

Our Ministry History

Chad & Laurie Brennan



THE MIDDLE EAST

(1995, 1996-1997, 2001)

During the summer of 1995, I (Chad) went on a CCC summer project (short term missions trip) to a country in the Middle East (I am not mentioning the country for security reasons). It was one of the most enjoyable and yet challenging experiences of my life! I learned about the challenges of ministering in a country that is 99.7% Muslim and which has many negative perceptions of Christians. But, in spite of the obstacles, the Lord did some

incredible things that summer and we saw several students receive Christ. That trip opened my eyes to the enormous spiritual needs in the world and helped create a strong desire to continue to work in the Middle East in the future.

Since that time, Laurie and I have had several opportunities to return to the Middle East and help with the ministry there...

- 1996 - Laurie went on a CCC summer project
- 1996-1997 - after graduating from college, Chad returned for a one year STINT
- 2001 - Chad and Laurie led a team of NYC students for a spring break trip

NEW YORK CITY

(1998-2003, 2004)

In the fall of 1998, I (Chad) joined the New York City Catalytic ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ. Laurie soon joined me in 1999 after we were married. We worked with the NYC Catalytic ministry until 2003. Most people don't think of NYC as a college town -- but there are far more college students in NYC than in any other part of the U.S. Most people are surprised to learn that there are about 1,000,000 college students in the greater NYC area on over 150 campuses! Unfortunately, most of those universities have very little (if any) Christian influence on their campus. There are few opportunities for NYC college students to hear the Gospel or to be a part of a strong Christian community on their campus.



We worked with a team of twelve other CCC staff to reach out to the students with the Gospel and to raise up strong Christian groups on campuses around the city. Laurie and my primary focus was with the

students in Queens -- one of the most ethnically diverse areas in the world. We really enjoyed working with students from so many different ethnic backgrounds



OHIO

(2003 to present)

We moved to Ohio in the summer of 2003 to join the Central Ohio Catalytic ministry of CCC. We worked with a team of seven other staff to reach the ~135,000 college on 40 campuses in the central Ohio area. In the summer of 2004, we began a Columbus ReNew which was similar to the one we began in Queens in 2001. It was exciting to see

the partnership embraced by churches and campus ministries around the city and to see it grow into a movement of over a hundred students from over a dozen churches and ministries and nearly every campus in the Columbus area.

As the impact of ReNew continued to grow, it became apparent that we could no longer do ReNew "on the side" of our other CCC ministry responsibilities. So, after a great deal of prayer and discussion with church and ministry leaders, on July 2, 2005 we left staff with Campus Crusade for Christ to start the ReNew Partnerships as a separate non-profit organization. We are currently living in Columbus, Ohio where we lead ReNew's efforts.

To learn about the history of ReNew (since 2005) please visit: renewpartners.org/about/history