



President

HALF | TIME
TALENT SOLUTIONS

First Priority of America

Connecting the Church to the Campus for Christ

Mission: To
Unite the
Body of Christ
with a Plan of
Action to
Influence the
Schools with
the Gospel.

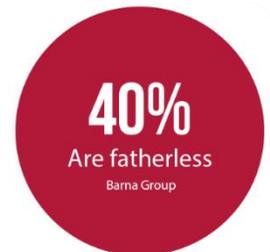
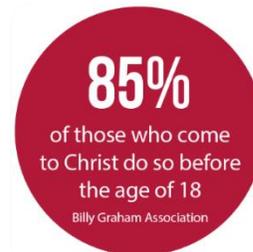
History

Many of us can quote **Jeremiah 29:11**:

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

But, what if you had never heard that hopeful truth? What if no one made the effort to make sure you knew that God loves you and has a plan for your eternal future? So many of our nations kids do NOT know this truth or the hope that comes from a personal relationship with

Jesus Christ. Research tells us that 85% of Believers come to know Christ by the age of 14. After the age of 19 there is just a 6% probability of becoming a follower of Jesus Christ (Barna Research Group). While kids are no longer as active in church, God has provided a way for the Church to meet them in a place they are required to attend – on campus. Middle schools and high schools in our country are the right places to invest for leveraged Kingdom impact!



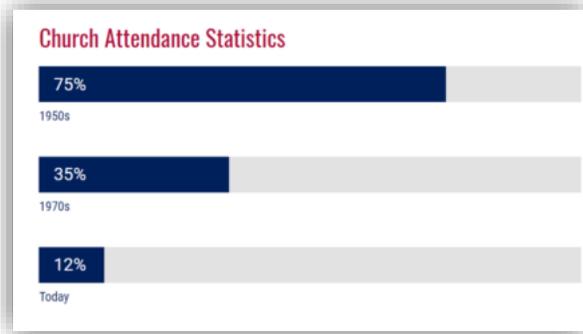
Transformation in our country is urgently needed and that starts with our country's youth. First Priority of America's vision is the hope of Christ in **every** student in America. This is the only way to bring living and lasting HOPE to America! First Priority has a proven strategy which allows them to have a missional presence on every school campus in America, where they are connecting the CHURCH to reach the CAMPUS for CHRIST. It is intended to change the spiritual climate of the school and the world through students.

Founded nearly 20 years ago, First Priority set out to see that every student in America would encounter the Gospel through their peers. By networking local Churches to extend their ministries onto local school campuses, young Believers learn to share their faith with others and form a community of support across the range of worship styles, denominations and faith traditions.

2016 Annual Report



Through a successful and replicable model of mutual support, mentoring and training, First Priority is serving middle and high school students by supporting student-initiated, student-led Christian clubs on school campuses, which is a student's right since the passage of the 1984 Equal Access Act. This Act allows students to initiate and lead a Christian club on campus, and when a student chooses to do so, First Priority sends a church-approved youth worker to coach those students on how to reach their campus for Christ. Since the



students, youth workers and pastors, and faculty sponsors are involved in local congregations, they not only help lead students to Christ but encourage them to connect to a body of Christ where they can grow in their new faith.

The Problem:

Many youth of America are hopeless. The culture in America is destroying confidence in the church and other traditional institutions, creating confusion and negativity which causes many to feel abandoned and alone. As a

society, morality has now become more defined by the court systems, the music and movie industry and pop culture personalities, blurring the lines even more for those most impressionable. With statistics suggesting that we are faced with a generation of “unchurched” and “dechurched” youth, who are not only susceptible to these media influences but also suffering breakdowns in the family structure that leaves many without parental guidance, it shows just how urgent the need is to reach these students.

Over the past 60 years, there has been a steady decline in spiritual influence from the local church, meanwhile statistics have been rapidly increasing for suicide, drug abuse and violence. With 56 million kids in America in elementary and middle school, fewer than 12% are regularly attending a church of any kind. First Priority wants to change these statistics and realizes that to do so, they have to change the philosophy of reaching America’s youth. First Priority knows that if we continue to use the same siloed strategies and approaches, we will continue to get the same results.

The Solution:

In the past school year (2016) 7,715 students became followers of Jesus Christ inside their public school through First Priority chapters across the country! With 41 First Priority City Chapters in 18 states, 2,500 churches, 798 Youth Leaders, and 856 First Priority Clubs, the ministry has nearly 50,000 students attending weekly student-led First Priority Clubs.

No single church can reach and disciple every middle and high school student in their community, but when united by the First Priority strategy and model, THE Church can reach into the public school setting and create discipleship opportunities for every church partner.

Can First Priority reach **every** secondary school (middle schools and high schools) in America? Too big a dream? Consider this: there are 325,000 Protestant and Evangelical churches in the U.S. with more than 125,000 youth ministers working with kids on a weekly basis. If First Priority could enlist just 1.6% of those youth ministers to become First Priority Coordinators (2,000), that could translate to a First Priority presence in all 41,000 secondary schools in the country!

First Priority Distinctives:

- Local Church Strategy
- Rural, Suburban and Urban Models
- Community Based and Locally Owned
- Essential Networks of Support
- Student Led and Initiated Clubs
- Long Term Plan and Structure

President

Overview

It is not often that an opportunity comes along that offers the chance to leave an eternal legacy of national change and cultural restoration, with the potential to change the course of the Church and our country for generations. What would America be like in 20 years if thousands of transformed middle school and high school students grew up to become the catalyst for spiritual revival in our country and around the world?

The new President that God has been preparing to play a key role in making that possibility into reality has been closely listening for the sound of the battle s/he is supposed to be running toward.

The President is a newly created position with First Priority and will be the executive leader and public persona of this nationwide ministry organization reporting to the Board of Directors. S/He is responsible for articulating, promoting and preserving First Priority's overall Mission and guiding the strategic vision and future direction of the organization. To achieve the goals and objectives First Priority has set, the President will lead the national office of the organization to continue growing in its capacity to anticipate and serve the City Directors who lead local community chapters

The President will seek out and engage with the widest possible set of audiences in the pursuit of the greatest possible base of support and partnership. Fundraising for the national office will be a key deliverable for the President, in particular, to assure the availability of sufficient staff support and start-up capital for new geographies and to support existing community chapter operations, as needed. S/He will provide leadership and encourage organizational innovation that enhances systems and processes that optimize current operations and further enhance the organization's ability to scale the number of chapters efficiently and effectively across the country. This may include expansion of communities already being served by First Priority, as well as, new geographic territories.

Reporting to the President are national leadership team members, including the Executive Director and Associate Director of Ministry Operations. They, in turn, manage the work of other national team members over finances, ministry expansion, service and support, events, systems and communications.

The goal of the President is to build a sustainable national organization that supports and unifies a fast-growing U.S. network of independent and corporate First Priority chapters. All First Priority chapters are connected by an approved set of association guidelines and, whether operating as independent 501©3 affiliates or national office managed entities, each chapter's goal is to partner with The Church (across denominational affiliations) in the local area to redeem the culture by sharing, declaring, and demonstrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the public-school campus.



Responsibilities

The President's performance will be measured on the following responsibilities:

- Develop strategic direction for the organization;
- Effectively cast ministry vision to all constituencies;
- Raise funds to support the national office objectives and ministry plan;
- National office team development and shared service clarity;
- Determine national office deliverables that City Directors find undeniably valuable;
- Grow strategy effectiveness for expansion of chapters and clubs across the US;
- Encourage and measure consistency with First Priority guidelines in all chapter operations;
- Clarify revenue sharing guidelines for support of the national office;
- Develop strategic partnerships that contribute to meeting First Priority's mission;
- Public relations/Speaking;
- Board development and support.

Key Candidate Characteristics

- Personal faith and walk with Jesus Christ and Spiritual maturity;
- Accountable, Honest, and Trustworthy;
- Passion for the spread of the Gospel;
- Connection with and desire to minister to youth;
- Appreciation for the role of the local church;
- Ability to teach and learn – great listening skills;
- Discernment related to pace of growth and optimization;
- Relational leadership style matched to decentralized organizational structure;
- Courage to make touch calls when needed and the wisdom to know when to defer;
- Servant leadership mindset – “all of us are smarter than any of us”;
- Creates an atmosphere of inclusion and mutual support with the field teams and within the national office;
- Experienced fund raiser;
- Strategic thinker;
- Innovative and creative problem solver;
- Excellent communicator and public speaker;
- Inspirational and motivational leader;
- Ability to lead organization to operational excellence.

For more information, or to apply for this position, please contact

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