



Return on Investment

"What are we getting in return for the investment we are making?" This is a wise question in the business world. But it is also the Biblically mandated attitude of stewardship that God expects of every follower of Jesus, and every church (Matthew 25:14-30). As belts tighten in the wake of the economic situation in our country, this question has—appropriately—been brought more acutely to the forefront of our churches, especially as regards how they invest their missions dollars.

We at MMBA greatly appreciate the partnership and financial support of our member churches, and we want you to know that we don't take these for granted. As churches have been forced by the economy to tighten up, Associational leadership have sought ways that we can better steward the resources you send us for our collective mission work. Last year, our staff, together with our Administrative Team and On Mission Council, cut our annual budget by more than \$40,000. But as important as it is to cut tangential items from a lean budget, the more important question for our churches is "what are we investing in?" This year, your Association will operate on a budget of less than \$300,000.* Just a few examples of the "return on investment" for your church's contribution to that budget are as follows:

- We are providing leadership development opportunities through our pastor's networks, conferences, and mission volunteer training.
- We are partnered together with a trucking ministry and two jail ministries that resulted in more than 300 conversions to Christ last year!
- The funding and strategy is in place for three new church plants at Ft. Meade, and in Emmitsburg and Patterson Park.
- We are partnered together with Open Door Community Development Corporation in Baltimore to make a significant dent in urban poverty in the Patterson Park area.

(over)

Mid-Maryland Baptist Association

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-We are involved in orphan care and older adult ministry in Chennai India.

-All of the above are happening on a global scale as we present the Gospel, raise up leaders, and plant churches in Mexico, the Caribbean, India, East Asia, Japan, the Middle East, and Australia.

In short, in 2011, your investment in MMBA means that together, we are preaching the Gospel, raising up leaders, and planting churches here, and in at least seven other areas of the world, on less than \$300K! From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU for the vital role your church plays in our collective mission!

*For those who wish to review an itemized copy of our annual budget, call our office at (410) 549-7156 and we will be happy to provide you with a copy.

May 7, 2011
5K Saturday Trail Race

Hope for the Homeless

5K Race to Benefit Howard County's Route One Day Center
a Grassroots 501c3 organization

Time: Registration at 8 am. Race will start at 9 am.
LOCATION: Rockburn Park in Elkridge, MD.
ENTRY FEE: \$20 early bird
\$25 per person after March 15, 2011
To register call 410-549-7156 or sign-up online @www.wecare.org
FAMILY ACTIVITIES: "Poverty Simulation"

sponsored by Route One Day Center and the churches of
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Want to be a sponsor? Call 410-549-7156.