



Newsletter
January 2021

Year in Review – Responders On A Mission International

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1

EVEN IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC, GOD STILL ALLOWED US TO MINISTER

EARLY 2020



Before everything began closing in March of this year, our team was able to be in the Dominican Republic for a week-long mission trip. Team members from around Western New York, as well as Hart County – Georgia, were able to host a conference and minister to Firefighters and Paramedics in the Dominican Republic. We bussed in Firefighters and Paramedics from 12 different stations for a two-day training conference, with some stations being approximately two hours away! We opened with a large group devotional in the morning, and then split into four different breakout sessions with each group rotating through each session. The sessions consisted of teaching automobile extrication techniques, leadership within their stations, Emergency Medical, search and rescue in a collapsed building (simulating an earthquake), and spiritual training teaching them how to share the Gospel and lead a life for Jesus. There were several decisions to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior, and the Fire Department and EMS Agencies are working together like never before! We also had the opportunity to share about fire prevention in a local school with children, and share with them about Jesus, the greatest firefighter.

*“The question is not
what you look at, but
what you see.”
Henry Thoreau*

Ministry During COVID

COVID-19 Response Team

With the restrictions placed upon the world to curb the spread of COVID-19, we had to postpone our banquet twice, with the new date being March 19, 2021. We knew we had to begin looking at ministry differently during this time, as we were unable to travel and hold large scale events. Our focus turned towards going out into the world and supporting our brother and sister First Responders. In April of this year, we launched a COVID-19 Response Team, with the goal of raising funds to allow us to get care packages into the hands of local First Responders. The care package consisted of a Bible, a bookmark with information on our support groups as well as where to go in the Bible if you feel a certain way, and a gift certificate to a local restaurant. We partnered with Andersons Frozen Custard and Violas Submarine Shop, both who generously donated food coupons to be included in the care packages. We were able to bless each responder in the following agencies: Twin City Ambulance, City of Tonawanda Police, Town of Tonawanda Police and Paramedics, City of Lockport Police, City of Niagara Falls Fire Dept. and City of Niagara Falls Police Dept. Thank you for supporting this initiative to bring the Gospel to the front lines! www.ROAMintl.org/COVID



Name Change

As you noticed, we have changed our name from Brothers Without Borders Inc. to Responders On A Mission International Inc. We felt the call to re-brand and change our name to something that reflects who God has called us to as a ministry. When Brothers Without Borders first launched, we were a team of several members who travelled to the Dominican Republic. Since 2012, the ministry has grown to have outreaches across the United States in Western NY, Richmond VA, Hart County GA and Sarasota County FL, as well as in Honduras and the Dominican Republic. We felt the call to create a name that is more encompassing of who we are, a group of First Responders on a mission to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with every man, woman, and child within our circle of influence. Our name change to Responders On A Mission International Inc. became official on August 11 of 2020. We continue to operate as a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization, supported solely by generous partners and donors.



Counseling Ministry Launch

In September, we officially launched a counseling ministry for First Responders, by First Responders. We currently have a partnership with a local church in Western NY that is allowing interested members of Responders On A Mission to attend classes to become a Biblical Counselor. One of our members is certified, and two more (Jeff Hackett and Brandon Vizzi) are now halfway through the classes and are set to be certified Biblical Counselors by Summer 2021, bringing our total counselor count to three. Several more members have expressed interest in the classes and will begin the curriculum in Fall of 2021. We also offer support groups aimed specifically towards First Responders that are struggling. We're excited to continue this ministry of Biblical Support for First Responders, by First Responders. www.ROAMintl.com/support



Honduran Firefighter Relief

In October of 2020, two separate hurricanes hit the country of Honduras and caused widespread flooding in the areas that Responders On A Mission does ministry in. Hurricane Eta caused flooding ranging from 4 feet to 10 feet. When the waters receded after a few days and cleanup began, Hurricane Iota hit and caused the waters to rise again. Two of our partner missionaries along with the firefighters in La Lima (a station where ROAM has weekly Bible and Discipleship studies) have lost their homes and belongings in the flood and are attempting to rebuild. In late November, we were able to connect with our missionary partners and begin a campaign to raise funds to support each of the firefighters who have lost their belongings and homes. Our goal is to raise \$4,000 and be able to gift each of the 20 firefighters and their families in La Lima with clean clothes, access to our Biblical Counselors, and help them rebuild. This campaign is still ongoing, so please visit: www.ROAMintl.org/Honduras



A Message from our Executive Director

Thank you for taking the time to read through everything that God is doing through Responders On A Mission. 2020 has been quite a year for First Responders, and we're so grateful to God that He is allowing us to continue to do His ministry during this time. Even during a year where everything has been shut down, ministry is still happening – God is still working. I love the quote from Henry Thoreau on the previous page – “The question is not what you look at, but what you see”. What did we see at the beginning of the pandemic? Everything closing down and people told to stay home, but Firefighters, Police Officers, EMTs, Paramedics, Nurses, Doctors – they did not get time off. The fear of the unknown led many of our brothers and sisters down a dark path. We were looking at doom, but we saw an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Jesus went into the towns and met people where they were at. We felt God calling us to go into the cities and towns to meet people where they were and share the hope that is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Our team is made up of firefighters, paramedics, and police officers that know this first-hand, and because Jesus has changed our lives, we want to share that hope with other First Responders.

Giving

Since 2017, many people have shown their support and belief in what God is doing in the ministry through their faithful financial support – I am so grateful that you have partnered with me! I am really looking forward to all of the things that God will continue to do and am praying expectantly for Him to move in the hearts of many First Responders. What a privilege it is to serve Him! As you have read this letter, if you have felt an excitement or tug on your heart to get behind what God is doing, we would love to have you first and foremost pray and secondly consider becoming a financial partner. The support that you give will go towards my personal ministry support, and will provide opportunities for many to hear the Gospel, maybe even for the first time. I would not be able to carry out the work God has called me to without your generous support. Thank you for believing in what God is doing. For more information, or to financially support us one time or monthly, please visit www.ROAMintl.org/Vizzi You can also mail your donation to:

Responders On A Mission Int'l

PO Box 1648
Buffalo NY 14226

****To be the best stewards of your donations, we want to continue this quarterly newsletter via email. If you prefer to receive a hard copy via Postal Service, please be sure to let us know as this will be our last physical mailing of newsletters.****
Please respond with your email address to info@ROAMintl.org so you can stay in the loop!

Family Updates

Alicia and I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We know this has been a hard year for many, and we want you to know that we're praying for you, and praying that we will use this time of year to reflect of what God has done for us. He sent His only son Jesus to take our place to be a perfect and holy offering so that we may have a restored relationship with God. We also wanted to share with you that in October of this year, we welcomed our daughter Lilliana Robin to our family. Know that you are loved, valued, and prayed for, and we are here for you, and with you.

Blessings,

Brandon Vizzi
Co-Founder/Executive Director
Responders On A Mission Int'l

