

Hello Dave and Cheri,

Happy December from GoCorps! This season is special! Most of us have gathered with family on Thanksgiving to pause and give thanks for all of the blessings in our lives, and now we are in advent season and we are daily being reminded of the great hope that we all have in Jesus. I hope you are having the chance to reflect on Christ's birth and the impact on your life and our world in this Christmas season. Here's what's been going on with GoCorps...

Goers in the Peruvian Jungle

Two of our staff, Katy (Director of Goer Experience) and Abby (Mission Coach), visited our four Goers serving in our medical track in the Peruvian jungles in August. Here's a report from Katy about their time there:

"Abby and I were so thankful for the week we got to spend with our team in Peru. Two of the Goers were nearing the end of their two years, and two of the Goers were just beginning, so it was neat to see the Goer experiences from both of those angles. We were blown away at the language skills our Goers had gained by the end of their two years. They were facilitating community interviews for their water projects completely in Spanish, and translating the answers from Spanish into English on the spot. It was also beautiful to see the depth of relationship that this language ability allowed the Goers to reach. The Goers who were just beginning couldn't wait to dive into the community the way they saw the first Goers model.

I had the privilege of coaching one of these Goers through their initial interview and launching process two years ago before she arrived in Peru, and it was powerful to compare the young woman who was now finishing her time in Peru to the one I worked with at the beginning of the process. The Lord's work in her life was evident

and the growth personally, professionally, and spiritually was unmistakable."



L to R - Katy (staff), Brooke, Sophie, Matt, Abby (staff), Ellie - Crossing a river to visit a local Yanesha farm, the people group this team serves through community development including, education, health, agriculture, and social initiatives





L to R - Ellie, Brooke, Katy (staff), Sophie, Abby (staff) - The GoCorps staff and the 3 girls Goers on the team woke up early one morning to watch the sunrise and pray over the community



Ellie, Meredith (team leader), Brooke, Sophie, Matt - Goers pose with one of their team leaders in front of a dormitory that has just finished being constructed for their community center in one Yanesha community. Once the community center is complete, youth from the surrounding communities will come to learn about sustainable agriculture practices, and be mentored and discipled as they see to follow Christ.

We are excited to welcome Luke and Melody to our staff team! Luke has been involved in missions and mobilization for the past 7 years, most recently being based in Scotland and working to mobilize the European church to global mission. Melody is a GoCorps alumni who served through the Arts track in Berlin doing dance and mission. Luke will be based in Alabama and Melody in Virginia.

We are also in the interview process with three others for strategic positions on our staff team, so we are grateful to see God bringing talented and committed people who are mission driven to join our staff!

We are actively looking for new staff to join our mobilization efforts. Check out our new <u>Join Our Staff</u> video and <u>job openings</u>.

Year-End Giving

This year, we have a significant fundraising goal as we approach the end of the calendar year. Will you pray with me for \$65,000 in year end giving this year? This would be the largest year-end campaign in our history. A strong finish to the year ensures that we close 2019 in the black and that we are in full strength to go into our next decade as we begin the new year in 2020.

Will you also prayerfully consider a generous year-end gift? Your 2019 year end gift will position GoCorps for these strategic goals:

- Pursuing a new deep strategic partnership with a national level ministry
- Implementing a strategic plan to increase our recruitment of prospective Goers in the digital and social media space to be 30% of our Goers by 2021
- All 2019 Goers having their student debt assistance covered

Thanks for your prayers and for investment in this work. We can do this without partners like you!

All giving information and links are at www.GoCorps.org/give





The GoCorps Board of Directors gathered for our annual 2 day retreat in November. This year we met in Minnesota and focused on a facilitated strategic planning process as we culminated and celebrated our first 10 years and looked forward to what God is calling us to in our next 10 years. I am grateful for each of these Godly men and women for their commitment and investment in this vision and work!

Together for God's global work, Paul Van Der Werf Founder and Executive Director



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