward - maybe not in this life ;)  
You are loved and he is worthy  
We're all volunteers*

In working out how to build and sustain relationships in our community of ministry it's important that we're clear about what the Love Beyond partnership has been led to hold dear, here are a few of our top values:

**A Community of ministry** - We aspire to provide a context for leadership and ministry development, as such we assume those partnering with us are able and open to serve others in the network as well as be served themselves.

**We are relational** - We want to see you, hear from you and partner with you. We try to create regular opportunities for us to connect face to face with our partners in ways that complement our various diverse locations and workloads.

**Journeying together over time** - We want to facilitate a network of wisdom and experience in ministry. We would hope that partners mine the resources of the network when making big decisions and take one another into account when grappling with challenges and big issues.

**Planting Churches and ministries of the Kingdom** - We aspire to live out the life of the church in community, worship and mission and see churches planted that do the same.

If there are no surprises there for you and you're happy to assume the above values form a loose framework for our partnership, then we'd love to hear from you so that we can identify how Love Beyond can work for you in your context. (For a more fleshed out account of Love Beyond's values take a look at the 'Join Love Beyond' document).

### What are your needs and what can you offer?

We all have different needs and preferences depending on many different factors. Some of us on the field appreciate visitors, others don't, some of us want people to track closely with them pastorally, others are cared for in other ways. Rather than creating a 'one size fits all' approach for our overseas partners we'd like to hear how you need Love Beyond to serve you and what you'd be able to offer others in the Love Beyond community.

With that in mind we'd like each of our overseas partners to create a brief Memo of Understanding (MOU) with Love Beyond which answer the following questions:

#### 1. What do you need which Love Beyond could help with?

Below is a list of the kinds of things the Love Beyond community aspires to offer but this list is not exhaustive and you may have other needs worth mentioning:

- Pastoral care and oversight
- Prayer support
- Fund raising help
- Opportunities to broaden your network and connect with other churches
- Recruiting other workers to your field
- Getting upgrading in professional development/training
- Cross pollination with other workers in other fields
- Furlough needs like housing or transportation when in the UK
- Advice and support with NHS matters and Higher education in the UK
- Prayer for healing
- Home schooling advice
- Being a first contact community in times of crisis
- Advising on how to get appropriate financial advice

## 2. How would you like to serve other partners in Love Beyond?

Of course most of us have a lot of demands made on our time and are busy and overloaded in our ministries. But we've also found that our overseas partners usually have a huge amount of wisdom and experience to help others and sometimes appreciate the opportunity to share this with others and serve the community (all this assumes that our partners can only to serve others *within* the constraints of their time and energy and also understanding that overseas worker's situations, energy levels and resources are finite and subject to fluctuation).

Below is a tentative list of the kinds of things other Love Beyond partners could find helpful and you might be able to help with but this is not exhaustive and you may have some ideas of your own.

- Sharing your experience and knowledge with other workers who might be facing problems or difficulties
- Being part of a whatsapp/Signal prayer group with other Love Beyond partners or workers.
- Being available to speak at different Love Beyond churches who want to hear more about mission.
- Being willing to share at Love Beyond events when (and if) you're back in the summer or at other times.
- Visiting other Love Beyond connected workers & families who might be closer to you than they are to the UK.
- Offering advice in setting up businesses on the field or running an NGO.
- Offering Language learning advice or techniques
- Sharing your knowledge of tax, pensions and financial issues facing workers overseas

Please write your thoughts and suggestions on an email and send it to [epm81@pmbx.net](mailto:epm81@pmbx.net) . We will take a look at what you suggest and get back to you with a potential MOU which would ensure clarity of mutual expectations and then we'll work out ways the network can begin to meet your needs and the needs of others.