



Bible Centered Ministries International focuses on reaching children and developing churches, so the first thing you may say is, “*But, you don’t seem to be doing either of those things...*” Brian, especially, has known for years that his giftings do *not* include public speaking. He is one that loves being behind the scenes – a servant. God has enabled Brian to do a large variety of tasks and to do them very well. Since returning to the States, we have become a part of our home office, the International Ministry Center (IMC). Brian is one of the technical guys on staff. He has built and now maintains the two main BCM websites as well as a number of websites for teammates around the world. He also helps with the social media accounts for BCM International.

We publish an e-magazine called the *BCM World* and Brian does all the design and publishing of it online, which includes mailings, websites, and graphic design. Lisa is a journalist for the magazine and writes a variety of articles each printing.

One of the things we absolutely love is encouraging people into missions, so we do as much representing of BCM as we can. This has become more limited as we have small children, but Lisa still goes to Summit University (formerly Baptist Bible College) each year and we have represented BCM at area churches for missions conferences. Brian has led a mission’s trip to Ireland and as the children grow up, he hopes to continue to lead groups around the world, showing them foreign missions in person.

Lisa’s heart is to train children’s ministry workers so they can do their work more effectively. She is a trainer with BCM using the material *In Step with the Master Teacher*. She has led training events in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and New Jersey.

BCM has upwards of 750 missionaries around the world and it can be a challenge to keep everyone informed and updated on what all is going on. Lisa receives and compiles newsletters from around the world each week and sends out a prayer email that goes to all BCM missionaries. It includes prayer requests, upcoming events, and in-house news and announcements.

While we may not be running Bible Clubs or directing camp ministries, what we do from the home office is support for hundreds of missionaries around the world.

bbiegert@bcmintl.org

lbiegert@gmail.com

570-580-8102



Missionary Retreat Fellowship is where we call home, though. One of the things we learned about ourselves while in Peru was that we love showing hospitality and encouraging fellow missionaries. We now know a bit of what life is like overseas and how important encouragement and a listening ear can be to a missionary in transition, which is where most missionaries who pass through MRF find themselves.

Brian has the same title as he did in Peru – director of maintenance. He essentially maintains the eight rental homes on the property, doing all the upkeep, remodeling, renovating. He also built and maintains the MRF website and handles other tech issues, like security cameras. While most families do deep cleaning before they check out, there are the occasions when we need to help clean up the houses for them. We also keep track of the furnishings – replacing worn-out items and furniture and inventorying donations.

Lisa enjoys getting to know the families that come through. As much as possible, we try to get to know the people passing through and to help them acclimate to life in NEPA. We have been a sounding board for those experiencing culture stress and others who are in the midst of fund raising and need advice and encouragement. Brian is the resident tech and helps with computer issues. He's also the resident mechanic, saving many from costly mechanic bills that they can't afford.

Another frequently asked question is, "*You do so much at MRF; why aren't you paid?*" We do so much at MRF because this is our ministry – our job. We do not get paid because MRF is not equipped to pay its employees. While MRF has been around for 50 years, it's still in its startup phase. All the rent that comes in from the homes just covers the basic bills; any overhead is saved for upkeep and remodels. There is not enough to pay employees, but in order for the facility to run, it requires at least two couples on the property.

Our BCM support is what sustains us and then we are compensated from MRF in the form of our housing and utilities. We pay nothing to live here on the property.

We absolutely love our work at MRF because it combines our loves of hospitality, maintenance, and encouraging others in missions. MRF has been able to do much-needed expansions and remodels since we came on board. The other couple we work with takes care of all the finances, bookings, and a lot of the grounds keeping – things that would keep us plenty busy aside from taking care of the homes and the people themselves.

In 2013, Lisa was approached by our home church, Grace Bible Church, to take the position of children's ministry director. She gets paid for 15 hours of work each week which is a nice supplement to our support level and enables her to work with children and implement everything she teaches with BCM.

We set our support level with BCM back in 2008 at \$1500 per month and have not raised it since. We set it in order to live in Peru without having any unneeded excess. Since moving back to the States, we have not increased our support level. This is partly personal choice; we would rather not have to raise additional, unnecessary support. We live just fine on what we bring in and really have no need for more money on top of that. With MRF providing housing, we really are set.

However, we are no longer receiving \$1500 a month in support. We have dropped to almost \$1200. This is quickly depleting what little surplus we did have in our BCM accounts.

We hope that at least some of what we do – support work for BCM, encouraging others into missions, taking care of the missionary housing at MRF – resonates with you. Would you be able to join our support team, even for \$10 per month? We'd love to add more people – families! – to our team. Gifts can be given online and they can be taken out automatically each month; all gifts are tax deductible.

What questions do you have for us? Would you like to come out and see the MRF facility and what all we do? Is there additional information you might need before considering financially supporting us? Contact us!

Brian's cell: 570-851-0797

Home: 570-580-8102

Brian's email: bbiegert@bcmintl.org

Lisa's email: lbiegert@gmail.com

Follow our blog for regular updates: www.brianlisabiegert.wordpress.com

If you have made it to the end of this letter – we applaud you! And merely ask that you pray for us. Maybe even right now as you finish reading, you could say a prayer that the Lord would provide for us financially in 2016 and that He would continue to bless our service to Him and the family He's given us.

For those who already support us – thank you. Without you, we could not continue.

*Brian & Lisa
Flena, Joseph, & James
Biegert*