



CCIH REGIONAL MEETING

APRIL 21-23, 2026 | SOUTHEAST ASIA

EMPOWERED TO LEAD: ADVANCING HEALTH
AND HOPE IN A CHANGING WORLD



CCIH

Christian Connections
for International Health

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CO-HOST



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Guiding Verse

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.” Isaiah 61:1

About CCIH

Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH) is a global network of over 125 organizations working in 190 countries. CCIH broadens the impact of Christian healthcare by strengthening the **visibility, quality, and fellowship** of Christians engaged in health. We elevate the profile of Christian health initiatives through data-driven mapping and landscape analyses that showcase their scope and impact. We enhance technical and organizational quality by facilitating self-assessment, shared learning, and accountability among dedicated cohorts, and we nurture a vibrant, global fellowship by actively engaging our diverse network of members and partners. Our diverse membership includes mission agencies, non-governmental organizations, church health services, academia, Christian Health Associations, donation services, and more.

Speaker Bios



FAQs and Policies

About the Venue

The CCT–Tagaytay Retreat & Training Center (TRTC) is a Christian retreat center located in Tagaytay City, Philippines.

Curfew

The CCT–TRTC observes a lights-out curfew at 10:00 P.M. Thank you for your cooperation.

Health Information

- CCT–TRTC is a smoke-free and alcohol-free facility.
- The center can provide basic first aid treatment and assist with transportation to and from the nearest hospital if needed.

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Content Disclaimer

The views expressed and products endorsed by speakers, sponsors, or attendees do not necessarily reflect the views of CCIH.

Questions

If you have questions not addressed above, please contact us at events@ccih.org.

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	Breakfast	Lydia Hall
8:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.	Check-In	Back of Deborah Hall
8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	Opening Session Worship: ICM Worship Team Welcome: Doug Fountain, CCIH Executive Director; and David Sutherland, Chief Executive Officer, ICM Devotion: Dr. Ellaine Joseph, Health and Safety Director, ICM Sponsor Message: Dan Chong, AIA LEED AP, Engineering Ministries International	Deborah Hall
10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.	Morning Tea	Outside Deborah Hall
10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.	Session #1: Empowered to Lead Moderator: David Sutherland, CEO, ICM Learning Leaders: Lessons from the Frontlines of Care Mr. Christopher Peter, Communication Department Lead, CMAI Collaborative Leadership for Christian Academic Healthcare Institutions: Insights from a Multi-pronged Engagement Dr. Anne Jennifer Prabhu, MD, Professor of Pathology and Deputy Director of Missions, CMC Vellore	Deborah Hall
12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.	Lunch Table Discussion on CCIH 30x30 Health Systems Strengthening Initiative with Dr. Edwin Sam Asirvatham, CCIH	Lydia Hall
1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	Session #2: Practical Preparedness: Ensuring Continuity Through Crisis Moderator: Doug Fountain, Executive Director, CCIH Keynote Speaker: Dr. Gina Samaan, Regional Emergency Director, Regional Office for the Western Pacific, World Health Organization Building Resilient Christian Health Systems in India: A CMAI Case Study on Preparedness, Collaboration, and Climate Stewardship Dr. Abhijeet Sangma Barooah, MBBS, MPhil, Secretary, Doctors Section, CMAI; Mrs. Elsy John, Secretary, Administrators Section, CMAI; Ms. Roseline Sagar, MPH, Consultant, CMAI	Deborah Hall
3:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.	Afternoon Tea	Deborah Hall
4:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.	Free Time	
4:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.	Session #3: Research as Ministry: Transforming Health Through Discovery Moderator: Dr. Jennifer Hatzfeld, PhD, Regional Network Director, Meros Center Speakers: Dr. Jolly S. Balila, PhD, Director of Research, Adventist University of the Philippines; Dr. Jachin Velavan, Associate Director of Missions and Faculty, Distance Education Unit, CMC Vellore; Ms. Alyssa Ang, Research Associate, ICM	Deborah Hall
6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.	Dinner Table Discussion on Family Planning with Ms. Mona Bormet	Lydia Hall

Day 1 Devotion: Prepared to Restore

We begin by studying the foundations of the book of Nehemiah—the time in which he lived and the way God raised him for a purpose. Nehemiah was a man prepared and ready for God to use him, a leader who would help restore His people.

In many ways, Nehemiah's calling reflects **Isaiah 61:1**: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners."

Nehemiah received news about his people in that very condition - poor, brokenhearted, and oppressed, because the walls of Jerusalem remained broken. They were spiritually, socially, and structurally vulnerable.

Nehemiah held a position of influence in the King's palace, yet his heart was aligned with God's purposes. He responded with prayer, fasting, repentance, and decisive action.

Nehemiah's story reminds us that restoration is both spiritual and practical. It involves rebuilding physical structures—but also rebuilding dignity, systems, and community strength. It requires faith and perseverance in the face of opposition and delay. And it requires collaboration, because no wall is rebuilt alone.

Isaiah 61 is not only a prophetic declaration—it is a commissioning. It is God's heart for restoration made visible through servants who have made themselves ready for their Master's use.

And today, that commissioning continues. Like Nehemiah, we are called to see what is broken without turning away. We are called to be modern-day restorers and builders—strengthening the church of Jesus Christ and building resilient communities that can withstand the pressures of these last days.

When the Spirit of the Lord rests upon God's people, restoration begins.

Reflection Questions

1. In what areas of my life is God preparing me right now to become a restorer and builder—and am I responding like Nehemiah with prayer, repentance, and decisive action?
2. In my role—whether as a leader, team member, or partner—how can I actively contribute to building resilient systems and relationships that allow God's work of restoration and transformation to flourish?

Dr. Ellaine Joseph
Health and Safety Director
ICM

Jacob, Mary, and Grace

Throughout the meeting, we'd like you to focus on us being joined by 3 main people: **Jacob, Mary, and Grace.**

Jacob's Story

Jacob is a 41-year-old male religious leader in a rural community. He is married with 3 children. He cares deeply about the community and wants to know more health-related facts and information to help serve them. Many children in the community are very small and only have access to one meal a day. He also often feels overwhelmed by the needs of his family and community, and doesn't have enough money or resources to help his family and the greater community.

Mary's Story

Mary is a 25-year-old mother. She delivered her second baby by C-section. She was discharged after 5 days, and she is back in the hospital at her 6-week postnatal check-up and immunizations for her baby with her mother-in-law. Her mother-in-law says she seems unhappy and doesn't want to do anything. She is reluctant to get out of bed and take care of the baby. She talks about how hard it has been and complains about pain in her stomach. Her mother-in-law says she is acting lazy because she is unwilling to do chores or take care of her baby. They live in an area that has experienced seasonal floods, which, if they follow the same pattern, will arrive in two months.

Grace's Story

Grace is 55 years old and lives in a small village close to the border. Her town was affected by armed conflict and insurgents. She is actively involved in her women's group at church. The nearest health facility is about 25 km away, and it is difficult terrain with damaged roads and poor infrastructure, including a lack of mobile telephone access. Grace has come to the health facility and been diagnosed with hypertension and kidney disease, and has been put on a combination of drugs. She is complaining of headaches that make her feel poorly, and she has discomfort in her back and abdomen. She describes her symptoms in a flat, monotonous voice and looks anxious and ill at ease. When you inquire about hearing voices or seeing things that others do not, she tells you that at night, when she is trying to sleep, she often sees "shadow people" who say bad things about her.

Questions

Questions for us to think about at the end of each day:

1. Based on today's topics, did you learn what you needed to help Jacob, Mary, and Grace?
2. If not, what do you need to know to help them?

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7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	Breakfast Table Discussion on Climate Adaptation with Mr. Doug Fountain	Lydia Hall
8:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.	Opening Devotion and Announcements Worship: ICM Team Devotion: Dr. Ellaine Joseph, Health and Safety Director, ICM	Deborah Hall
8:45 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.	Session #4: Whole Person Mental Health Moderators: Ms. Mary Ann Dela Cruz, Officer in Charge, Spiritual Ministry Director, Cure Philippines and Ms. Reza Grace Lazaro, In-Patient Head Nurse, Cure Philippines Healing Journey with Churches and Communities Ms. Shagota Chisim, MDP, Capacity Development Manager, World Renew Bangladesh Wholistic Approach to Reach Meaningful Transformation and Health (WARMTH 2026) Mrs. Manolita Junasa, MCL, Founder and Executive Director, KAVOD Center for Special Persons, Philippines Improving Mental Health through a Community-Based Approach of Self-Help Groups Mr. Manoranjan Nayak, MSc, MA, Programme Secretary, CMAI When Good Feedback Isn't Enough: Lessons from Evaluating Our Trauma Healing Program Ms. Daryn Go, Research Associate, ICM	Deborah Hall
10:15 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.	Morning Tea	Outside Deborah Hall
10:45 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.	Session #4 Continues	Deborah Hall
12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.	Lunch	Lydia Hall
1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	Session #5: Maternal Mental Health: Engaging Faith Actors as Change Agents Speaker: Ms. Mona Bormet, MPH, CHES, Program Director, CCIH Breakout Discussions Theological Dimensions of Maternal Mental Health Dr. Gary Cloud, Gilead Health Development Group; Dr. Jennifer Hatzfeld, PhD, RN, FAAN, Regional Network Director, Meros Center; Mr. Bill Hatzfeld, Regional Network Operations Manager, Meros Center Dispelling Mental Health Myths and Misinformation Ms. Shagota Chisim, Capacity Development Manager, World Renew Bangladesh and Ms. Helen Catton, Asia Regional Program Consultant, World Renew Guidance on Discussing Maternal Mental Health Mr. Jim Oehrig, Global Advisor, Christian Partnerships, Hope Rises International; Dr. Christopher Baskeran, Senior Manager of Asia Church Partnerships, Hope Rises International; Dr. Edwin Sam Asirvatham, PhD, Consultant, CCIH 30x30 Health Systems Initiative	Deborah Hall

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (Page 2 of 2)

3:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. **Afternoon Tea**

Deborah Hall

4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. **Session #6: Poster Presentations**

Deborah Hall

Moderator: Mr. Jim Oehrig, Global Advisor, Christian Partnerships, Hope Rises International

Faith-Inspired Leadership in Policy and Advocacy: The Witness of the Christian Coalition for Health in India

Dr. Abhijeet Sangma Barooah, Secretary, Doctors Section, CMAI
Active Management of Maternal Undernutrition to Reduce Low Birth Weight and Prevent Stunting

Dr. Melinda Kelly Mijares, Chief Health Officer, ICM

Strengthening Health Facilities in LMICs to Be Pandemic-Ready: Closing Gaps from the COVID-19 Outbreak

Mr. Ndi Abanda Alphonse, Grants Manager, Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services

Bridging the Gap: Specialized Training to Optimize Second-Line Nurse Leaders' Effectiveness in India

Mrs. Elsy John, Secretary, Administrators Section, CMAI, presenting on behalf of Mrs. Shimy Mathew

Making the Political Commitment a Reality: Transforming Christian Health Care to Be More Disability Inclusive in YAKKUM Hospitals

Ms. Eirene Christy, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, YAKKUM, presenting on behalf of Mrs. Arshinta Soemarsono

Strengthening Village Health and Nutrition Day Initiative for Better Maternal and Child Health Outcomes

Mrs. Roseline Sagar, Consultant, CMAI

Strengthening the Capacity of Mission Hospitals in India in Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation, and Management through Blended Learning

Dr. Jachin Velavan, Associate Director of Missions and Faculty Distance Education Unit, CMC Vellore

Where Wheelchairs Can't Go: The Power of Local Handcycle Innovation and Service Delivery

Dr. Christopher Stanfill, Executive Director, Mobility Worldwide
Use of the PHQ-2 Screening Questions to Identify Pregnant Women at Risk of Depression (EPDS Positive), and Implications for Outpatient ANC, PNC, and Mental Health Services

Mrs. Stacy Saha, Volunteer, World Mission Prayer League (LAMB Hospital)

Caring for the Mind is Part of God's Love

Mr. Utpal Minj, Director, World Mission Prayer League (LAMB Hospital)

Leveraging Minority Church Networks to Reduce Trafficking, SGBV, and Mental Health Stigma in High-Risk Border Areas in Northwest Bangladesh

Mr. Bilash Paul Tigga, Project Manager, World Mission Prayer League (LAMB Hospital)

Services of Community Midwifery School of Kunri Christian Hospital Rural Healthcare Project Diocese of Hyderabad Church of Pakistan in Reducing the MMR and IMR of Thar Desert

Dr. Fouzia Chugtai, Medical Director, Kunri Christian Hospital

5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. **Free Time**

6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. **Dinner**

Lydia Hall

Day 2 Devotion: Restoring Righteousness

In the beginning of the Book of Nehemiah, we see that in the midst of terrible oppression and pressure, the wall was rebuilt in only 52 days. In the following chapters, we find that the task of rebuilding and restoring the people of God took much longer than that. It took years of Nehemiah's life because it is easier to rebuild walls than to rebuild a people. One main thing we can learn from the Book of Nehemiah is that God's work in us will take more than 52 days to accomplish.

Nehemiah faced many challenges and problems as a rebuildier. The challenges that he faced were mainly problems and enemies from outside of Judah, from the surrounding provinces and nations. They accused and oppressed the people, yet the people pressed on and rebuilt the walls and the gates with determination. Their enemies aimed their worst attacks at the people of Judah. If you are a spiritual leader in your home, church, family, or community, there may be times when you will face challenges from within - they might come from within yourself, or challenges from your own family members, from those nearest and dearest to you, from friends, or church members. You will face internal challenges, and these internal challenges might seem overwhelming because it's easier to conquer an enemy on the outside who attacks us than it is to forgive or restore a friend or churchmate who has hurt us.

This message extends beyond the physical temple. As written in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, restoring righteousness involves examining our own lives, removing anything that compromises our integrity, and ensuring that what we build—whether in ourselves, our communities, or our systems—is aligned with God's standards. For those engaged in community and health work, this devotion emphasizes that sustainable transformation requires not only strong systems and structures but also integrity, accountability, and righteousness within individuals and organizations. Ultimately, God is not only calling us to be builders of programs and systems, but also restorers of people—starting with ourselves.

Isaiah 58:12

Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Reflection Questions:

1. Are there areas in my life, relationships, or work where compromise, division, or disunity may be weakening God's work?
2. How can I actively restore righteousness in myself, my family, and my community so that what I build has a lasting impact?

Dr. Elaine Joseph
Health and Safety Director
ICM

Thursday, April 23, 2026

7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	Breakfast	Lydia Hall
8:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.	Opening Devotion and Announcements Worship: ICM Team Devotion: Dr. Ellaine Joseph, Health and Safety Director, ICM	Deborah Hall
8:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.	Session #7: Maternal and Child Health Moderator: Luz Frances "Bicbic" Chua, Founding Executive Director, Catholics for Reproductive Health (C4RH) Empowered to Lead: Building Peace and Improving Maternal and Child Health through Community-Led Action in Jharkhand, India Mr. Prashant Bhagyaban Missal, Senior Manager of Organizational Effectiveness and HR, EFICOR, India "I Am the Bridge": Examining Intersectoral Collaboration among Community Health Workers to Address Maternal and Child Health in the Philippines Dr. Melinda Kelly Mijares, Chief Health Officer, ICM Building Bridges to Healing: Faith-Based Responses to Mother and Child Health in the Context of HIV Ms. Meta Ginting, MA, CD/Bethesda, Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation Manager, YAKKUM Indonesia Empowered to Lead: Achieving Near-Universal Maternal and Child Health Uptake via a Dalit Women's and Men's Group Model in Rural Nepal Mr. Arbind Sah, MS, Community Health Development and Training Officer, Nepal Leprosy Trust Local Church as an Agent of Social Legitimacy in Encouraging Father Involvement in Family Nutrition Interventions in Alor Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Ms. Dewi Utari, Gender Expert and PMEAL Coordinator, UPKM/CD Bethesda, YAKKUM Indonesia	Deborah Hall
10:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.	Morning Tea Room Check-Out	Deborah Hall
11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.	Closing	Deborah Hall
12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.	Lunch	Lydia Hall

Check-Out Times

Check-out is at 11:00 A.M. for guest rooms.

Early/Late Check-In or Check-Out

An additional fee of ₱500 per hour per room applies for early check-in or late check-out.

Luggage Storage

Luggage may be stored in the reception area.

Day 3 Devotion: Overcoming the Oppositions Without and Within

The Book of Nehemiah teaches that walls are not merely physical structures—they represent protection, security, and spiritual covering. Just like the Great Wall of China was built for defense, God establishes spiritual “walls” or hedges around individuals, families, communities, cities, and nations.

Job 1:10

“Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land.

There are walls of different sizes, but they are all for protection. These walls of defense, naturally and spiritually, can be broken down or removed because of sin. Jerusalem’s walls were broken down because of the continued sin and rebellion of the people.

If we find our walls broken down and the enemy attacking, we need two things: intercession to protect the people being attacked, and restoration, which means rebuilding our defenses.

For Nehemiah, it was rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem; for us, it is rebuilding righteousness in our lives, in our families, in our churches or communities.

We want to see how these spiritual principles operate in our lives, families, churches, or communities. If we understand this principle, what walls are for, how they crumble down, and how they can be rebuilt, then we can be like Nehemiah, who knows not only how to recognize a wall that is broken down but also knows how to rebuild it. We can be good leaders of righteousness and help raise the people to righteousness and victory.

Reflection Questions

1. In the communities and systems I serve, where do I see “broken walls” that require both prayer (intercession) and practical rebuilding (restoration)?
2. What steps can I take to strengthen spiritual and structural defenses—personally, within my family, or in my organization—to ensure long-term resilience and protection?

Dr. Elaine Joseph
Health and Safety Director
ICM