



SPORTS FRIENDS

A MINISTRY OF SIM

TRANSFORMING LIVES. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.

BY PRAYER



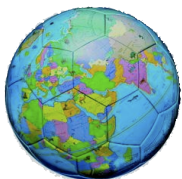
Look at the Nations and be amazed...For I am doing something..you wouldn't believe even if someone told you. Habakkuk 1:5

Who is Sports Friends?

Our Identity: Sports Friends is a ministry of the multi-national, interdenominational mission, SIM (Serving in Mission). As such, Sports Friends affirms SIM's purpose, core values and statement of faith (reference www.sim.org). Sports Friends partners with many different denominations and missions who share similar purposes and values.

Our Vision: To see an international movement of sports ministers using the powerful relational tool of sports, within a strategic church-centered approach, to transform the lives of youth, their families and their communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our Mission: To empower churches and church planters to use the universal language of sports to develop effective evangelism and discipleship strategies



which result in dynamic church growth and new churches planted throughout Africa, Asia and South America.

Our Strategy: Sports Friends seeks to be a servant resource to Christian leaders in the development of effective, church-centered, youth-focused sports ministries by:

Stimulating a vision for the use of sports as a ministry tool by churches and church planters. It has been said that there are two universal languages - music and sports! Sports crosses over the boundaries of race, tribe, class, age, and religion which so easily divide us and hinder the advancement of the Gospel.

Training Christian leaders to develop fruitful church-centered sports ministry programs. Sports Friends provides ongoing training which focuses on the development of effective sports ministry strategies. Sports Friends also offers a curriculum in sports ministry which can be used by

seminaries and Bible schools to further educate and train sports ministers.

Equipping sports ministers for effective service. In addition to training, Sports Friends offers ongoing support to sports ministry leaders to help them grow in their ministry. This support includes strategic planning, coaches training, ministry materials, sports equipment, and encouragement.

Developing leadership capacity. Sports Friends partners with denominations and church planting organizations to provide intensive training and support of senior leaders at the national level. These leaders provide the vision, guidance and management of the sports ministry movement within their organizations. Sports Friends also works closely with these denominational coordinators to develop effective sports ministry leaders at the local church level.

**MAKE AN
IMPACT &
GET
INVOLVED**

PRAY: It is the foundation of all that we do. Sign up to receive periodic prayer letters.
GO: Many opportunities exist



for short-term ministry trips and long-term service.
PARTNER: Mobilize your church to be involved in a strategic, cross-cultural partnership in support of Sports Friends ministry.
GIVE: Your financial gifts make our ministry possible

Focus & Distinctives

Church Focus

We believe that God's primary means of relating to and transforming the world is the Church. Sports Friends' sole focus is equipping churches and church planters to use sports as an effective ministry tool, integrated with the church's other ministries and supportive of its overall mission.

Church Planting and Missions

We train and mobilize church planters and missionaries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to use sports to build relationships with difficult-to-reach people groups.



Relational Evangelism

Sports provide fast-track opportunities to break down relational barriers and build friendships. Sports Friends' focus is on building relationships that allow one to share the love and word of God in a natural, non-threatening way.

Ongoing Ministry

Sustainable, local-church ministry is the foundation for relational outreach and discipleship. Sports Friends equips churches and church planters to produce change in a young person's life through a consistent influence, over an extended period of time.

Grass Roots



Most people who enjoy sports and games will never achieve a high level of performance or become a professional athlete. Sports Friends' ministry is focused at the grass roots level – on the vast

majority who simply want to play and have fun.

Use of Any Sport

Sports preferences vary from country to country and region to region. Sports Friends trains church leaders to use virtually any sport as a bridge for building relationships and conducting effective ministry.

Leadership Development

One of Sports Friends' highest priorities is identifying, training and supporting full-time sports ministry leaders at the denominational level.

Incarnational Model

Sports Friends pursues an incarnational model for training and leadership development. Creating passionate, well-equipped sports ministry leaders takes time. Sports Friends' integrated training curriculum requires a greater depth of personal investment that leads to transformed lives and fruitful ministry.

Powerful Connections



*Camping, Team Sports, and Fun Games
all Provide Powerful Connections.*

Coach as Life Influencer:

There is something extremely powerful about the relationship between a coach and players. The impact of a coach who shows love and attention to youth is tremendous. Sport provides a great environment for a coach to discuss with his players important character issues and life lessons about self control, respect for authority, honesty, teamwork and commitment. These discussions naturally transition to the truths of the Bible.

Residential camping: Camping is a powerful ministry tool! Getting away from familiar surroundings and responsibilities creates a great environment for building friendships and exploring new ideas. Unfortunately, few if any Christian camps exist within the countries where Sports Friends works. Sports Friends, therefore, seeks to develop and provide amazing,

transformative camping experiences that youth would otherwise not have access to. Sports ministry leaders come to camp with their youth and have the chance to take their relationships to a much deeper level in this residential environment. Youth enjoy sports, games, crafts, music, drama, good food, a warm bed, and lots of attention and love. It is the best week of their lives!



Contact us for more information:

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