



CCIH MEMBER KIT



CCIH

Christian Connections
for International Health

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WELCOME LETTER

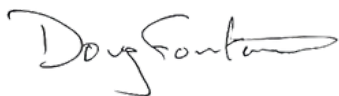
Thank you for choosing Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH). We want you to feel invested in the CCIH network as we work together, learn from each other, and seek and become greater than the sum of our parts.

As a CCIH member, you are part of a network of over 110 organizations and hundreds of individuals from all around the world! We are grateful to our global members who strive to improve health for people most in need and share our mission to advance health and wholeness from a Christian perspective.

Christian health workers and organizations are often the only actors to “reach the last mile” with care—be that a remote village, an urban slum, or any community of people who lack access to services. CCIH helps this community tell its story, nurture its Christian identity, access resources and partners, promote learning, increase effectiveness, and belong to an influential movement.

Thank you for choosing to join and share with this community on our journey of Christian health work.

Gratefully,



Doug Fountain
Executive Director, CCIH

OUR VALUES

Collaborative Fellowship | Holistic Health | Technical Excellence | Christian Compassion | Faithful Stewardship

OUR MISSION

CCIH seeks to mobilize and empower our network to promote global health and wholeness from a Christian perspective.

OUR VISION

Motivated by our Christian faith and values, CCIH envisions a world where all have access to quality healthcare and prevention services.

OUR GOALS

To provide a forum for dialogue, networking, advocacy, capacity-building, and fellowship to the ever-increasing spectrum of organizations and individuals interested in how transformational Christian faith has a positive impact on international health.

HOW CCIH BEGAN AND EVOLVED

CCIH began in 1987 as a forum for Christians concerned about global health to discuss areas of mutual interest. At first it was a gathering of Christians who met around the occurrence of the Global Health Council and was known as the Christian Conference for International Health.

In 1992, CCIH leaders adopted the name Christian Connections for International Health, drafted bylaws, established a Board of Directors, and formalized membership. During the 1990s, CCIH developed a reputation for advocacy, especially in the global response to HIV/AIDS. At first, the global church did not speak with a clear and consistent voice about HIV, which was associated with increasing stigma. Over time, CCIH and many other organizations helped change that.

Later, CCIH adopted a role in leading the church on family planning – also known as Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancies. CCIH worked with leaders in global institutions and church networks, helping improve dialogue with religious leaders and faith communities.

With input from our members, CCIH recognized the need for a clear focus on Health System Strengthening, including the elements or building blocks of a health system. In 2020, we launched the CCIH 30x30 Health Systems Strengthening initiative with the goal of strengthening 30 health systems in which faith-based health services operate by 2030. Each year, more CCIH members and partners make commitments to building resilient systems.

To expand our reach and global focus of in-person gatherings, we began holding our conferences in the Washington, DC, area every other year and hosting a regional meeting in another part of the world in the intervening years.

CCIH has a long history of advocating for global health and the work of faith actors, and members often participate in in-person or virtual advocacy sessions. Decision makers routinely appreciate that CCIH brings global voices to help advise on important policy matters, from funding to policies and program design. CCIH also advocates on a global scale to influence policies by the World Health Organization and strengthen our relationship with multilateral actors.



THE BENEFITS OF CCIH MEMBERSHIP

CCIH is a global network of Christian organizations and individuals with 30 years of experience in supporting and strengthening local health systems and actors to improve health for those most in need. CCIH unites the broad global spectrum of Christians working in health, spanning medicine and public health; services in health facilities, communities, and churches; and working through local and international organizations and partnerships. CCIH helps our network:

Tell their story through a variety of media, such as our monthly newsletter, the Connector, our website, social media platforms, and opportunities to engage and share in networking and fellowship events.

Strengthen their integration of faith and health through our weekly prayer guide, our Christian Organizational Identity Assessment, praying together, as well as forums and webinars addressing the spiritual core of our work.

Access resources and partners to advance their programs, share news and events from CCIH and other members, and use data sharing to connect with other member organizations.

Promote adaptive learning and capacity strengthening. Members use our Organization Capacity Assessment (OCA) tools, attend forums and webinars, make commitments to the 30×30 Health Systems Initiative, and participate in and benefit from the Christian Health Assets Mapping Consortium to address the urgent need for information on, and help improve the quality of data about, the Christian health asset landscape.

Belong to an influential global movement. By joining CCIH's advocacy efforts, members have a role in influencing public policy that supports global health programming and the work of faith-based health services. CCIH is seen by governments and international actors as a global convener of Christians working in health, spanning the ideological and denominational spectrum. CCIH is also instrumental in the effort to gather information about Christian health services' scope, location, and nature, leading the way to greater inclusion of Christian health actors in programs, funding, and partnerships.



MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

CCIH's mission includes mobilizing and empowering our network. This is a two-way responsibility: CCIH supports this network and depends on the network to engage with and help mobilize and empower each other. The following framework summarizes how CCIH and its members work together to address needs and produce results.

CCIH EXPECTATIONS AND RESULTS

What the CCIH Platform Includes	What Our Members Are Expected to Do	What Our Members Should See as a Result
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a diverse global network • Social media and web resources • Communities of Practice • Conference, webinars, and forums • Grant opportunities for members • Coalitions in priority areas • Capacity strengthening tools • Mapping health assets • Prayer events and calendars • Fellowship with other Christians • Advocacy for policy and funding for FBOs • Training on local advocacy • Working groups to frame issues and engage members • Equipping younger, smaller, or isolated members • Possible inclusion in grants or eligibility for small grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use CCIH resources: • Access tools and resources • Learn and adapt emerging good practices in health • Improve M&E and contribute to learning based on good practice • Engage in either global or local advocacy • Contribute to the CCIH network • Provide stories to CCIH • Engage and share in events • Use email discussions to share knowledge/exchange ideas • Share prayer requests • Commit to improving faith integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better local services • More funding • More partnerships • Increased visibility • Enhanced knowledge • Better integration of faith and health • Unity among diverse professions and a diverse church • Stronger local control over programs and resource allocation • Stronger alliance between faith leaders and health leaders • Stronger advocacy at local, national, and international levels • Learning to scale programs, improve outcomes, and adapt to changing time • “Belonging” – where all our members, both younger and more seasoned, can share and grow

GUIDELINES FOR MEMBER CONDUCT

CCIH does not have an official “code of conduct” for members, but upholds the following guidelines. Significant failures in these could result in CCIH Board action to remove a member.

- Pay dues or discuss dues with CCIH staff.
- Safe, ethical, and legal practice in partnerships, service delivery, and operations.
- Safe and ethical practice in partnerships and service delivery.
- Uphold CCIH’s mission.
- Respect for CCIH members regardless of ideology, theology, or point of view.
- Avoiding harmful practices toward children or populations on the “margins.”

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND HOW TO PAY

Members in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

In 2023, the CCIH Board of Directors approved a proposal **to collect dues from members in low- and middle-income countries when they join**. After that, organizational and individual CCIH members based in low- and middle-income countries must demonstrate active engagement in CCIH to maintain their membership, but they will not be required to pay dues.

Members in High-Income Countries

Organizational members based in high-income countries will receive a dues invoice at the start of each calendar year. CCIH will send an invoice to the point of contact for the organization unless there is an alternate email for billing purposes.

Individual memberships expire a year after the day the membership was initiated or renewed. All Individual Members will receive an email reminder when membership is about to expire and instructions for renewing membership.

As an Individual member, you can log into your [member account](#) to update your contact information, manage your membership and dues payments, make donations to support CCIH, and more!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CCIH?

Watch for announcements in CCIH emails and the monthly Connector of upcoming webinars, forums, and in-person gatherings.

You will also find a listing on the [Events page](#) on our website and links to recordings of past events on the CCIH [YouTube channel](#).

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Christian Connections for International Health is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization registered in the United States.

Mailing Address:

5810 Kingstowne Center Dr.,
Ste. 120- 764,
Alexandria VA 22315

Phone Number:

+1 (703) 923-8960

Email:

membership@ccih.org



GOVERNANCE

Members elect CCIH's board and may serve up to 4 terms of 2 years. The sitting board members select officers.

Membership roles in governance are summarized below, based on the CCIH bylaws.

MEMBERSHIP

- **Organizational Members:** agencies that promote health and wholeness globally and affirm commitment to the Christian faith.
- **Individual Membership:** individuals who promote health and wholeness throughout the world, value CCIH, and support its mission.
- **Affiliate status** is for organizations that seek to promote health and wholeness throughout the world, value CCIH, and support its mission.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS

- **Organizational Members** may attend membership meetings through a designated representative and cast four votes in CCIH elections and other votes.
- **Individual Members** may attend and cast one vote at membership meetings, though no proxies will be accepted.
- **Affiliates** may attend membership meetings but may not cast votes at such meetings.
- Organizational Members, Individual Members, and Affiliates shall pay dues as set by the Board of Directors. To remain in good standing, members must have paid within 12 months after receiving written notification of annual dues due that year. Only members considered to be in good standing will be eligible to vote.

MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

- **Annual Meeting:** Members meet annually to conduct activities relevant to CCIH's mission; those in good standing can vote.
- **Quorum:** Twenty percent (20%) of the number of potential votes shall constitute a quorum for elections.

STAY IN CONTACT

**WE WANT
TO HEAR
FROM YOU!**

Reach out to [CCIH Staff](#) to learn more about specific programs or resources that we offer.

For membership-related questions, email membership@ccih.org and we look forward to connecting with you more!

We look forward to hearing from our members and we care and appreciate your presence! Please feel free to [contact us](#) if you have other ideas or suggestions or want to find out more about any particular topic.

