



Since 1937

**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®  
*Reaching children worldwide™*

# Fact Sheet

## 2019

### Contacting CEF®

#### Location

*Child Evangelism Fellowship® (CEF®)*  
International Headquarters is located in Warrenton, Missouri, approximately 45 miles west of Lambert International Airport in St. Louis. The expansive campus is situated on 700 acres and houses the administrative and business offices, International and USA Ministries, *Children's Ministries Institute®*, Volunteer Center, Baker Guest House, and *CEF Press®*.

#### Address

Mail sent through the U.S. Post Office:

PO Box 348  
Warrenton MO 63383-0348

Packages sent through UPS, FedEx, etc.:

17482 State Highway M  
Warrenton MO 63383-0348

#### Online

Our main website is [cefonline.com](http://cefonline.com). Each *CEF* program's website or link to the main website is provided in the following pages with the description of the program.

#### Phone

Main number ..... (636) 456-4321  
Main toll free number ..... 1-800-300-4033  
Global Partnership Ministry ..... 1-866-300-4035  
Sales and Service ..... 1-800-748-7710

#### Fax

Education/CMI® ..... (636) 456-4435  
Financial Services ..... (636) 456-6571  
International Ministries ..... (636) 456-5000  
Main number ..... (636) 456-9935  
President's office ..... (636) 456-5000  
Recruitment ..... (636) 456-4632  
Sales and Service ..... (636) 456-2078  
USA Ministries ..... (636) 456-2999

#### Email

Copyrights ..... [copyrights@cefonline.com](mailto:copyrights@cefonline.com)  
Education ..... [education@cefonline.com](mailto:education@cefonline.com)  
International Ministries ..... [intlmin@cefonline.com](mailto:intlmin@cefonline.com)  
Recruitment ..... [ministry@cefonline.com](mailto:ministry@cefonline.com)  
Sales and Service ..... [custserv@cefonline.com](mailto:custserv@cefonline.com)  
USA Ministries ..... [usa@cefonline.com](mailto:usa@cefonline.com)  
Volunteer Services ..... [volunteermailbox@cefonline.com](mailto:volunteermailbox@cefonline.com)  
Webmaster ..... [webmaster@cefonline.com](mailto:webmaster@cefonline.com)

# About the Ministry

## History

In 1937 Rev. Jesse Irvin Overholtzer, then 60 years old, was enabled by God to found *Child Evangelism Fellowship*, now one of the largest evangelistic outreaches to children in the world. The first recorded teacher training institute was held in 1945.

## Mission Statement

CEF is a Bible-centered, worldwide organization composed of born-again believers whose purpose is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and to establish (disciple) them in the Word of God and in a local church for Christian living.

## Vision Statement/Strategy

Our vision is to reach every child in every nation, every day. Our strategy is to train, equip, and support workers in order to serve worldwide in an ever expanding way.

## Six Focus Points for the Culture of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*

[cefonline.com/culture](http://cefonline.com/culture)

1. Importance of godly leadership at every level
2. Importance of the spiritual welfare of our workers
3. Importance of prayer as our foundation
4. Importance of evangelizing children
5. Importance of a clear and biblical presentation of the Gospel
6. Importance of a commitment to excellence, for the glory of God

## Financial Accountability

CEF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. CEF is audited annually, and the report is available upon request. The fiscal year runs from January 1 through December 31.

Financial Policy: "Ask God and tell His people."

## Ministry Statistics

In our 2018 ministry year 25,478,771 children worldwide heard the Gospel through the ministry of CEF, an increase of 11.27% over 2017. 10,331,851 children professed faith in Christ. Many more have been reached but not recorded.

## Worldwide Staff

CEF has active ministry in every region of the world. Several countries within each region have such strength and maturity that they have sent cross-cultural missionaries from their country to work with CEF in another country.

CEF has a staff of 3,528, 96% of whom are nationals. In addition, thousands of volunteers work with CEF staff to share the Gospel with children around the world.

## Executive Leadership

Mr. Reese Kauffman, President

Mr. Moises Esteves, Vice President, International Ministries

Mr. Ron Tant, Vice President, USA Ministries

Mr. Fred Pry, Assistant Vice President, USA Ministries

Miss Lynda Pongracz, Executive Director of Education

Mr. Ron York, Executive Director of Support Services

## CEF Around the World

### Ministry Structure

The work of *CEF* is divided into eight regions, each led by a regional director. By charter, the *CEF* International Board of Trustees serves as the governing board over all these regions. The vice president, USA Ministries, directs the work in the United States. The states are led by a state director/state board along with local directors and committees. The ministry in other countries is led by a national or cross-cultural missionary/board. The regions are:

- Asia Pacific
- East and Central Africa
- Europe
- Latin America
- Middle East (including North Africa)
- North America/Caribbean
- Southern Africa/Indian Ocean
- West and Central Africa

### Sponsor-A-National™ (SPAN™)

Trained and equipped nationals are the ideal individuals to minister to children in their countries. They already speak the language and know the culture. They can work in countries where people of other nations are not welcome.

But many live in countries where they can't raise their full support. The *Sponsor-A-National*™ program was developed in 1972 to provide financial assistance to *CEF* trained nationals in such countries so they can begin serving full-time with *CEF*.

## CEF Ministry Programs

### Camp Good News®

[cefonline.com/campgoodnews](http://cefonline.com/campgoodnews)

The *Camp Good News*® program is an active part of the ministry of *CEF* throughout the world. Camp facilities are rented or owned by *CEF*. Staff are trained and screened and present an exciting program focused on evangelism and discipleship.

### CEF Military Children's Ministry™ (MCM™)

[cefonline.com/mcm](http://cefonline.com/mcm)

*CEF Military Children's Ministry*™ reaches children on U.S. military installations and in the local military communities through *CEF* programs: *Good News Club*®, *5-Day Club*®, teacher training, and *Christian Youth In Action*®.

*MCM*™ also works with military chaplains to help provide continuity and resiliency to military children. In most locations, ministry is conducted by *CEF* local and state chapters. See the website above for locations.

### Christian Youth In Action® (CYIA™)

[cefonline.com/cyia](http://cefonline.com/cyia)

In *CYIA*™, young people are trained to effectively share the Gospel message with children through Bible lessons, songs, memory verses, and more. Then they serve in various summer ministries with the *5-Day Club* program as the main focus.

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Participants usually teach several clubs during the summer, reaching tens of thousands of children around the world.

### Christmas Across America<sup>SM</sup>

[christmasacrossamerica.com](http://christmasacrossamerica.com)

*Christmas Across America*<sup>SM</sup> is a nationwide initiative in which *CEF* partners with churches and other organizations to share the Gospel and the true story of Christmas with children who have never heard. Christmas Party kits are in English with Spanish text available.

### Fair Ministry

At state and county fairs across the nation, *CEF* workers share the Gospel with children, teens, and adults using *The Wordless Book*, tracts, videos, face painting, balloon art, and other creative tools.

### 5-Day Club®

[5dayclub.com](http://5dayclub.com)

*5-Day Club* is an exciting, fun-filled, one and one-half hour held each day for five consecutive days. It includes dynamic Bible lessons, creative learning activities, inspiring missionary story, meaningful songs, and life-changing Scripture memorization. The Gospel is clearly presented each day.

## **Good News Club® (GNC™)**

goodnewsclub.com

From the beginning, *Good News Club* has been at the heart of our worldwide ministry. Clubs meet once a week—usually during the school year—in homes, churches, schools, and other locations. Since the landmark Supreme Court decision in June 2001 confirming equal access to public schools, the number of Good News Clubs in the USA has increased dramatically.

With their parent's permission, children hear the Gospel through Bible and missionary stories, songs, and activities and are encouraged to have a daily quiet time with God. Evangelism and discipleship are primary goals. Partnership with the local church is important to *GNC™* ministry. The ultimate goal is to establish children in a local church for ongoing knowledge of God and growth in their Christian living.

## **JYou Connection™ (JYC™)**

*JYou Connection™* is an evangelistic and discipleship ministry for young people ages 11-14. This ministry bridges the gap between *Good News Club* and the *CYIA* program and encourages young people to go on to serve in *CEF* ministry through *CYIA*.

## **Operation Wonder Why**

cefonline.com/doyouwonderwhy

The *Do You Wonder Why?* booklet is designed to help answer the tough questions kids ask in the wake of tragedy and to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To date we have distributed over one million *Do You Wonder Why?* booklets. There are 50,000 booklets stored at International Headquarters – ready for mass distribution. Additionally, smaller quantities of booklets are stored in each state and local office. These booklets are available in English and Spanish and can also be purchased through *CEF Press*. See the web page above to download a sample of the booklet.

## **Party Clubs**

Party Clubs offer a fun party atmosphere while sharing the life-changing message of Jesus Christ. Themes include holidays, seasons, and more.

## **Short-Term Missions**

The short-term missions program provides an opportunity for people to go on short-term mission trips to locations overseas or in the USA (often urban areas, military bases or the *Good News Across America* target city). Short-term missionaries share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in cultures that are different from their own and come back with exciting stories about how God both used and changed them. All trips are led by *CEF* state leaders, using guidelines and requirements provided by USA Ministries. Participating in a short-term trip gives people many opportunities to grow in their relationship with the Lord, to reach children with the Gospel, and to catch a broader vision of the ministry of *CEF*—one that we hope will challenge them to be a part of *CEF* in some capacity in the future.

# **Supporting Ministries**

## **Boxes of Books**

Since its inception at International Conference in 1999, this remarkable program has provided hundreds of thousands of boxes of teaching materials free of charge to *CEF* missionaries around the world. Placing quality teaching materials in the hands of trained national missionaries has resulted in dramatic ministry growth.

## **CEF Press®**

cefpress.com

*CEF Press®* publishes and distributes Bible lesson curriculum, teaching tools, and supporting materials to help *CEF* accomplish ministry goals. *CEF Press*

products have been translated into over 57 languages. *CEF Studios™* produces videos to support the work of *CEF*, recruit workers, and reach boys and girls for Christ.

## **Children's Ministries Institute® (CMI®)**

cefcmi.com and online.cefcmi.com

The *Children's Ministries Institute®* offers one of the most innovative, practical training programs available for leaders in children's ministry. The 12-week diploma program can be taken in one- or two-week modules. Students receive training in direct ministry to children, teacher training, ministry organization, and leadership. Academic credit may be available through various colleges, and CEUs can be granted through ASCI. Under the direction of the Education department, Institutes are held in all the regions of the world. Regional education directors oversee Institutes in their region and help

ensure that international standards are maintained for the quality and integrity of our training programs. *CMI* also offers classes online through the *CMI* Online program.

We invest our resources heavily in training Christ-followers all over the world. This is key to our strategy and has enabled us to open new countries at a rapid rate. Faithful men and women attend our Institutes then return to their homes, develop ministry, and train many others to reach the children where they live.

Over 250,000 teachers worldwide were trained each year from 2005 to 2015. That number increased to 392,000 in 2018. Our founder, J. Irvin Overholtzer, envisioned “an army of child evangelists encircling the globe.” This is happening now—through training!

## **IMPACT<sup>SM</sup>**

*IMPACT<sup>SM</sup>* is a program designed for people who want to gain valuable experience while investing their lives in a ministry that makes a difference. They may be graduating from high school or college, searching for a second career, or considering how to invest their retirement years. The program allows them to serve for one or two years as they seek God’s direction, make sure of their calling, and utilize their giftedness. Participants receive training and coaching to raise support and complete other ministry preparation.

## **Impact Magazine**

[cefonline.com/subscribe](http://cefonline.com/subscribe)

*Impact* magazine is a free, full-color, 16-page magazine that communicates what God is doing in and through *CEF* ministries worldwide. It is designed to be encouraging to the *CEF* family—ministry partners, volunteers, workers, and all others interested in what God is doing around the world.

## **Missionary Program**

The Missionary Program prepares new *CEF* missionaries for service around the world, helping them become fully supported, fully equipped, and fully trained so they can have a fruitful and sustainable ministry to children.

## **Proclaiming the Word**

[proword.eu](http://proword.eu)

Proclaiming the Word is the International Bible teaching ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. It seeks to meet the spiritual needs of *CEF* staff worldwide and to be a blessing to all who hold the Bible to be the Word of God.

Through this ministry, Czeslaw Bassara, children’s worker since 1965 and *CEF* director for Central and Eastern Europe from 1991-2007, has represented *CEF* in 83 countries and all continents. Proclaiming

the Word was officially founded in 2008 by Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. and is a part of the International Ministries department.

Proclaiming the Word represents *CEF* through:

- Teaching at *CEF* Institutes, Bible colleges and seminaries, conferences, retreats, church services, international forums, and consultations.
- Visiting pastors and Christian leaders.
- Writing items and articles (most of them available on the website [proword.eu](http://proword.eu)) and by writing textbooks for *CEF* Bible training.

## **Teaching Children Effectively™ (TCE™)**

The *Teaching Children Effectively™* program is designed to train children’s workers and parents to evangelize and disciple children. Level 1 equips students with basic skills to evangelize children and teach them in neighborhood and after-school Good News Clubs and in local churches. Level 2 trains students to lead saved children in the process of spiritual growth and help them establish a biblical worldview. These courses are available at various locations throughout the USA and in many countries around the world. Currently, *TCE™* Level 1 is also offered on *CMI* Online.

## **Instructor of Teachers (IOT)**

The IOT program is designed to train instructors to teach and administrate the *TCE* Levels 1 and 2 courses. The purpose of the IOT courses is to multiply the training ministry of *CEF* so more children’s workers can be trained. The IOT courses are available at the *CMI* campus in Warrenton, Missouri, at various locations in the USA, and in many countries around the world.

## **Volunteer Center and Baker Guest House**

*CEF* staff, guests, and volunteer missionaries can enjoy the meeting rooms and private guest rooms of the Volunteer Center and Baker Guest House.

## **Volunteers**

Our volunteer program provides local and short-term opportunities for individuals and groups to assist regular staff. Visiting volunteers are housed and fed on campus. An RV park is available for volunteers with their own RVs. Please contact volunteer services for more information.