



Why “End Slavery” Ministry?

In a nutshell: because we want to help end modern slavery

Slavery still exists.

There **27 million** people in the world who are trapped in physical bondage...in *brothels...in factories...in construction sites...in restaurants...working as slaves...OWNED and held against their will...in every country...including our own (200,00-400,000 at any given time in the U.S.)*

Our team focuses on **awareness and prevention** in schools, churches, civic clubs, and community centers, while partnering with others in the work of **rescue and restoration.**



Why Immigrant & Refugee Ministry?

We are still passionate about refugees and immigrants!

We believe our gifts, abilities, and experience will strategically position us to be used by God in helping with a new team start-up **AND** with discipleship and leadership training of Portland's **large population of refugees and immigrants.**

This will also dovetail nicely with the **“20/20 Vision”** of **International Teams**, which can be summarized as **“50 communities where no one is invisible and everyone has access to food, freedom, and forgiveness...”**

You can learn more at...
www.iteams.us/2020-vision/

Financial investments:

International Teams
411 W. River Rd.
Elgin, IL 60123

www.iteams.org

Q & A with the McCrackens



Summer 2013

**Scott and Vicki,
William, Ellie**

**International
Teams** 

**END SLAVERY ministries
and REFUGEE ministries**

www.imccracken.net
scott.mccracken@iteams.org



Why Portland, Oregon?

Our first choice was to find a ministry with **International Teams** that focused on **refugee ministry** and/or **ending slavery**. This new team was just getting started in Portland and would allow us the freedom to do **both** kinds of ministry.

The Pacific Circuit is a human trafficking ring that runs along the West Coast. Known as the Interstate-5's dirty underbelly, these human trafficking rings stretch from Seattle to San Francisco. And, although Oregon has anti-trafficking laws on the books, additional steps must be taken to prevent trafficking and better help the survivors of trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Additionally, Portland outpaces even San Francisco and Las Vegas for the most strip clubs in a single city, and it is ranked 8th out of U.S. states for the largest number of sex offenders per capita.

A recent Gallup Poll also ranked Oregon as the state with the **highest percentage of residents identifying with "No religion, Atheist, or Agnostic,"** at 24.6% and also

ranked 41 out of 48 states for least church attendance.

On top of that, Oregon has the **highest percentage of homeless per capita** of any state, **many of which are youth** (especially vulnerable to trafficking).

To top it off, it is estimated that up to 30% of the population of Portland is foreign-born (Africa, Asia, the Middle East, South and Central America, and Mexico), meaning that there is truly an opportunity to do world missions in our own backyard.

As you can see, both the need and the opportunity for the Gospel in Portland is great!

Would you prayerfully partner with us in loving and serving the hurting people in Portland who desperately need to know the hope that is found only in Christ?

Why returning to the U.S. after 26 years in Europe?

In 2007, God brought us one of the most precious and beautiful gifts we have ever received.

Although ALL our children are marvelous gifts and blessings for which we are thankful to God, our adopted daughter Ellie's special needs have been unique blessings (as well as unique challenges), Ellie (from China) has severe Cerebral Palsy and is completely dependent in all areas. You can read and see more at:

<http://elliebomccracken.blogspot.com>

For at least two years we have been praying with great intensity and intentionality, asking God to help us understand how we can be "the best parents to Ellie" from GOD'S perspective (NOT simply from our culture's). We are not sure yet that we clearly understand all that entails. However, for the first 6 years of her joining our family it included staying in Greece.

We believe it is now time to enter the next chapters of our life and ministry in the context of serving the Lord in America.

